



The 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature:  
What Happened and How It Affects Your Practice

Hon. Jeff Leach, Allen  
Texas House of Representatives, District 67  
Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

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The slide has a dark blue background. At the top center, the title "88<sup>th</sup> Lege - Bill Statistics (Regular Session)" is written in a white, italicized serif font. On the left side, there is a cartoon illustration of a personified bill character with a face, arms, and legs, wearing a red and blue sash with the word "Lege" on it. The character is standing on a small base and has a thought bubble above its head. In the thought bubble, the character is shown in a similar pose but with a more thoughtful expression. To the right of the cartoon, the statistics are presented in white text boxes. The first box says "Filed: 8,153 bills/joint resolutions (New record)". Below it, a bulleted list shows "81<sup>st</sup> Legislature (2009): 7,324" and "86<sup>th</sup> Legislature (2019): 7,281". A final box says "Passed: 1,246 (bills)/13 (joint resolutions)".

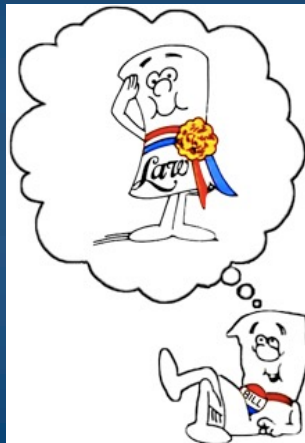
## *88<sup>th</sup> Lege Demographics*

- 181 seats
  - House – 150 (86 R / 64 D)
  - Senate – 31 (19 R / 12 D)
- 65 licensed attorneys
  - 53 – House
  - 12 – Senate

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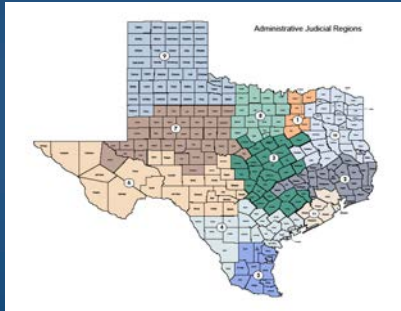
## *Bills that Passed*



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## *Civil Justice System – Trial and Intermediate Appellate Courts*



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### *HB 19 – Specialty Trial Court (Business Court)*

- Creates a statewide specialized civil trial to hear certain business-related litigation cases, such as actions against businesses, accusations of wrongdoing by businesses or their members, disputes between businesses, violations of the BOC, Finance Code, and Business & Commerce Code.
  - Tier One - \$10 million in controversy (commercial disputes)
  - Tier Two - \$5 million in controversy (business governance)
  - Supplemental jurisdiction
- The business trial court will be composed of up to 16 appointed judges (in 11 different administrative judicial regions) serving 2-year terms.

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33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on State and Federal Appeals session  
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