

MINUTES

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

Monday, September 10, 2018

1:00 PM

Senate Chamber

Pursuant to a notice posted in accordance with Senate Rule 11.10 and 11.18, a public hearing of the Senate Committee on State Affairs was held on Monday, September 10, 2018, in the Senate Chamber.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Joan Huffman, Chair
Senator Brian Birdwell
Senator Brandon Creighton
Senator Craig Estes
Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr.
Senator Jane Nelson
Senator Charles Schwertner
Senator Judith Zaffirini

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Bryan Hughes, Vice Chair

The chair called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. There being a quorum present, the following business was transacted:

The committee heard invited and public testimony regarding the following interim charges:

- 1) Examine the structure of court fees and make recommendations to ensure statutory filing fees and court costs are appropriate and justified. Provide recommendations for proper agency oversight of fee collection.
- 2) Review the Attorney General's efforts related to price-gouging and identify existing issues with current law, if any, that could be remedied to further protect Texans during times of disaster.
- 3) Review laws related to looting crimes. Examine whether current penalties and enhancements are sufficient to deter looting crimes during a disaster.

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

There being no further business, at 2:50 PM Senator Huffman moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Joan Huffman, Chair

Sean Opperman, Clerk