

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Darrin M. Hall

DATE: February 8, 2013

RE: 83rd Session—5th Weekly Report

Board Chair Nelda Luce Blair, Chancellor Renu Khator and I spent a good part of the week in Washington, DC where we met with a dozen congressmen and senators.

In Austin, the House Appropriations Committee began meeting by hearing an overview of state government and having an in depth hearing on the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute (CPRIT), which is not funded in either appropriations bill. Unlike the Senate, the House Appropriations committee will conduct hearings through a subcommittee, which was named by Chairman Jim Pitts (R-Waxahachie) Thursday. The Chairman, John Otto (R-Dayton) and Representative Helen Giddings (D-Dallas) served on the subcommittee a few years ago. The other members are new to the subcommittee, which considers both public and higher education budgets. The remaining members are Representatives Myra Crownover (R-Lake Dallas), Donna Howard (D-Austin), Diane Patrick (R-Arlington), Greg Bonnen (R-Friendswood), and Bennet Ratliff (R-Coppell). Both Bonnen and Ratliff are freshman members. The subcommittee will begin hearings next Monday.

Also, next week, the University of Houston System will celebrate UHS Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, with students, faculty and staff from all UH System universities.

Recent filings of interest:

HB 895 by Kolkhorst relating to access by a public institution of higher education to the criminal history record information of certain persons seeking to reside in on-campus housing

HB 972 by Fletcher relating to the carrying of concealed handguns on campuses of and certain other locations associated with institutions of higher education

HB 1000 by Oliveira relating to the creation of a new university in South Texas within The University of Texas System

HB 1078 by Kleinschmidt relating to the carrying of concealed handguns on certain premises of or locations associated with institutions of higher education

SB 301 by Zaffirini relating to the authority of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to issue to a foreign postsecondary institution a certificate of authority to grant professional degrees

SB 431 by Patrick relating to eliminating the set-aside of a portion of designated tuition for student financial assistance at public institutions of higher education

For more information on this legislation, please go to <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us>. Please see the attached report for the status of all legislation we are tracking.