



TSEA Legislative Update April 17, 2017

From the Executive Director

We had a very good week on Capitol Hill. I want to thank our members that have been in contact with legislators on key committees. Your involvement has been rewarded this week. Also, I want to thank our staff that has worked diligently on the Hill, in our office, and in the field. President Merritt, Chair Lady Bowman, and both the TSEA and TEAM PAC Boards have helped tremendously in the process.

We have four bills that are still moving in the Legislature. Plus, this year's effort has laid a foundation for success next year on some important issues. Specifically, we have raised the discussion of outsourcing to a new level. Serious discussion of a one-year moratorium on outsourcing took place this week. Please take a few moments to review the discussion during the [Senate State Government Committee](#) regarding SB 1047 by Janice Bowling. A joint committee will be appointed and begin meeting to hear testimony this summer and fall with a serious intent of presenting final legislation to address outsourcing. TSEA will be involved in the special joint hearings.

Paul Overholser has done a great job leading our lobbying team with all staff contributing to the success thus far. Session will end in three or four weeks. Please continue to read our legislative alerts and contact [YOUR Legislators](#). Some of our bills will be on the House and Senate Floor THIS week. A quick professional call from you to your Senator and Representative will help pass the bills in the final steps of the legislative process.

Thank you,
Randy Stamps

Highlights of the Week

Senate State and Local Government Committee passes TEAM Act modifications to Senate Calendar Committee.

The Senate State and Local Gov't. Committee Tuesday voted to send to the Senate floor this week the TEAM Act bill brought by TSEA.

While this version is much different from the original bill, it still allows TSEA to gain traction on making changes to the TEAM Act.

The House State Government Subcommittee passed the same version on Wednesday. The full State Gov't committee will hear the legislation this week. We look forward to having more discussion regarding this issue and will continue to chip away at this section of the code.

The House State Government Subcommittee moves TSEA's contract bill to a Joint Summer Study Committee with the Senate State Government Committee.

The House State Government Committee moved HB 944 by Goins to a Joint Summer Study Committee. Chairman Bob Ramsey made a motion stating this is a serious issue that should be looked at and brought back next year in a better form. TSEA was pleased that the committee took such a strong stance on how the administration has handled the contracting of state services.

HB 944 was trying to bring more accountability to the contracting process. As shown by the comptroller's report about JLL and their lease management, the failure to adequately oversee contracts can have serious consequences. Lack of oversight opens the door for contractors to overcharge, skimp on services, or even flat-out fail to deliver on contractual obligations, ultimately leaving the public on the hook.

The bill as amended would incorporate oversight costs into any decision to outsource, establish formal contract monitoring and oversight rules, provide adequate resources, including staff, training, and funding, to oversee every contract, and does not allow outsource of contract oversight.

This week's calendar

Mon 4/17/17 3:00pm - Senate Chamber, Senate Floor

#20. SB1060 - Massey B.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Time allotted to appoint eligible applicants in preferred service. Increases the time appointing authority must appoint one of the applicants after being referred a list of eligible persons from within 30 days to within 45 days. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: Senate State & Local Government Committee

Amendment 1, House Civil Justice Committee Amendment 1 (005093) clarifies that deputy" means a jailer appointed by a sheriff.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 12, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/13/17 - Set for Senate Floor 04/17/17.

House Status: HB1015 - H. Brooks

04/13/17 - Set for House Floor 04/20/17.

#23. SB1168 - Hensley J.

FAMILY LAW: DCS to maintain case manager staffing levels. Requires the department of children's services maintain staffing levels of case managers so that each region has enough case managers make sure caseloads do not exceed 20 active cases relating to initial assessments or 20 children monitored or supervised in active cases relating to ongoing services.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 7, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/13/17 - Set for Senate Floor 04/17/17.

House Status: HB972 - C. Rogers

02/15/17 - Referred to House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

Wed 4/19/17 3:00pm - LP 29, House State Government Committee

MEMBERS: CHAIR B. Ramsey (R); VICE CHAIR B. Hulse (R); J. Shaw (D); B. Sanderson (R); T. Rudd (R); J. Powell (D); M. Littleton (R); W. Lamberth (R); D. Jernigan (D); M. Daniel (R)

#1. HB0975 - Brooks H.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Amendment Summary: Senate State & Local Government Committee Amendment 1 (007225) - Allows for an assessment to be used in lieu of an interview by the commissioner or appointing authority to satisfy any requirements. If an assessment is used in lieu of an interview, notice of such use may be included in the job announcement. Specifies that an appointing authority that terminates or furloughs an employee or reduces an employee's hours of employment for any reason must provide written notice to the commissioner. Upon receiving notice, the commissioner must provide input

throughout the reduction-in-force process. If a reduction-in-force occurs, the commissioner must notify no less than thirty (30) days after the reduction, the chair of the state and local government committee in the senate and the chair of the state government committee in the house of representatives of the reason for the reduction-in-force and the number of positions affected by the reduction-in-force. Requires that a notice of termination must include the reason for the termination in clear and concise language and must state the gas that led to the termination. Adds language specifying that any written warning or written follow-up to an oral warning that has been issued to an employee is a void and of no effect after a period of two (2) years if the employee has not been the subject of further disciplinary action with respect to the same area of performance, conduct, or discipline within the two-year period.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 21, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/11/17 - Senate State & Local Government Committee recommended with amendment 1 (007225). Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

House Status: SB1390 - J. Hensley

04/11/17 - Senate State & Local Government Committee recommended with amendment 1 (007225). Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

#3. [HB1188](#) - Hill M.

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Reestablishes the legislative oversight committees on TennCare, children's services, and correction. Re-establishes legislative oversight committees on TennCare, children's services, and correction. Specifies the procedures by which the committees shall be created and who shall serve on the boards. (19 pp) Amendment Summary: House State Government Subcommittee Amendment (005877) deletes the oversight committee on the department of corrections from the list, and creates a sunset for the other two oversight committees on TennCare and on Children's Services for 3 years to June 30, 2020.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 2, 2017) Increase State Expenditures Exceeds \$351,100

House Status: 04/13/17 - Set for House State Government Committee 04/19/17.

Senate Status: SB1145 - J. Hensley

04/10/17 - Taken off notice in Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

#7. [HB1156](#) - Pody M.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: List of all state contracts to the comptroller. Requires the chief procurement officer to provide the comptroller of the treasury a list of all state contracts, grants, and the cost of each. Requires the comptroller to put the list on the comptroller's website, and to be updated each

time a state governmental entity enters, cancels, amends, or extends a contract or grant. Allows the chief procurement officer to charge an administrative fee for creating and maintaining the list.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 7, 2017) Increase State Revenue \$158,800/FY17-18 \$133,800/FY18-19 and Subsequent Years Increase State Expenditures - \$158,800/FY17-18 \$133,800/FY18-19 and Subsequent Years

House Status: 04/13/17 - Set for House State Government Committee 04/19/17.

Senate Status: SB1185 - F. Niceley

04/11/17 - Senate State & Local Government Committee recommended. Sent to Senate Finance.

TSEA Lobby Team

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Additional details on bills we support and/or are watching may be found by visiting

<https://tseaonline.org/2017-legislation/>

Stay Connected



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