

# AGC of TEXAS

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## PUBLIC AFFAIRS BULLETIN

### In Today's Bulletin:

**Call to Action:** Contact your Representatives to push SB 263

TxDOT Sunset Bill gets icy reception from Senate



### Call on your representatives to move Senate Bill 263

The construction industry won a huge victory in the appropriations bill when House and Senate Conferees agreed to authorize \$2 billion in General Obligation Bonds, plus fund its debt service up to \$100 million. These bonds are expected to help maintain much higher annual letting totals in the upcoming years, to the tune of around \$4 Billion. For those of you who contacted your representatives on this important issue, we thank you for your efforts.

However, none of these funds may be used without the passage of Senate Bill 263 by Carona, which is currently stalled in the House Transportation Committee. The bill authorizes the department to issue these bonds. If it does not pass, there is no \$2 billion for highway construction.

The bill must first be scheduled for hearing and voted out of the House Transportation Committee. Then it must be voted on by the full House of Representatives. Contact your state representative and tell them to urge Chairman Pickett to vote the bill out of his committee, then to make sure to vote for SB 263 when it reaches the full house.

To see who represents you and for contact information, use the following link:  
<http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/>.

On the Senate side of the Capitol, the TxDOT Sunset bill was laid out in the Senate Transportation and Homeland Security Committee this morning. It received critical reviews from the entire committee, so it is expected that Senate Transportation will overhaul the bill completely, then go to conference committee to work out a compromise.

For two very good accounts of the state of House Bill 300, click on the news articles below.

If you have any further questions regarding the legislative session, please contact Jennifer Newton at [jnewton@agctx.org](mailto:jnewton@agctx.org) or Kristen Ogden at [kogden@agctx.org](mailto:kogden@agctx.org).

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