

## MINUTES

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON VETERAN AFFAIRS

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

9:00 AM

Betty King Committee Room

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Pursuant to a notice posted in accordance with Senate Rule 11.10 and 11.18, a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs was held on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, in the Betty King Committee Room at Austin, Texas.

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#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Kelly Hancock, Chair  
Senator Tan Parker, Vice Chair  
Senator Brent Hagenbuch  
Senator Bob Hall  
Senator José Menéndez

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Senator Sarah Eckhardt  
Senator Roland Gutierrez

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The chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. A quorum was not yet established. The following business was transacted:

The following members arrived after the roll was called: Senator José Menéndez

The committee heard invited testimony from Thomas Palladino and Angela Woellner from Texas Veterans Commission.

The chair laid out SB 651 and recognized the author, Senator West, to explain the bill.

Senator Hall sent up a committee substitute. The chair recognized Senator West to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Hancock moved that SB 651 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 897 by Senator Blanco and recognized Senator Hall, in the absence of the author, to explain the bill.

Senator Hall sent up a committee substitute. The chair recognized Senator Hall to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list. The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Hancock moved that SB 897 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair called roll at 9:23 AM and a quorum was established.

At 9:25 AM, Senator Parker moved adoption of the committee rules. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

At 9:26 AM, Senator Parker assumed the chair.

The chair laid out SB 1814 and recognized the author, Senator Hancock, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Parker moved that SB 1814 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 1818 and recognized the author, Senator Hancock, to explain the bill.

Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Parker moved that SB 1818 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

At 9:32 AM, Senator Hancock resumed the chair.

There being no further business, at 9:33 AM Senator Hancock moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

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Senator Kelly Hancock, Chair

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Clark Garcia, Clerk