



## Texas Legislative News

The Texas legislative session is rocking along. As of today, approximately 2,700 bills have been filed. The filing deadline is March 8, 2019, for most bills, so there are a lot more coming. TCA is presently tracking about 105 bills that would have some effect on the construction industry or on the way you do business.

### ***TCA Priority Legislation***

**SB 15/HB 1654 Consistent Employment Regulations** - As you know, TCA is one of the 17 members of ASSET (the Alliance for Securing and Strengthening the Economy in Texas), a coalition formed to advocate for a statewide solution to employment regulations in Texas. Last Tuesday, Sen. Brandon Creighton (R-Conroe) and Rep. Craig Goldman (R-Fort Worth) filed the ASSET-endorsed bill to preempt local regulations related to employment practices. Lt. Governor Dan Patrick indicated support for the bill by reserving one of the low bill numbers for it in the Senate. Additionally, later that day, Governor Abbott, speaking at the NFIB luncheon, mentioned the bills and praised Sen. Creighton and Rep. Goldman for their work.

The opposition of marshaling their troops. Last Thursday employee groups held a rally and legislative briefing at the capitol. Additionally, local governments are advocating against the bills through the Texas Municipal League.

TCA, along with ASSET, will continue to work for the passage of SB 15 and HB 1654. Stay tuned for more information on how you can get involved.

**HB 1737 Statute of Repose** - Rep. Justin Holland (R-Rockwall) filed HB 1737 proposing a modification of the current 10-year Statute of Repose for construction defect litigation to 8 years for latent defects and 6 years for patent defects. The bill is awaiting referral to a House Committee.

**HB 589 Lien Modernization** -- Representative Joe Deshotel (D-Beaumont), Representative Jeff Leach (R-Allen) and Representative Charles "Doc" Anderson (R-Waco) filed this bill on December 21st and it is awaiting referral to a House Committee.

**HB 370 ~HB 2457~HB 790~SB 471 Attorney Fees** -- Each of these bills address the issue of the recovery of attorney fees in civil litigation. TCA is tracking these bills as they away referral to committee.

### ***Other Legislation of Interest***

Other TCA priority legislation that is pending filing: design defect liability; securing retainage; notice and right to repair; and disclosure of documents incorporated by reference. As soon as these items are filed you will be notified of bill numbers and more information. In the meantime, if you have questions, please consult our website: [www.texcon.org](http://www.texcon.org) or email me at [jfagan@texcon.org](mailto:jfagan@texcon.org).

Until next week,  
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