

TARRANT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

G. K. MAENIUS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

TO:

Tarrant County Commissioners Court

FROM:

Russell Schaffner, Asst. County Administrator

DATE:

April 14, 2023

SUBJECT:

Legislative Update

Overview

The House passed the appropriations act (**HB 1**) and the supplemental appropriations act (**SB 30**) on Thursday, August 6. The Senate Finance Committee took up **HB 1** in committee and substituted in their version of the budget, **SB 1**. The House and Senate will take **SB 30** into a conference committee and will appoint conferees in the coming weeks.

The Legislature's tax relief plans are making their way through the process. The Senate passed SB 3, SB 4, and SB 5, sending them to the House. The three Senate bills are pending in the House Ways and Means Committee. The House passed HB 2 on Thursday, April 13 and sent the bill to the Senate.

The House and Senate economic development bills have also been heard in their respective committees. **HB 5** (Hunter) was heard in House Ways and Means on April 10 and has been left pending. This bill would create a new mechanism to abate school district property taxes. **SB 1419** (Birdwell) was heard on April 5 in the Senate Natural Resources and Economic Development Committee and has been left pending. **SB 1419** would increase the notice requirements for tax abatements and limit the types of funds used for Chapter 380/381 agreements. This Session's economic development policy continues to develop.

Bills of Interest

The Legislature is poised to make changes to the platting and development process. **HB 14** (Harris) and **HB 866** (Oliverson) passed out of the House and have been sent to the Senate. These bills clarify certain platting changes made in the 86th Session with **HB 3617**. **HB 3617** (86) created a timeline for speedy plat review by a county or municipality. **HB 14** and **HB 866** add additional requirements and allow for a third-party review and plat approval process.

SB 1787 (Bettencourt)/**HB** 3921 (Goldman) would establish maximum lot sizes for residential zoning outside of an HOA in municipalities located in a county containing a city with a population of 300,000 or more. If this bill is enacted, the residential lot size cannot be larger than 1,400 square feet with a density of 31.1 residential units per acre.

HB 2878 (Capriglione) has been bracketed to Tarrant County. This bill would allow a food truck vendor to receive a permit from the Tarrant County Public Health Department and operate anywhere in the County.

Important Dates:

March 10 – Unrestricted bill filing deadline

May 11 – Last day for the House to consider second reading House bills

May 23 – Last day for the House to consider second reading Senate bills

May 24 – Last day for the Senate to consider all bills on second or third reading

May 29 – sine die

June 18 – Last day the Governor can sign or veto bills