



## 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL POLICY ORIENTATION FOR THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Austin Hilton Downtown | 500 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street | Austin, TX 78701

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2012

#### **7:00AM - 8:00AM**                      **LIVE RADIO BROADCAST & BREAKFAST - BALLROOM**

“Morning in America” live radio broadcast with former U.S. Secretary of Education under President Ronald Reagan, Dr. Bill Bennett

#### **8:00AM - 8:15AM**                      **OPENING REMARKS - BALLROOM**

Dr. Bill Bennett will offer the inaugural remarks of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Policy Orientation

#### **8:15AM - 9:40AM**                      **THE TEXAS MODEL DEBATE - BALLROOM**

World renowned economist and “father of supply-side economics,” Dr. Arthur B. Laffer will debate Dr. Jared Bernstein on the merits of Texas-style governance and how to grow the economy and turn around unemployment. Dr. Jared Bernstein was Chief Economist and Economic Adviser to Vice President Joe Biden and member of President Obama’s economic team before joining the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities.

#### **9:50AM - 11:00AM**                      **CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS I - SALONS 410 & 412**

Salon 410 - “Criminal Law vs. Free Enterprise: What’s the Verdict?”

- Representative Bill Callegari – Chairman, Government Efficiency & Reform Comm.
- Shannon Edmonds – Texas District and County Attorney Association
- Tim Lynch – CATO Institute

Salon 412 - “A Path Forward: Enhancing Texas’ Tax Environment”

- Joseph Henchman – The Tax Foundation
- The Honorable Jim Dunnam – Texas First Foundation
- Representative Harvey Hilderbran – Chairman, Ways & Means Comm.

#### **11:10AM - 12:20PM**                      **CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS II SALONS 410 & 412**

Salon 410 - “The Trojan Horse: Federal Assistance or Federal Take Over?”

- Commissioner Bryan Shaw – TCEQ
- The Honorable Scott Brister – Andrews Kurth LLP
- Representative Tryon Lewis

Salon 412 - “Making Texas a High Tech Titan”

- Dane Parker – Dell
- Representative Aaron Peña – Chairman, Technology Comm.
- Jeffrey Clark – TechAmerica

(over)

**12:30PM - 1:50PM                    OPENING LUNCH - BALLROOM**

Keynote remarks by Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker

**2:00PM - 3:10PM                    CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS III - SALONS 410 & 412**

Salon 410 - "Texas Energy: Boom or Doom"

- Perry Pendley – Mountain State Legal Foundation
- Dr. Roger Bezdek – Management Information Services
- Cyrus Reed – Sierra Club of Central Texas
- Lane Sloan – Co-Chair, Energy Collaborative, Greater Houston Partnership

Salon 412 - "Can Texas Businesses Afford ObamaCare?"

- Albert Cortez – TX Assoc. of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce
- Will Newton – National Federation of Independent Businesses, Texas
- Anne Dunkelberg – Center for Public Policy Priorities
- Grady Payne, CEO of Conner Industries, Inc.

**3:20PM - 4:30PM                    CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS IV - SALONS 410 & 412**

Salon 410 - "Choosing Your Child's Educational Future"

- Neil Ruddock – Indiana Department of Education
- Elizabeth Fagen – Superintendent, Douglas County, CO Independent School District
- Lindsay Gustafson – Texas Classroom Teacher's Association
- Senator Dan Patrick

Salon 412 - ¿Adonde Vamos? Texas Hispanics and the Texas Future

- George Rodriguez – San Antonio Tea Party
- Representative Raul Torres
- U.S. Congressman Francisco "Quico" Canseco

**4:40PM - 5:50PM                    PRIMER SESSION – ROOM 400/402**

Right on Crime: Building on Texas' Recent Success in Cutting Crime and Costs

- Representative Jerry Madden – Chairman, Corrections Comm.
- Adam Gelb – PEW Center for the States
- The Honorable Caprice Cospier

**5:50PM – 6:15 PM                    BREAK**

We will observe a scheduled break to set up for the U.S. Senate Debate. Please use this time to network with colleagues, catch up on email, or grab a quick snack.

**6:15PM                                    GENERAL REGISTRATION**

**7:00PM                                    DEBATE OF TEXAS REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES  
FOR U.S. SENATE - BALLROOM**

\*Glenn Addison, Ted Cruz, David Dewhurst, Craig James, and Tom Leppert

*\*Those attending Policy Orientation gain automatic admittance to the U.S. Senate Debate when wearing your official TPPF Policy Orientation name badge. If you do not have your name badge, you may be turned away. Those registered through Empower Texans must have their ticket and will register in the pre-function area outside the ballroom.*

**IMPORTANT: Doors will close at 6:55 p.m. for the debate. Out of respect for the candidates no one will be allowed in the ballroom after the doors close. If, during the event, you must leave, you will not be permitted to return to the debate. Once seated, please be prepared to stay seated until the debate is over.**

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2012

### 8:15AM - 9:15AM VIP BREAKFAST - BALLROOM

Keynote remarks by Attorney General Greg Abbott

### 9:30AM - 10:40AM CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS V SALONS 408, 410 & 412

Salon 408 - "Can Texas Keep the Lights On?"

- Representative Byron Cook – Chairman, State Affairs Comm.
- Commissioner Donna Nelson – Public Utility Commission
- Trip Doggett – CEO, ERCOT

Salon 410 - "Pursuing a College Degree: What Does it Cost? What is it Worth?"

- Raymund Paredes – Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Senator Judith Zaffirini – Chairman, Higher Education Comm.
- Dr. Richard Vedder – Center for College Affordability and Productivity
- Tom Pauken – Chairman, Texas Workforce Commission

Salon 412 - "Creating Jobs in Today's Economic Climate"

- The Honorable Bill Hammond – Texas Association of Business
- Cindy Ramos-Davidson – CEO, El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Representative John Davis – Chairman, Economic & Small Business Comm.

### 10:50AM - 12:00PM CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS VI - SALONS 408, 410 & 412

Salon 408 - "EPA: Environmental Protection or Employment Prevention?"

- U.S. Congressman Joe Barton
- Commissioner Bryan Shaw
- Eric Groten – Vinson & Elkins

Salon 410 - "Is There Life After ObamaCare?"

- Representative Lois Kolkhorst – Chairman, Public Health Comm.
- Commissioner Tom Suehs – Health and Human Services
- Representative Veronica Gonzales – Chairman, Border & Intergovernmental Affairs

Salon 412 - "Texas School Funding: How Much is Enough?"

- Representative Rob Eissler – Chairman, Public Education Comm.
- The Honorable Scott Brister – Andrews Kurth LLP
- David Thompson – Thompson & Horton LLP.

### 12:15PM - 1:35PM CLOSING LUNCH - BALLROOM

Keynote remarks by Lou Holtz, legendary football coach and ESPN commentator

*\*Tentative Schedule and Subject to Change\**

*\* denotes that speaker has been invited to speak on the panel, but not yet confirmed*