

Status report on Webb County's Legislative Priorities for the 89th Texas Legislature

1. Election Recount:

- a. **HB 3931** relating to the fee for public inspection of election records filed by Rep. Raymond 3/6, referred to Elections committee 3/27; no action since.
- b. **HB 5126 (SB 2590)** relating to grounds for recounting paperless electronic voting system ballots filed by Rep. Raymond 3/13, referred to Elections committee 4/07; no action since.
- c. **SB 2590 (HB 5126)** relating to grounds for recounting paperless electronic voting system ballots filed by Dean Sen. Z. 3/13, referred to State Affairs committee 4/03; no action since.

2. **Bailiff compensation HB 3104 sent to Governor 5/23 (effective 9/1/2025)**

Relating to the salary of bailiffs appointed by certain district courts in Webb County filed by Rep. McLaughlin & sponsored by Dean Sen. Z

3. **JJAEP HB 5075** relating to the authority of school districts in certain counties to establish alternative programs in lieu of sending students to a juvenile justice alternative education program filed by Rep. Raymond 3/13. Referred to Public Edu committee 4/07; no action since.
4. **Purchasing Agent** relating to county purchasing agents in certain counties
 - a. **HB 5127** filed by Reps. Raymond & McLaughlin 3/13, left pending in Intergovernmental Affairs committee; no action since.
 - b. **SB 2592** filed by Dean Sen. Z 3/13, referred to Local Government committee; no action since.
5. **Limited Ordinance/Zoning-making Authority for Border Counties: HB 3578** relating to the authority of a county that borders the United Mexican States to regulate residential use; creating a criminal offense files by Rep. McLaughlin & Holt 3/03, left pending in Land & Resource Management committee 5/01.
6. **Extend toll-road I-30 to Laredo** - item appears in page XI-23 of the House committee report version of SB1 (pending update):

This rider was deemed technically allowable by the Legislative Budget Board and was thus included in Article XI of the House budget, which means it will be debated as the Appropriations process continues.
7. **Expand electric grid:** rider not feasible because, according to Legislative Budget Board (LBB), the PUC did not have authority to carry it forward (McWilliams 4/06/25).

8. **Amend Road Closure Procedures SB 2589 sent to the Governor 6/01 (effective 9/1/2025)**

Relating to procedures for a commissioners court to close, abandon, or vacate certain county roads

- a. **HB 3793** filed by Rep. McLaughlin 3/05, passed the House, placed on Senate's intent calendar 5/28.
- b. **SB 2589** filed by Dean Sen. Z

9. **Relief for Colonia Plat Projects (Colonias Rescue Act) HB 3781** relating to the provision of financial assistance by the TWDB for the development of certain projects in economically distressed areas. Bill filed by Rep. McLaughlin 3/05, placed on General State Calendar 5/12; no action since.

10. **Amend Transportation Code (County Road Maps):** drafted by McWilliams, not filed.

Additional bills drafted by McWilliams include the following:

- **HB 4186:** Relating to student loan repayment assistance for certain physicians employed as county medical examiners. (No Companion): Medical Examiner Loan Forgiveness for Serving on a TX County Bordering MX, by Rep. McLaughlin. Referred to the Higher Education Committee 3/31; no action since.
- **HB 4023 (SB 2502 - Sen. Zaffirini):** Allowing Reserve Peace Officers to Serve in part-time off-duty roles Rep. Raymond/Rep. McLaughlin/Sen. Zaffirini Passed the House, referred to Criminal Justice Senate committee 5/12; no action since.
- **HB 5124 (SB 2588 - Sen. Zaffirini):** Sports venue conversion bill. Rep. Raymond/Rep. McLaughlin/Sen. Zaffirini. Referred to the Economic Development Committee in the Senate 4/03; no action since.

Of interest:

- **SB 2144/HB 3846**, relating to the authority of a reserve peace officer (filed by Sen. Perry in the Senate, and Rep. Louderback), filed in opposition to HB 4023 and SB 2502, seeks to disallow reserve peace officers from serving in off duty roles, except for in very limited circumstances.
- **SB 65 Relating to the adoption of uniform rules for hours of work for certain county employees.** Filed by Dean Sen. Z, signed by Governor effective **5/19/2025**.