

**MINUTES**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS**

Monday, March 20, 2023

10:00 AM

Senate Chamber

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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, March 20, 2023, in the Senate Chamber.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Bryan Hughes, Chair  
Senator Angela Paxton, Vice Chair  
Senator Paul Bettencourt  
Senator Brian Birdwell  
Senator Morgan LaMantia  
Senator José Menéndez  
Senator Mayes Middleton  
Senator Tan Parker  
Senator Charles Perry  
Senator Charles Schwertner  
Senator Judith Zaffirini

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

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The chair called the meeting to order at 10:13 AM. There being a quorum present, the following business was transacted:

The following members arrived after the roll was called:

Senator Paul Bettencourt  
Senator José Menéndez  
Senator Tan Parker  
Senator Charles Schwertner

The chair laid out SB 1216 and recognized the author, Senator Paxton, to explain the bill.

The Chair opened public testimony, and with no one present to testify, the Chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hughes moved that SB 1216 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SJR 58 and recognized the author, Senator Birdwell, 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 Hughes moved that SJR 58 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 1104 and recognized the author, Senator Birdwell, 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 Hughes moved that SB 1104 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SJR 59 and recognized the author, Senator Birdwell, to explain the bill.

Senator Hughes moved that SJR 59 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SJR 35 and recognized the author, Senator Birdwell, 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 Hughes moved that SJR 35 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SJR 59 and recognized the author, Senator Birdwell, 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 Hughes moved that SJR 59 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 29 and recognized the author, Senator Birdwell, 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 Hughes moved that SB 29 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

At 11:12 AM Senator Birdwell assumed the chair.

The Chair laid out SB 1602 and recognized the author, Senator Hughes, 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 Birdwell moved that SB 1602 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

At 11:15 AM Senator Hughes resumed the chair.

At 12:00 PM, Senator Hughes moved that the Committee stand recessed until 2:00pm. Without objection, it was so ordered.

At 2:22 PM Senator Hughes reconvened the meeting.

The Chair laid out as a matter of pending business SB 14. Senator Bettencourt moved that SB 14 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 8 ayes, 3 nays, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent.

The Chair laid out as a matter of pending business SB 162. Senator Bettencourt moved that SB 162 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 8 ayes, 3 nays, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent.

The Chair laid out as a matter of pending business SB 885. Senator Hughes moved the adoption of the committee substitute; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Zaffirini moved that SB 885 do not pass but that CSSB 885 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent. Senator Zaffirini moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out as a matter of pending business SB 959 .

Senator Bettencourt moved that SB 959 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 8 ayes, 3 nays, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent.

The Chair laid out as a matter of pending business SB 29. Senator Birdwell moved that SB 29 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 8 ayes, 3 nays, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent.

The Chair laid out as a matter of pending business SJR 35. Senator Schwertner moved that SJR 35 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent.

The Chair laid out as a matter of pending business SB 1104. Senator Bettencourt moved that SB 1104 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent.

The Chair laid out as a matter of pending business SJR 58. Senator Birdwell moved that SJR 58 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent.

The Chair laid out as a matter of pending business SJR 59. Senator Birdwell moved that SJR 59 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent.

The Chair laid out as a matter of pending business SB 1216. Senator Paxton moved that SB 1216 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent.

At 2:31 PM Senator Paxton assumed the chair.

The Chair laid out as a matter of pending business SB 1602. Senator Hughes moved that SB 1602 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 10 ayes, 1 nay, 0 present not voting, and 0 absent.

At 2:32 PM Senator Hughes resumed the chair.

The Chair accepted a motion in writing from Senator Perry on SB 14, SB 162, SB 885, SB 959, SB 29, SJR 35, SB 1104, SJR 58, SJR 59, SB 1216, and SB 1602.

There being no further business, at 2:32 PM Senator Hughes moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

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Senator Bryan Hughes, Chair

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Taryn Taylor, Clerk