

## MINUTES

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

9:00 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 Wednesday, February 17, 2016, in the Senate Chamber.

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#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Joan Huffman, Chair  
Senator Rodney Ellis, Vice Chair  
Senator Brian Birdwell  
Senator Brandon Creighton  
Senator Craig Estes  
Senator Charles Schwertner  
Senator Judith Zaffirini

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Senator Troy Fraser  
Senator Jane Nelson

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The chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. There being a quorum present, the following business was transacted:

The committee heard invited and public testimony regarding the following interim charge: Examine measures to affirm 1st Amendment religious liberty protections in Texas, along with the relationship between local ordinances and state and federal law. Make recommendations to ensure that the government does not force individuals, organizations or businesses to violate their sincerely held religious beliefs.

Witnesses testifying on the charge 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 12:19 PM Senator Huffman moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

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Senator Joan Huffman, Chair

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Ashley Brooks, Clerk