

81st Legislative Session Update

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The numbers on this legislative session

- ERCOT is tracking 79 bills
- 25 of these bills are classified as Priority 1
- Relatively few bills are moving through the process, with the exception of bills authored by Chairmen Troy Fraser (Senate Business and Commerce) and Burt Solomons (House State Affairs)
- These bills would make significant changes to the current ERCOT BOD structure, place ERCOT, Inc. under Sunset review, require the public and free broadcasting of PUC and ERCOT hearings and implement a solar distributed generation incentive program



SB 1700 by Fraser and HB 2421 by Solomons

- Both SB 1700 and HB 2421 would remove market participant participation from the ERCOT BOD
- HB 2421 would retain all consumer representation on the BOD, while SB 1700 would only retain OPC representation
- SB 1700 would allow the PUC to modify ERCOT bylaws and remove BOD members for "failing to impartially and adequately discharge the duties of the member."
- SB 1700 has not been heard in committee yet
- The full House voted on HB 2421 last Thursday



HB 1783 by Solomons

- HB 1783 requires public, free internet broadcasting of PUC open meetings and ERCOT BOD meetings
- This provision is also in Solomons' HB 3245
- The cost of broadcasting would be borne by an assessment on public utilities, river authorities, REPs and power generation companies that own more than 5,000 MW of installed capacity in this state
- HB 1783 has been voted out of committee and is in the General Calendars Committee

HB 3245 by Solomons

- HB 3245 is Chairman Solomons' omnibus electric legislation
- Contains provisions that apply to all segments of the market.
 Specifically:
 - Contains a provision that would require public, free internet broadcasting of PUC open meetings and ERCOT BOD meetings
 - Prohibits the pass-through of "any charges or costs associated with a nodal wholesale market design implementation to retail customers"

SB 545 by Fraser

- SB 545 creates a solar distributed generation incentive program
- The PUC will establish a program to be implemented by utilities
- Mandates a cost recovery factor which may not exceed:
 - 10 cents per month for residential customers
 - \$1 per month for commercial customers
 - \$10 per month for industrial customers

Sunset Legislation - HB 1959 by Isett

- HB 1959 is legislation that is filed each session as a "fail-safe" to the Sunset process.
- The legislation sets the timing of Sunset review for state agencies in the future and also is used to continue agencies whose Sunset legislation is in jeopardy of not passing during a session
- Isett's bill would place ERCOT, Inc. under Sunset review but would not allow the Sunset Commission to abolish ERCOT, Inc.
- The bill is pending in House State Affairs

