

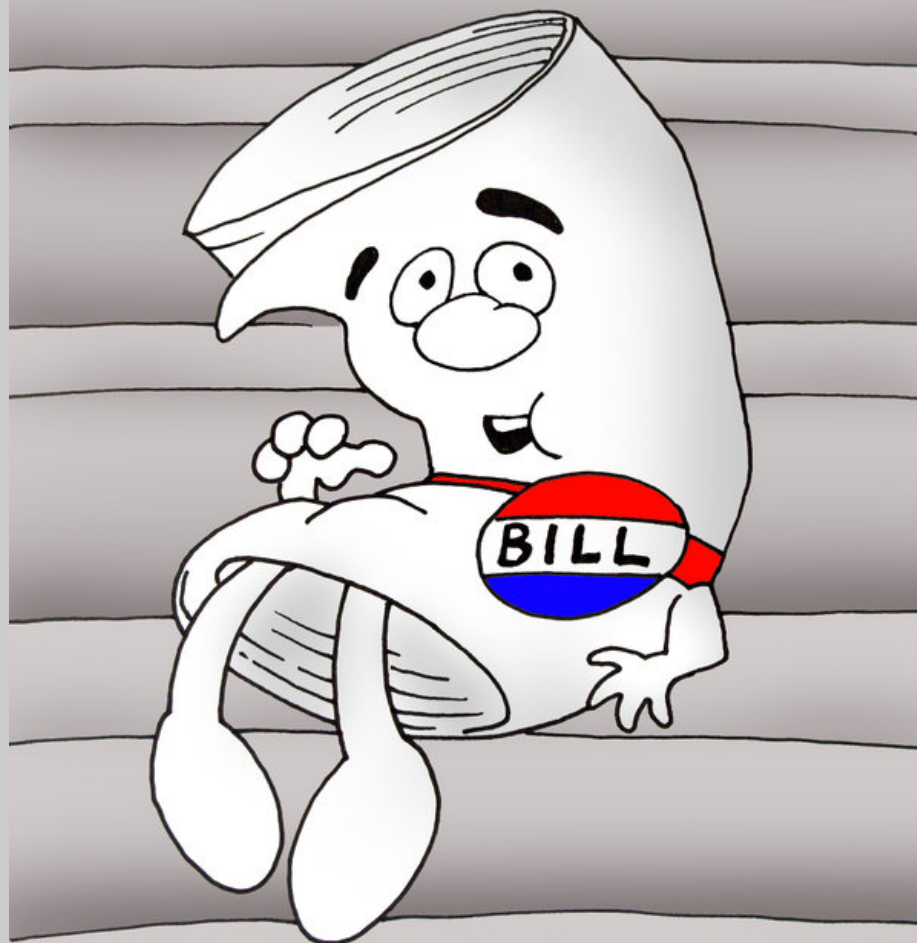


# Legislative Update

2015 Traffic Safety Forum

Judge Laura A. Weiser

I'm Just a  
Bill



What's  
happening  
at the  
Capitol?



Bones found at  
Capitol





# Impaired Driving

# HB 2246 Villalba

Passed out of  
committee  
4/14/15  
Homeland Security  
Comm.

- Allows petitioner to obtain an occupational license after a suspension for a conviction under 49.04-49.08 if an ignition interlock is installed

HB 673

Bell

left pending in  
committee

4/8/15

- Creates a “per se” law
- “any detectable amount of a controlled substance in penalty groups 1, 1-A and 2 is intoxicated

HB 460  
Bell  
Reported  
favorably as  
substituted  
4/16/15

- Blood Search Warrants
  - Allows execution in a contiguous county



SB 1056  
Hinojosa  
Placed on  
intent calendar  
4/16/15

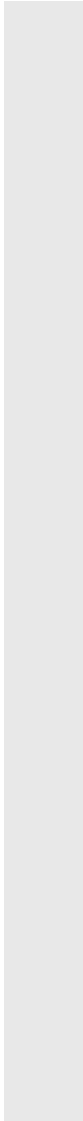

- Amends indigency determination process to establish that a person who has already been determined indigent for the purposes of a court appointed lawyer would also be indigent for the purpose of surcharges

# SB 93 Ellis

Repeal of Drivers  
Responsibility  
Program

Referred to  
Transportation  
Committee

- Would repeal surcharges



# Alcohol and Other Drugs

## HB 1018

Placed on  
local, consent  
and res.  
calendar

- Includes powdered alcohol in the definition of “illicit beverages” in the Alcoholic Beverage Code
- Prohibits manufacturing, importing, selling or possessing for the purpose of sale an alcoholic beverage made from powdered alcohol

