

MINUTES

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

Monday, March 28, 2011
1:30 PM or upon adjournment
Betty King Committee Room

Pursuant to a notice posted in accordance with Senate Rule 11.10 and 11.18, a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Government Organization was held on Monday, March 28, 2011, in the Betty King Committee Room at Austin, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Rodney Ellis, Chair
Senator Glenn Hegar, Vice Chair
Senator Brian Birdwell
Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr.
Senator Jane Nelson
Senator John Whitmire

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Steve Ogden

The chair called the meeting to order at 2:43 PM. There being a quorum present, the following business was transacted:

The following members arrived after the roll was called:

Senator Jane Nelson

At 2:44 PM Senator Hegar assumed the chair.

The chair laid out SB 1068 and recognized the author, Senator Ellis, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

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Senator Hegar moved that SB 1068 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

At 2:50 PM Senator Ellis resumed the chair.

The chair laid out SB 660 and recognized the author, Senator Hinojosa, to explain the bill.

Senator Whitmire requested unanimous consent to be shown voting with the chair; without objection, it was so ordered.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Hegar sent up Committee Amendment 1 and moved adoption; without objection, the amendment was adopted.

Senator Hegar sent up Committee Amendment 2 on behalf of Senator Ogden and explained the amendment. Amendment 2 was withdrawn.

Senator Hegar sent up Committee Amendment 3 on behalf of Senator Duncan and explained the amendment. Amendment 3 was withdrawn.

Senator Hegar requested unanimous consent to incorporate the amendment into a committee substitute; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hegar then moved that the committee substitute be adopted; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hegar moved that SB 660 do not pass but that CSSB 660 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent.

The chair laid out SB 656 and recognized the author, Senator Huffman, to explain the bill.

Senator Hegar sent up a committee substitute; the chair recognized Senator Huffman to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed. Senator Hegar moved adoption of the committee substitute; without objection, it was so ordered.

Witnesses registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

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Senator Hegar moved that SB 656 do not pass but that CSSB 656 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent.

Senator Hegar moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 648 and recognized Senator Hegar, in the absence of the author, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Hegar moved that SB 648 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent.

The chair laid out SB 654 and recognized Senator Hegar, in the absence of the author, to explain the bill.

Senator Hegar sent up a committee substitute; the chair recognized Senator Hegar to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed. Senator Hegar moved adoption of the committee substitute; without objection, it was so ordered.

Witnesses testifying on the bill are shown on the attached list. The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Lucio, Jr. sent up Committee Amendment 1 and moved adoption; without objection, the amendment was adopted.

Senator Hegar requested unanimous consent to incorporate the amendment into a committee substitute; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hegar then moved that the committee substitute be adopted; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hegar moved that SB 654 do not pass but that CSSB 654 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do

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pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent.

At 3:37 PM Senator Hegar assumed the chair. The chair called up SB 1068 and recognized the author, Senator Ellis.

Senator Ellis sent up Committee Amendment 1 and moved adoption; without objection, the amendment was adopted. Senator Ellis requested unanimous consent to incorporate the amendment into a committee substitute; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Ellis then moved that the committee substitute be adopted; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hegar moved that SB 1068 do not pass but that CSSB 1068 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent.

Senator Hegar moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

At 3:43 PM Senator Ellis resumed the chair.

The chair laid out SB 662 and recognized the author, Senator Nichols, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Hegar sent up a committee substitute; the chair recognized Senator Nichols to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed.

Senator Ellis moved that SB 662 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 663 and recognized the author, Senator Nichols, to explain the bill.

At 3:53 PM Senator Hegar assumed the chair.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

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At 3:58 PM Senator Ellis resumed the chair.

Senator Ellis moved that SB 663 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

There being no further business, at 4:20 PM Senator Ellis moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Rodney Ellis, Chair

Jessica Schleifer, Clerk