

- **HB 1840 by Phillips & Estes – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB PRIORITY)**
 - **SB 1232 by Estes companion**
 - **Allows grain producers to conduct a referendum to create a Grain Indemnification Fund**
 - **Grain producers will contribute to the fund an estimated 0.2% of proceeds at the first point of sale and if a producer faced a situation where they were not paid for stored or sold grain, they could petition the fund for reimbursement up to 90% of the amount owed**

- *SB 248 by Landtroop – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB Supported)*
 - Expands the instances when a grain warehouse operator is required to disclose their financial records
 - Increases the bond amount a grain warehouse operator must have by increasing from six cents to ten cents per bushel, up to a \$500,000 maximum bond

- *SB 378 by Hegar & Hunter – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB Supported)*
 - Changes the deadline by which a producer must request an extension for delayed cotton stalk destruction
 - Removes the current ten-day requirement and gives the Department of Agriculture ability to determine by rule (expected to be 24 hour advance notice)
 - Companion HB 2791 by Hunter

- *HB 716 by Miller & Fraser – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB Supported)*
 - Prohibits the Parks and Wildlife Commission from denying a person the ability to charge someone to privately hunt, capture, or kill feral hogs by helicopter
 - Ensures that the Texas Parks and Wildlife aircraft hunting permit allows for selling hunts for taking feral hogs from a helicopter

- *HB 414 by Aycock & Hegar – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB Supported compromise)*
 - Will require layman equine teeth floaters or filers to become certified and complete annual continuing education criteria.
 - Gives certified floaters a defined scope of practice beyond what was previously authorized, without veterinarian supervision.

- *HB 612 by Hopson – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB Supported)*
 - Increases the criminal penalty for timber purchasers who misappropriate funds and/or do not pay timber sellers the money they are owed after the harvest.

- *HB 613 by Hopson – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB Supported)*
 - Increases civil and criminal penalties for illegally harvesting timber.

- ***SB 18 by Estes & Geren – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB PRIORITY)***
 - **Strengthens protection to landowners in eminent domain cases**
 - **States that property can only be acquired for a public purpose, not for an entity’s private benefit**
 - **Requires entities to make a good faith offer for a property before beginning the condemnation process, and it gives owners a stronger voice in determining who decides what damages are owed if these proceedings do occur**
 - **Will require a property owner to be compensated for damages from a loss of direct access to their property and receive relocation assistance when forced from their property**

- *SB 1420 by Hinojosa – Effective 09/01/11, Overweight/Oversize to DMV by 01/01/12 (TFB Neutral)*
 - Transfers overweight/oversize vehicle jurisdiction to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

- ***SB 332 by Fraser & Ritter – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB PRIORITY)***
 - **Recognizes that landowners own and have a constitutionally-protected right to the groundwater beneath their land**
 - **States that groundwater below the surface of the land is the landowner’s real property**

- *SB 660 by Hinojosa – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB Supported)*
 - Texas Water Development Board sunset bill
 - Includes the Desired Future Conditions of the Aquifer must balance highest practicable production with conservation
 - Includes a list of factors that must be considered in establishing a DFC
 - Changes the adoption of a DFC whereby the individual districts “finally” adopt the DFC rather than the GMA representatives of the districts- makes the adoption more like a district rulemaking procedure

- *SB 737 by Hegar & Price – Effective 09/01/11 (TFB Neutral)*
 - Allows a district to base their permitting on whether the actual production of groundwater is consistent with achieving the management goals of the district, including achieving the DFC
 - MAG will no longer be considered a cap on issuing new permits

- *HB 268 by Hilderbran & Seliger – Effective 09/01/2011 with a grace period to allow for compliance until 1/1/2012 (TFB Supported)*
 - Will allow farmers and ranchers to have a tax exemption number, which would be presented to sellers to be exempt from sales and use taxes when making agricultural purchases.
This bill does not change the items for which the current exemption applies.