



Greetings TASP Members,

Happy Spring Break!

As you are all aware, we are well into the 85th Legislative Session. Given the volume of information on current bills and legislative activities, we will begin providing a weekly update to summarize the current information and any actions associated. Here's what's happening in Austin...

**March 10th** was the final day for filing bills for this legislative session. Now the fun begins!

Many of you have expressed concern regarding HB 11, specifically the proposed *change in evaluation timelines and the omission of LSSPs as listed mental health providers in schools*. TASP is aware of this bill and communicating with TCASE and TSHA to formulate a resolution and appropriate recommendations. We will notify you as soon as more information is available. At this time, the bill has been referred to the Public Health committee but does not have a public health committee hearing date. We will let you know as soon as this occurs. At the time of the hearing there will be an opportunity for public comment and we will be calling on members like you to ensure the profession is well represented.

What does this all mean and what's the timeline? Check out this [visual](#) of where HB 11 is in the legislative process. This bill is in the beginning stages. TASP is crafting a position and message for members to reach out their leaders. Know that there will be more than one opportunity to advocate on this bill.

Bills to watch:

There are 2 bills filed that support TASP's legislative platform:

- **HB 627/SB 1770:** Relating to the regulation of licensed specialists in school psychology (practice in private schools). House Bill 627 is in the Public Health Committee. Reminder: [see the Call to Action sent 3/7/2017](#). SB 1170, the Senate version has not yet made it to committee.
- **HB 2357:** Relating to certain practice locations for licensed specialists in school psychology (practice in clinics under supervision). Not yet assigned to a committee.

Additionally, filed as a result of the Sunset Review decisions **SB 311/HB 2898** : Relating to the creation of the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council and to the continuation and transfer of the regulation of sex offender treatment providers, psychologists, marriage and family therapists, professional counselors, chemical dependency counselors, and social workers to the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council; providing civil and administrative penalties; authorizing a fee. SB311 referred to Health & Human Services Committee. House bill not yet assigned to a committee.

Need a refresher on how this all works. Click here! [How a Bill Becomes a Law](#)

Below are helpful links to learn more about any of the bills above (and more):

[Legislative Reports](#)- View a list of bills that have been filed in the house or senate.

[Bill Status](#)- View the current status and legislative history for a bill.

[Text Search](#)- Find bills with specific content.

Interested in who represents you? Check out this link: [Who Represents Me?](#)

**While you are on Spring Break, feel free to make an appointment with your representative to inform them regarding school psychology and education issues! Representatives genuinely want to hear from their constituents on how bills will affect them, such as whether a bill creates more opportunity or limits practice. Let them hear your story.**

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