

Interim Hearings - Week of April 18, 2016

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Related Categories: Interim hearings, 84th Session

[Today's Committee Meetings](#) on the LRL website is a calendar of interim committee hearings with links to agendas. Below are resources related to upcoming Interim Hearings.

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House Committee on [Appropriations](#)

Charge 1 (partial): Potential fiscal policy challenges or economic disruptions in the 2016-17 biennium, including impact of oil and natural gas price declines on the Texas economy

- ["Multiple Lawsuits Could Spell Budget Doomsday for State," Texas Tribune](#), March 31, 2016
- [Fiscal 50: State Trends and Analysis](#), Pew Charitable Trusts, March 1, 2016
- [Miracle on Ice? What Low Oil Prices Mean for Texas](#) (Research Report), Texas Taxpayers and Research Association, March 2016
- ["Texas Economy Remains Resilient, but Low Oil Prices Loom as Future Risk," Southwest Economy](#), Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, First Quarter 2016
- ["As Oil Prices Plunge, Hegar Asked if Budget Outlook Too Rosy," Standard & Poor's Report](#), [Collapsing Oil Prices Seep Into State Credit Profiles](#), Texas Tribune, January 26, 2016
- ["Franchise Tax Lawsuit Could Cost Texas \\$1.5 Billion a Year," Fiscal Notes](#), Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, June-July 2015

Charge 5: Accumulation of funds in the Texas Economic Stabilization Fund, particularly in light of [HB 903](#), 84th Legislature, R. S.; accuracy of prior ESF revenue predictions, feasibility of long-term projections

- [Economic Stabilization Fund Cap](#) (Issue Brief), Legislative Budget Board, March 2016
- [The 2016-17 Certification Revenue Estimate, Details of the Economic Stabilization Fund - Cash Basis Reporting](#), Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, October 13, 2015
- [State of Texas Annual Cash Report 2015, Economic Stabilization Fund 0599](#) (as of August 31, 2015), Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, November 2, 2015

Senate Committee on Education CANCELLED

Charge: Digital learning, expansion of broadband access in school districts and student homes

- "The Digital Divide in Texas Public Schools" (Blog), *Texas AFT*, March 14, 2016
- "Bridging a Digital Divide That Leaves Schoolchildren Behind," *New York Times*, February 22, 2016
- "20th Century Living: These Texas Cities Have the Fewest High-Speed Internet Connections," *AustinInno*, December 7, 2015
- *Public School Network Capabilities Study* (See November 2015), Texas Education Agency, December 1, 2015
- "Major Effort Underway to Eliminate RGV's Digital Divide," *Rio Grande Guardian*, November 19, 2015
- *The 2015 State of the States: A report on the State of Connectivity in America's K-12 Public Schools*, EducationSuperHighway, 2015
- *Broadband and Education - Connecting Students in Texas*, Connected Texas, September 2014
- *Report to the 83rd Legislature* (Charge 3 - Barriers to virtual schools), January 2013 and *Committee Handouts/Written Testimony*, October 8, 2012, Senate Committee on Education
- *Broadband Landscape* (maps), Connected Texas

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House Committee on Appropriations - S/C on Articles I, IV & V

Charge: Implementation of [HB 9](#), 84th Legislature, R. S., and updated projections towards actuarial soundness of the Employees Retirement System; cost of living adjustments or "13th Checks" to retired state employees

- *ERS Retirement Trust Fund FAQ* (7 - Why hasn't ERS given a cost-of-living adjustment or 13th check to retirees since 2001?), Employees Retirement System of Texas, 2016
- *Actuarial Valuation Reports for Pension Plans Administered by ERS as of August 31, 2015*, Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company, November 23, 2015
- *2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report*, Employee Retirement System of Texas, November 16, 2015
- "ERS Requests Changes to Make Trust Actuarially Sound," *The Administrator Quarterly Newsletter* (Texas State Agency Business Administrators' Association), February 27, 2015
- *Path to Stability: ERS at the Crossroads*, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, December 2014
- *Benefits for State Employees and Public and Higher Education Employees: Legislative Primer*, Second Edition, Legislative Budget Board, October 2014

House Committee on Juvenile Justice & Family Issues CANCELLED

Organizational meeting

Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

Charge: Higher acuity children with trauma and mental illness in the state foster care system

- *Psychotropic Medication Utilization Parameters for Children and Youth in Foster Care (5th Version)*, Developed by Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and The University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy, March 31, 2016
- *Meeting the Needs of High Needs Children in the Texas Child Welfare System*, The Stephen Group, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, November 2015
- *Understanding Trauma-Informed Care in the Texas Child Welfare System: Data and Recommendations from the Field*, Texas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), October 2015
- *Mental Health and Foster Care*, National Conference of State Legislatures, May 20, 2015
- *Respecting the Needs of Children and Youth in Texas Foster Care: Acknowledging Trauma and Promoting Positive Mental Health Throughout The System: Recommendations of the Texas CASA Mental Health Task Force*, Texas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, December 2014
- *Mental Health, Common Mental Health Issues for Children, Youth, and Families Involved in Child Welfare*, Child Welfare Information Gateway, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

Charge: Disrupted foster care adoptions

- *Permanency Strategic Plan*, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, November 2015
- *Adoption Disruption and Dissolution*, Child Welfare Information Gateway, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, June 2012

Charge: Current Child Protective Services process to track recurrence of child abuse and neglect

- *Within Our Reach: A National Strategy to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities: Final Report, 2016*, Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities, March 17, 2016
- *2015 Annual Report and Data Book (Child Protective Services)*, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, February 1, 2016
- *Protect Our Kids Commission Report*, Protect Our Kids Commission, December 1, 2015

- *Understanding Texas' Child Protection Services System*, TexProtects: The Texas Association for Protection of Children, October 2014

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Senate Committee on [Health & Human Services](#)

Topic: Update from the Inspector General of the Health and Human Services Commission on efforts to reform the Office of the Inspector General, and on the IG Integrity Initiative

Charge: Refugees relocating to Texas, Refugee Resettlement Program

- *Office of Refugee Resettlement Annual Report to Congress FY 2014 (State Administered Program)*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Administration For Children and Families, Office of Refugee Resettlement, March 18, 2016
- *The U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program: A Primer for Policymakers* (See "What is the Role of the States"), National Conference of State Legislatures, February 20, 2016
- "Here's How Much the United States Spends on Refugees," *Washington Post*, November 30, 2015
- *The High Cost of Resettling Middle Eastern Refugees*, Center for Immigration Studies, November 2015
- *Texas Refugee Health Program 2014 Refugee Health Report*, Texas Department of State Health Services, Posted September 9, 2015
- *FY 2015 Targeted Assistance Formula Allocations* (State Letter 15-11, April 14, 2015), Office of Refugee Resettlement, Last Reviewed September 8, 2015
- *FY 2015 Social Services Formula Allocations* (State Letter 15-04, April 28, 2015), Office of Refugee Resettlement, Last Reviewed September 8, 2015
- *Revised Medical Screening Guidelines for Newly Arriving Refugees* (State Letter 12-09, July 29, 2013), Office of Refugee Resettlement, Last Reviewed September 8, 2015