

## **MINUTES**

### **SENATE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Thursday, May 8, 2025

9:00 AM

Betty King Committee Room

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Pursuant to a notice posted in accordance with Senate Rule 11.10 and 11.18, a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Local Government was held on Thursday, May 8, 2025, in the Betty King Committee Room at Austin, Texas.

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#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Paul Bettencourt, Chair  
Senator Mayes Middleton, Vice Chair  
Senator Molly Cook  
Senator Robert Nichols  
Senator Angela Paxton

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Senator Roland Gutierrez  
Senator Royce West

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The chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

The chair laid out SB 2215 and recognized the author, Senator Campbell, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Bettencourt moved that SB 2215 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out HB 334 and recognized the Senate Sponsor, Senator Blanco, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Bettencourt moved that HB 334 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out HB 5092 and recognized the Senate Sponsor, Senator Perry, to explain the bill.

Witnesses registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Bettencourt moved that HB 5092 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out HB 1520 and recognized the Senate Sponsor, Senator Blanco, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Bettencourt moved that HB 1520 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out HB 3526 and recognized the Senate Sponsor, Senator West, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Bettencourt moved that HB 3526 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out HB 2607 and recognized Senator Cook, in the absence of the Senate Sponsor, to explain the bill.

Witnesses registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Bettencourt moved that HB 2607 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out HB 3810 and recognized Senator Cook, in the absence of the Senate Sponsor, to explain the bill.

Witnesses registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Bettencourt moved that HB 3810 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out HB 554 and recognized Senator Cook, in the absence of the Senate Sponsor, to explain the bill.

Witnesses registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Bettencourt moved that HB 554 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out HB 1593 and recognized Senator Cook, in the absence of the Senate Sponsor, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Bettencourt moved that HB 1593 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

At 9:45 AM Senator Cook assumed the chair.

The chair laid out HB 148 and recognized the Senate Sponsor, Senator Bettencourt, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Cook moved that HB 148 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out HB 762 and recognized the Senate Sponsor, Senator Bettencourt, to explain the bill.

Witnesses registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Cook moved that HB 762 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

At 9:52 AM Senator Bettencourt resumed the chair.

At 9:53 AM Senator Bettencourt moved that the Committee stand recessed until 10 minutes after adjournment of the Senate. Without objection, it was so ordered.

At 6:19 PM Senator Bettencourt reconvened the meeting.

At 6:19 PM roll was called. There being a quorum present, the following business was transacted:

The chair laid out as a matter of pending business SB 2215.

Senator Paxton sent up a committee substitute.

Senator Paxton moved the adoption of the committee substitute; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Paxton moved that SB 2215 do not pass but that CSSB 2215 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 4 ayes, 1 nays, 0 present not voting, and 2 absent.

The chair laid out as a matter of pending business SB 1944.

Senator Cook sent up a committee substitute.

The chair recognized Senator Eckhardt to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed.

Senator Cook moved the adoption of the committee substitute; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Cook moved that SB 1944 do not pass but that CSSB 1944 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 4 ayes, 1 nays, 0 present not voting, and 2 absent.

The chair laid out as a matter of pending business HB 334.

Senator Cook moved that HB 334 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 2 absent.

Senator Paxton moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out as a matter of pending business HB 554.

Senator Paxton moved that HB 554 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 2 absent.

Senator Nichols moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out as a matter of pending business HB 1593.

Senator Nichols moved that HB 1593 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 2 absent.

Senator Cook moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out as a matter of pending business HB 2607.

Senator Paxton moved that HB 2607 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 2 absent.

Senator Nichols moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out as a matter of pending business HB 3526.

Senator Nichols moved that HB 3526 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 2 absent.

Senator Cook moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out as a matter of pending business HB 3810.

Senator Nichols moved that HB 3810 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 2 absent.

Senator Paxton moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out as a matter of pending business HB 5092.

Senator Cook moved that HB 5092 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 2 absent.

Senator Paxton moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

Chair recognizes a Motion in Writing from Senator Middleton at 6:38 PM.

There being no further business, at 6:38 PM Senator Bettencourt moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

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Senator Paul Bettencourt, Chair

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Jared Yust, Clerk