



## **7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL POLICY ORIENTATION FOR THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE**

(Draft Schedule: Subject to Change)

**8:00-900 am Registration (Four Seasons Hotel Ballroom Foyer)**

**9:00 am Kickoff Event: Dreams of a Little Pink House: A Fight for Private Property Rights**

Featuring Susette Kelo; Dana Berliner, Institute for Justice; and Jeff Benedict, author *Little Pink House*

**10:30am - 11:45 am PANEL SESSION I**

### **Lifting the Veil on Government Spending**

Moderated by the Honorable Talmadge Heflin, Director, Center for Fiscal Policy

- The Honorable Mark Strama, Vice Chairman, Texas House Civil Practices Committee
- Dr. David Simmons, Superintendent, Richardson ISD
- The Honorable Keith Self, Collin County Judge
- Kristina Rasmussen, Director of Government Affairs, National Taxpayers Union

### **New Directions for Texas Corrections**

Moderated by Marc Levin, Director, Center for Effective Justice

- The Honorable John Whitmire, Chairman, Texas Senate Criminal Justice Committee
- The Honorable Jerry Madden, Chairman, Texas House Corrections Committee
- Adam Gelb, Director, Public Safety Performance Project, Pew Charitable Trusts
- Mike Griffiths, Chief Probation Officer, Dallas County

**11:30 am - 12:00pm *Little Pink House* Book Signing with author Jeff Benedict**

**12:00 pm Opening Lunch: Immigration Debate- Ballroom ABCD**

Featuring nationally-acclaimed economist Dr. Arthur Laffer and Mark Krikorian, Executive Director of the Center for Immigration Studies.

## **2:15pm - 3:45pm PANEL SESSION II**

### **Finishing the Job: Completing the move to a File-and-Use Regulatory System**

Moderated by Bill Peacock, Director, Center for Economic Freedom

- The Honorable Carl Isett, Chairman Texas Sunset Advisory Commission
- The Honorable Ruth Jones McClendon, Chair, Texas House Rules & Resolutions Committee
- Jim Oliver, Director, Texas Windstorm Association
- Steve Pociask, American Consumer Institute

### **Taking Texas Higher Education to the Next Level**

Moderated by Dr. Wendy Gramm, Chairman of the Board, Texas Public Policy Foundation

- The Honorable Dan Branch, Texas House Select Committee on Higher & Public Education Finance
- Dr. Richard Vedder, Professor of Economics, Ohio University
- Rick O'Donnell, Research Fellow, Texas Public Policy Foundation

## **4:00pm - 5:30pm PANEL SESSION III**

### **Innovation, Educational Excellence, and the Role of Charter Schools**

Moderated by Brooke Terry, Policy Analyst, Center for Education Policy

- The Honorable Florence Shapiro, Chair, Texas Senate Education Committee
- Tom Torkelson, CEO & Founder, IDEA Charter Schools in Texas
- Linda Bridges, President, American Federation of Teachers
- Paul Vallas, Superintendent, New Orleans Recovery School District

### **What's the Prescription for Patient-Driven Health Care?**

Moderated by Justin Keener, Vice President of Policy and Communications

- The Honorable Rob Orr, Texas State Representative
- Dr. Albert Gros, Texas Medical Association
- John Hawkins, Senior Vice President of Government Relations, Texas Hospital Association
- Alison Mitchell, President, Texas Nurse Practitioners

## **6:00 pm Keynote Dinner with Texas Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst**

## **Friday, January 23rd**

**8:00-9:00 am Registration (Four Seasons Hotel Ballroom Foyer)**

### **8:00 VIP Breakfast – Featuring Barry Goldwater Jr.**

Exclusive to legislators, sponsors, and their guests.

### **9:00am - 10:15am PANEL SESSION IV**

#### **Margins Tax: Fee or Flee?- San Jacinto West**

Moderated by the Honorable Talmadge Heflin, Director, Center for Fiscal Policy

- The Honorable Dan Branch, Chairman, Texas House Select Committee on Higher & Public Education Finance
- The Honorable Ken Paxton, Vice Chairman, Texas House Property Tax Relief and Appraisal Reform Committee
- James LeBas, Texas Oil and Gas Association
- Kurt Summers, Owner, Austin Generator Services and Chairman, National Federation of Independent Business/Texas Leadership Council

#### **Texas Electricity: Consumer Choice or Regulation? How to Manage Texas' Electricity Market -San Jacinto East**

Moderated by Bill Peacock, Director, Center for Economic Freedom

- The Honorable Phil King, Chairman, Texas House Committee on Regulated Industries
- The Honorable Jim Dunnam, Texas State Representative
- Don Ballard, Public Utility Counsel
- Peter Van Doren, CATO Institute

### **10:30am - 11:45am PANEL SESSION V**

#### **Texas Water Markets: Opportunities and Obstacles**

Moderated by Kathleen Hartnett White, Director, Center for Natural Resources

- The Honorable Kip Averitt, Chairman, Texas Senate Natural Resources Committee
- Bennet Raley, Former Asst Secretary of Water, U.S. Department of Interior and Partner, Trout, Raley, Montano, Freeman & Witwer, P.C.
- Lynn Sherman, Water Policy Expert
- Mary Kelly, Vice President, Environmental Defense Fund

#### **Doing More with Less: The Role of Competition and Privatization in Transportation**

Moderated by Justin Keener, Vice President of Policy and Communications

- The Honorable Linda Harper Brown, Chair of Budget & Oversight , Texas House Transportation Committee
- The Honorable Deirdre Delisi, Commissioner, Texas Department of Transportation
- Tom Johnson, Executive Vice President, Associated General Contractors of Texas
- Steve Stagner, President, Texas Council of Engineering Companies
- Robert Poole, Director of Transportation Studies, Reason Foundation

### **12:15 Closing Lunch and Keynote Speech from Texas Governor Rick Perry**

### **Visionaries Meeting**

**January 23rd 1:30pm-9:00pm and January 24th 8:00am-9:00am**

Texas Public Policy Foundation Major Supporters Only

For more information regarding Visionaries Meeting, contact Shari Hanrahan at [shanrahan@texaspolicy.com](mailto:shanrahan@texaspolicy.com).