

# Legislative Wrap-up

## 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session



Council Presentation  
June 27, 2023



# Contract Lobby Team

---



**Brandon Aghamalian**  
Municipal issues, economic development, property taxes, and transportation and transit issues.



**Curt Seidlits**  
Founder, government affairs and lobby strategists.



**Snapper Carr**  
Land usage, utilities, military and water issues.



**Lynlie Hurd**  
Municipal issues, water and environmental issues.

---



# Corpus Christi Legislative Delegation



**Senator Juan "Chuy"  
Hinojosa**

Committees: Finance  
(Vice-Chair);  
Redistricting (Vice-Chair);  
Border Security;  
Criminal Justice;  
Jurisprudence



**Rep. Todd  
Hunter**

Committees:  
State Affairs  
(Chair)



**Rep. Abel Herrero**

Committees:  
Corrections  
(Chair);  
Licensing &  
Administrative  
Procedures



**Rep. J.M. Lozano**

Committees: Urban  
Affairs (Chair);  
Redistricting;  
Transportation;  
Youth Health &  
Safety



## Special Session(s)

---

- Special Session 88(1) was immediately called May 29<sup>th</sup>, ends June 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - The call includes Property Tax Relief and Human Trafficking.
  - House vs. Senate vs. Governor – Lt. Gov. is at odds with Governor & House on property tax relief approach (homestead exemption vs. rate compression).
  - Vetoes are directly related to property tax relief and education issues.
  - Governor indicated there will be a September special session on Public Education Issues (Vouchers).
  - The subject matter of vetoed bills could be added to future calls.
-



## 88<sup>th</sup> Regular Session By the Numbers

---

- 8,344 bills and joint resolutions filed
- 1,880 bills tracked by TML
- 1,440 bills tracked by Focused Advocacy
- 1,168 bills tracked by City Staff
- 1,258 bills landed on the Governor's Desk



# Key Bills that Did Not Pass

---

- Land Use Bills That Didn't Make It
    - SB 369 – Disannexation bill that required cities to give all city services to annexed land by 12/23
    - Density Bills – minimum lot sizes, Accessory dwelling units, manufactured housing by right; TML is setting up an interim committee to discuss
    - STRs and residential amenity preemptions
    - ETJ size, density and required serviced in ETJ
-



# Key Bills That Did Not Pass

---

- Miscellaneous Bills That Failed
    - Automatic Civic Service for Cities over 10k population.
    - Streaming services not video services for franchise fees
    - ESD bills that required ESD to hold elections for officers
    - Increased competitive bidding threshold to \$100k
    - Lowered speed limit without traffic study
    - State funds for cities impacted by disabled vet tax exemption
    - Community Censorship – lobbyist bill
-



## HB 2127 Preemption Bill

---

- Potentially preempts other home rule city regulations in field occupied by state statute in particular codes, depending on how court rules.
  - Creates a cause of action for lawsuits against a home rule city to determine whether a city regulation is preempted.
  - Requires a 3 month notice before a claimant may bring a lawsuit against a city.
-





## HB 2127 Preemption Bill

---

- Protected Ordinances: payday lending, retail sale of animals, massage establishments, public awareness campaigns, collective bargaining agreements and ability to maintain roads, impose taxes
  - Home Rule cities will have the same authority as General Law cities.
-



## HB 2127 Preemption Bill

---

- City Regulations that are expressly preempted?
    - Regulations relating to employment leave, hiring practices, breaks, & benefits
    - Regulation involving dog breeding, care treatment or sale of animals. Could conflict with the protected ordinances previously mentioned.
    - Regulations of eviction or deliver of notice to vacate prior to an eviction.
-



# HB 2127 Preemption Bill

---

Unless expressly authorized, a city ordinance that regulates conduct in a field of regulation that is occupied by a provision of one of the following codes is void and unenforceable:

Agriculture | Business & Commerce | Labor  
Finance | Insurance | Natural Resources  
Occupations | Property

Bill is effective September 1, 2023

---



## Land Use Bills

---

- SB 2038 – Release of an area from ETJ by Petition or election; Exceptions—IDA, Strategic Partnerships and 5 miles of a military base
  - HB 1750 - Agriculture Operations; City can't impose any agriculture ordinances unless there is evidence of a health hazard or certain danger; Will need the Texas Agrilife Extension office to define a “legitimate agriculture operation”
  - HB 3699 – Platting Review Process amended
-



# City Finance Bills

---

- Property Tax Bills – Exemptions for Childcare Facilities (SB 1145), Medical Facilities (SB 2289), and Review of homestead exemptions (SB 1801)
  - Sales Tax Bills – SB 379 – Family care product sales tax exemptions
  - Debt – HB 4082 defines ‘public work’ for CO; limits uses of COs and TANs
  - Economic Development – SB 543 prohibits sale of real property in 380 agreements
  - HB 3727 – HOT changes including new reporting requirements
-



## Bills Vetoed by Gov. Abbott

---

- Veto period ended June 18.
  - Abbott vetoed 76 bills and made line-item vetoes to the budget bill, H.B. 1.
  - Vetoed bills included the following city related bills:
    - **S.B. 2035** – limiting the use of COs and anticipation notes
    - **H.B. 2956** – allowing for annexation across a railroad
-



---

“No man’s life, liberty or  
property is safe when the  
legislature is in session.”

Mark Twain