



What a week this was! On Tuesday afternoon we kicked off our 2025 Walk on the Capitol with our Under the Dome panels. First was Brad Johnson with the Texan and Renzo Downey with the Texas Tribune, followed by a panel with the TCA lobby team: Eric Woomer, Alan Burrows and Jocelyn Dabeau. Under the Dome was followed by our Roundup Legislative Reception. What a great one and a great turnout from TCA PAC members and legislators and staff! Then on Wednesday, after our breakfast briefing, TCA members converged on the capitol to meet with elected officials. Thank you to all of our sponsors and thank you to everyone who attended the Walk. Your participation is vital to TCA's successes in Austin.

As far as legislative action goes, it was a pretty quiet week except for two things: (1) the Senate passed S.B. 4, their property tax relief bill which increases the property tax homestead exemption from \$100,000 to \$140,000; and (2) the House Committee assignments were released on Thursday.

Committee assignments in the House and the Senate are important for advocacy purposes because they help us determine the best authors and sponsors for legislation and help to narrow our initial meetings on our bills. In the House, our legislation will flow through two committees: House Committee on Trade, Workforce & Economic Development (TWED) (jurisdiction over construction industry and workforce initiatives), and the House Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence (JCJ) (jurisdiction over tort reform and out-of-state venue issues). Rep. Angie Chen Buonanno (R-Garland) was appointed Chair of TWED and Rep. Jeff Leach (R-Allen) was appointed Chair of JCJ. Additionally, Rep. Keith Bell was appointed to TWED and to the Subcommittee on Workforce. Button, Bell and Leach are long-time supporters of TCA and the construction industry. We look forward to working with them to get our issues passed through the House.

Legislation continues to be filed at a rapid pace. It is expected that the bill count will top 8,000 before the bill filing deadline on May 14th. To date, there have been around 4,100 bills filed – about half way to go over the next 30 days. Bills yet to be filed include several TCA legislative issues which should be filed soon.

As always, please feel free to email or call me with any questions.

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