Public Policy Panel Discussion

TEXAS PACKAGING SUMMIT
SAN ANTONIO
6/25/2015

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GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTANT
BOOTH, AHRENS & WERKENTHIN, P.C.
84th Legislative Session

- Senate
  - New leadership = new rules
  - Committee changes

- House
  - Anti-recycling/anti-study undercurrent
  - House vs. Senate

- Overall
  - Urban vs. rural water wars
  - Hidden video paranoia
  - Emergence of ‘Constitutional’ Caucus
## 84th Legislative Session: by the numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bills &amp; Joint Resolutions</th>
<th>House 84th</th>
<th>House 83rd</th>
<th>Senate 84th</th>
<th>Senate 83rd</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Filed</td>
<td>4,340</td>
<td>4,080</td>
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<td>Passed</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>709</td>
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<td>Signed/Filed into Law</td>
<td>786</td>
<td>723</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Referred</th>
<th>Reported</th>
<th>Passed</th>
<th>Law/Veto</th>
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<tr>
<td>House Environmental Regulation Committee</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate Natural Resources &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>99</td>
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<td>71/3</td>
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</table>
HB 281 “Relating to a limitation on the expansion of certain landfills”

HB 2179 “Relating to the regulation of metal recycling entities”

HB 2763 “Relating to a study of economically recyclable materials, economic impacts to the state and local governments of existing and increased recycling, the development of new markets for recycled materials.”

HB 2425 “Relating to water quality improvement and pollution reduction through beverage container recycling incentives; assessing a fee; providing penalties; creating a criminal offense”

HB 3153 “Relating to a program for the recycling of certain household batteries; authorizing a fee; providing civil and administrative penalties.”

HB 1058 “Relating to notice and information provided by a solid waste facility and a commercial transporter of solid waste regarding recycling programs for certain electronic waste.”

SB 1242 “Relating to the sale, storage, transportation, and disposal of scrap or used tires; providing a civil penalty; creating a criminal offense.”
Looking forward to the 85th Session

- Senate
  - New chair of Nat’Resources & Economic Development
  - Rep. Simpson?

- House
  - New chair of Nat’Resources
  - Lose of senior members = more Tea Party candidates?

- Overall
  - Landfill wars?
  - Water wars?
State public policy engagement

- Recycling laws
  - Theft/Public Safety
  - Legislation by commodity

- Disposal Bans
  - A tough sell
  - Implications of HB 281...?

- Pay-as-you-throw
  - Alternative to bottle deposit? Landfill expansion?
  - Current law/geography an issue

- State vs. Local policy
  - Not as bad on local control as first thought
    - Governor local control vs. state obligation principles in veto remarks
  - CoDenton
Questions for Discussion

- What types of policies are best implemented at the state level and what policies can be effective tools for use by local governments?
Questions for Discussion

- How can policy drive increased recyclable materials collection and recycling?
Questions for Discussion

- Can policy be implemented prior to establishing recovery infrastructure or does recovery infrastructure need to be present first?
Questions for Discussion

- What about funding and its relationship to policy?
Questions for Discussion

- Is there a best practices approach to implementing policy? Where is this working – real life examples?
Is it possible to enact policy in today's political and economic climate?
Thank you!

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