



THE POLICY PAGE

An update on state and federal action from

The Center for Public Policy Priorities

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SENATE BUDGET HEARINGS SET FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCIES

The Senate Finance Committee has scheduled budget hearings for all state agencies. (A *tentative* schedule for health and human service agency hearings is below.) At these hearings, state agencies will testify about the Legislative Budget Board's funding recommendation for their agency in the FY 98-99 biennium. Concerned citizens, organizations, and advocates are also invited to testify. The hearings will be held in the Senate Finance Committee Room (E1.036) in the Capitol Extension.

The House Appropriations Committee will hold similar hearings after House members' committee assignments are made.

Tentative Hearing Schedule

Tues., January 28 - Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Health and Human Services Commission
- Department of Health
- Children's Trust Fund

Wed., January 29 - Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Department of Human Services
- Workforce Commission
 - Reimbursement to Unemployment comp. Benefit Account
- Commission for the Blind
- Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Thurs., January 30 - Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Department of Mental Health & Mental Retardation
- Department of Aging
- Cancer Council
- Council on Early Childhood Intervention

Friday, January 31 - Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Department of Protective & Regulatory Services
- Texas Rehabilitation Commission
- Commission on Alcohol & Drug Abuse

Senate Finance Committee

Members		Phone (512)	Fax (512)
Sen. Bill Ratliff, Chair	Mt. Pleasant	463-0101	475-3751
Sen. Carlos Truan, Vice Chair	Corpus Christi	463-0120	475-3741
Sen. Ken Ambrister	Victoria	463-0118	475-3736
Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos	Austin	463-0114	463-5949
Sen. Teel Bivins	Amarillo	463-0131	475-3733
Sen. J.E. Brown	Lake Jackson	463-0117	463-0639
Sen. Eduardo A. Lucio	Brownsville	463-0127	463-0061
Sen. Mike Moncrief	Fort Worth	463-0112	463-0326
Sen. Jane Nelson	Flower Mound	463-0109	463-0923
Sen. David Sibley	Waco	463-0122	475-3729
Sen. Jeff Wentworth	San Antonio	463-0125	463-7794
Sen. Royce West	Dallas	463-0123	463-0299
Sen. Judith Zaffirini	Laredo	463-0121	476-3733

Sources of Information about Agencies' Budget Proposals: The Legislative Budget Board proposal has been filed in the House as House Bill 1 and in the Senate as Senate Bill 5. Those wanting a copy of the bill, a summary of the bill, or the Legislative Budget Estimates (which include information about the last biennial budget) can contact the Legislative Budget Board at 512/463-1200. Additionally, the Center for Public Policy Priorities is preparing a summary of how this Legislative Budget Board proposal would affect services to low-income Texans and other clients of health and human services agencies. This report is scheduled to be released early in the week of the hearings.

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