

The 88th Legislature:
What Happened and How It Affects Your Practice

Hon. Jeff Leach, Allen
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A cartoon illustration of a personified bill character. The character is a white sheet of paper with a face, wearing a red and blue sash with a gold star. It is shown in a thought bubble, with its hand on its chin, appearing to be in deep thought. Below the thought bubble, the character is shown sitting on the ground, looking up at the bubble.

*88th Lege - Bill Statistics
(Regular Session)*

Filed: 8,153 bills/joint resolutions (New record)

- 81st Legislature (2009): 7,324
- 86th Legislature (2019): 7,281

Passed: 1,246 (bills)/13 (joint resolutions)

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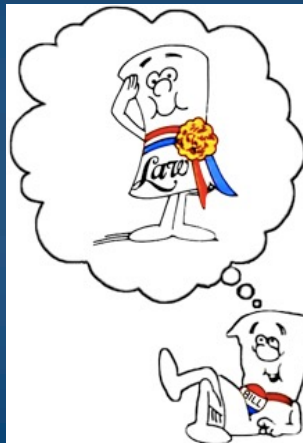
88th Lege Demographics

- 181 seats
 - House – 150 (86 R / 64 D)
 - Senate – 31 (19 R / 12 D)
- 65 licensed attorneys
 - 53 – House
 - 12 – Senate

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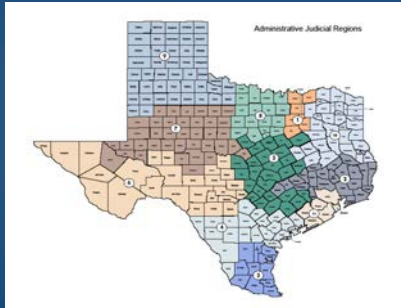
Bills that Passed



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Civil Justice System – Trial and Intermediate Appellate Courts



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HB 19 – Specialty Trial Court (Business Court)

- Creates a statewide specialized civil trial to hear certain business-related litigation cases, such as actions against businesses, accusations of wrongdoing by businesses or their members, disputes between businesses, violations of the BOC, Finance Code, and Business & Commerce Code.
 - Tier One - \$10 million in controversy (commercial disputes)
 - Tier Two - \$5 million in controversy (business governance)
 - Supplemental jurisdiction
- The business trial court will be composed of up to 16 appointed judges (in 11 different administrative judicial regions) serving 2-year terms.

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