

AGC of TEXAS

July 1, 2009



PUBLIC AFFAIRS BULLETIN

In Today's Bulletin:

First Called Session Begins Today



Special Session Kicks Off With a Great Start

The 81st Called Session began today at 10:a.m., with three priority bills considered. Below is a summary of what they are, and what took place.

Companions SB 1 and HB 1: These identical bills enable the Texas Department of Transportation to issue General Obligation Bonds and creates the Texas Transportation Revolving Fund, to be used to issue loans or to guarantee repayment of loans through local entities.

HB 1 was reported favorably from the House Appropriations Committee and is on its way to the full House for vote. SB 1 was heard in Senate Finance and is held pending.

Companions SB 2 and HB 2: These identical bills create an extension for the five state agencies not extended through the Sunset process during the regular session. This includes the Texas Department of Transportation. SB 2 was heard in Senate Finance, was reported favorably, and was finally passed on the Senate floor this afternoon. It is now on its way to the House for consideration. HB 2 was reported favorably from the House State Affairs Committee.

Companions HB 3 and SB 3: These bills extend TxDOT's ability to continue to execute Comprehensive Development Agreements. Both bills were left pending in their respective committees (Senate Finance and House Transportation). It appears there is some disagreement on the makeup of the bill and will be reconsidered tomorrow.

The House is adjourned until ten a.m. Thursday morning; the Senate until eleven a.m.