



The 89th legislative session is rocking along at a steady pace. It may not appear like much work is being done, but House Committees are forming and bills are being referred for hearings; the Senate passed another one of the Governor's emergency items (S.B. 3 relating to bail reform); and both budget writing committees have appointed subcommittees which are holding hearings almost every day on various articles of the budget. Not to mention, there are countless meetings being held by and between legislators, constituents and lobbyists. Additionally, the House unveiled its version of a school choice/voucher bill (H.B. 3) and school funding/teacher pay raises (H.B. 2).

H.B. 2960 by Rep. Richard Hayes was filed this week. This is a priority bill for not only TCA, but also ABC and AGC-TBB. It addresses a misstep by the 14th Court of Appeals which held that a contractor waives its ability to void out of state venue and out of state law contract clauses once it signs the contract. Additionally, if these clauses are in the prime contract which is incorporated into the subcontract, the general contractor has waived the right for all subcontractors too. If passed, H.B. 2960 will void such contract clauses outright and establish venue in the county where the project is located, unless the parties agree otherwise.

Finally, legislation continues to be filed at a rapid pace. To date, there have been around 4,300 bills filed. The deadline for filing bills is March 14th.

Take Action/Bill Tracking

Take a moment and bookmark the **Take Action** tab on the TCA Website. https://www.texcon.org/texcon/Take_Action.asp#/ This is where you will go to send emails to legislators when TCA priority bills are eligible for a vote in committee or on the House or Senate floor. TCA will also use this tool to ask you to communicate with legislators on bills TCA opposes. This is the same tab where you can find a subset of the bills that we are tracking as they move through the system. Just click on "Bills" in the beige ribbon toward the top of the page.

If you would like to track legislation or committee meetings on your own, you can do so via the Texas Legislature Online website. Instructions can be found on the TCA website. https://www.texcon.org/texcon/Find_and_Track_Legislation.asp

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

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