SB 172  
Huffman  
Passed by the  
Senate  
HB 595  
Clardy

- Adds substances commonly referred to as 25-1 and its similar compound to Penalty Group 2

## HB 253 and 254

left pending in  
Criminal  
Jurisprudence  
Committee

- 253 Amends 481.115(b) makes possession of a controlled substance in Penalty Group 1 of .02 grams to 1 gram a State Jail Felony
- 254 makes less than 1 gram a Class A misdemeanor
- Also amends 481.1151(b) to make it a class A misdemeanor if the number of abuse units is less than 20

# HB 325

Left pending in  
Criminal  
Jurisprudence  
Committee

- Amends 481.121(b) HSC to make possession of marihuana of 0.35 ounces or less a Class C misdemeanor
- Class B would be more than 0.35 but less than 2 ounces

# HB 403

Dutton

Left pending in  
Criminal  
Jurisprudence  
Committee

- Amends 481.115 HSC to make possession of a cs less than 1 gram a class A misdemeanor with a minimum term of 180 days confinement
- Bumps it back up to a State Jail Felony if defendant has a prior conviction for that offense



# HB 414

Dutton

Left pending in  
Criminal  
Jurisprudence  
Committee

- Makes possession of marijuana and synthetic cannabinoids of less than 1 ounce a Class C misdemeanor
- 1-2 ounces a Class B
- 2-4 ounces a Class A

HB 488

Guillen

SB 199

Perry

Referred to

Criminal Justice

- Adds new synthetic compounds to Penalty Group 2 or 2-A

HB 507

Moody

SB 1417

Ellis

Left Pending in

Criminal

Jurisprudence

Committee

- Makes possession of a usable quantity of marihuana 1 ounce or less a civil penalty not to exceed \$100

HB 2165  
Simpson  
Left pending in  
Criminal  
Jurisprudence  
Committee

- Repeals all possession of marijuana offenses



Driving

# HB 1888

Capriglione

Passed to  
engrossment

- Amends the Transportation Code to increase the fine for driving a commercial vehicle without a commercial driver's license not to exceed \$1000.
- Raises offense to a Class B misdemeanor if there is a prior conviction within 1 year

HB2671

Senfronia  
Thompson

Left pending in  
Homeland Security

- Repeals license suspension for failure to pay surcharges and failure to appear



Other



SB 17

Estes

Passed the Senate

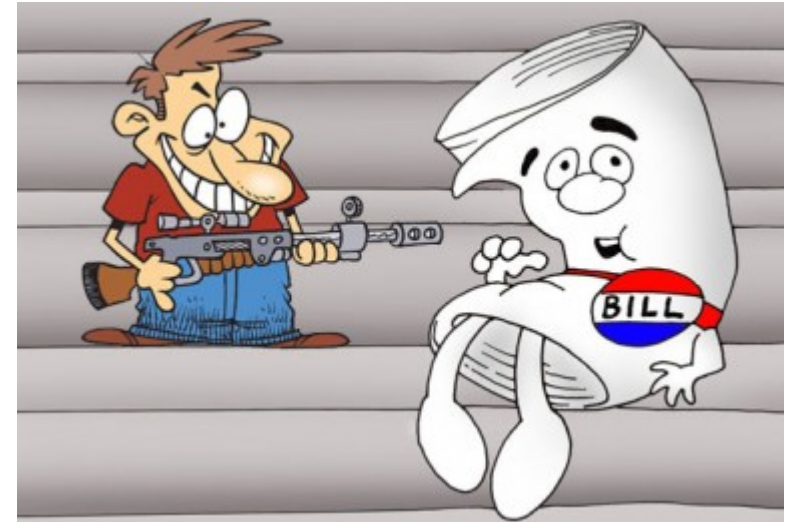
HB 910

Phillips

Out of House

Committee

- Open Carry
- Allows open carry of handguns by anyone with a CHL in a shoulder or belt holster



SB 10  
Huffman  
Passed in the  
Senate

HB 1690  
King  
Out of  
Committee

- Public Integrity Unit
- **SB 10** creates a unit in the Office of the Attorney General
- Ranger attached to the unit does the initial investigation then refers to prosecutor in county of defendant's residence
- **HB1690** Gives primary responsibility for investigation to Texas Rangers

SB 158  
West  
Considered in  
public hearing

- LE Body Cameras
- Creates statewide policy and guidelines on the use of body worn cameras by LE
- Proposes a matching grant program to secure equipment

HB 1205  
Dutton  
Reported  
favorably as  
substituted  
4/8/15

- Would raise the age of juvenile jurisdiction to age 18

The End!



“We can’t outlaw stupid”-Sen Larry Taylor  
Friendswood