

TCAA MINUTE

FEBRUARY 22, 2019

TCAA Capitol Activities

The House and Senate committees are starting to schedule hearings on full slates of bills, and in a couple of weeks legislation will be making its way to the floor for debate. The TCAA staff is busy getting to know the legislators who will be working on issues important to community associations.

TCAA is also reviewing and monitoring all bills related to community associations and property owner issues. There are currently about 15 bills with a potential direct impact on community associations, and we expect that number to grow as the March 8th bill filing deadline approaches.

Capitol Rally Day

In addition to its daily legislative work, TCAA also successfully organized the annual Capitol Rally Day on February 13, 2019. Nearly 200 attendees from Houston, Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, and communities across Texas spent the day at the capitol advocating for property owners' associations. Supporters arrived by busloads and carloads and, upon arrival at the capitol, were divided up into regional teams for the day. The Capitol Rally Day attendees shared lunch and received briefings from TCAA leaders, advocates, and communications staff. The crowd then made their rounds to visit with dozens of capitol offices to share their support for TCAA and community associations. Thanks to all who made this great event possible!

Bills of Note

There are a few early bills that are getting close attention from TCAA and its members. [HB 302](#) by Rep. Dennis Paul relates to the carrying, storage, and possession of a firearm or ammunition in an apartment or condominium. [SB 639](#) by Sen. Joan Huffman is a wide ranging bill addressing the operation and management of condominium unit owners' associations, including issues related to the meetings, records, and elections of those groups. [HB 660](#) by Rep. Matt Shaheen addresses the assessment of fines by property owners' associations. [SB 227](#) by Sen. Paul Bettencourt tackles the issue of when a property owners' association may regulate religious displays at a residence. On these bills and others, TCAA looks forward to working with the bill authors to address any concerns of homeowners and community associations.

Key Committee Appointments

The House Committee on Business & Industry will hear most bills that are specific to community associations. In the Senate, the key committees for community

association issues are likely to be the Intergovernmental Relations Committee and the Business & Commerce Committee. Below are some details on each member of these committees. If you have a personal or professional relationship with any of these legislators, please reach out and make sure they know how important property owners' associations are to you and your community.

HOUSE BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

Trey Martinez Fischer – new Committee Chair, Democrat from San Antonio
Drew Darby – new Committee Vice Chair, Republican from San Angelo
Michelle Beckley – freshman Democrat from Carrollton
Nicole Collier - returning committee member, Democrat from Fort Worth
Brooks Landgraf – new committee member, Republican from Odessa
Joe Moody – new committee member and *Speaker Pro Tem*, Democrat from El Paso
Tan Parker – new committee member, Republican from Flower Mound
Jared Patterson – freshman Republican from Frisco
Hugh Shine – returning committee member, Republican from Temple

SENATE BUSINESS & COMMERCE

Kelly Hancock – returning Committee Chair, Republican from Fort Worth
Robert Nichols – new Committee Vice Chair, Republican from Jacksonville
Donna Campbell – returning committee member, Republican from New Braunfels
Brandon Creighton – new committee member, Republican from Conroe
Jose Menendez – new committee member, Democrat from San Antonio
Angela Paxton – freshman Republican from McKinney
Charles Schwertner – returning committee member, Republican from Georgetown
John Whitmire – returning committee member, Democrat from Houston
Judith Zaffirini – returning committee member, Democrat from Laredo

SENATE INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Eddie Lucio, Jr. – returning Committee Chair, Democrat from Brownsville
Charles Schwertner – new Committee Vice Chair, Republican from Georgetown
Carol Alvarado – freshman Democrat from Houston (former House member)
Donna Campbell – returning committee member, Republican from New Braunfels
Pat Fallon – freshman Republican from Prosper (former House member)
Jose Menendez – new committee member, Democrat from San Antonio
Robert Nichols – new committee member, Republican from Jacksonville

Looking Ahead

TCAA looks forward to working with the members of the 2019 Texas Legislature, and we look forward to hearing from you about the issues of concern to you and your neighbors. For more information on the Texas Legislature and updates on TCAA activities and events, please visit the TCAA website at:

www.txcommunityassociationadvocates.org