



8TH ANNUAL POLICY ORIENTATION FOR THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE

(Schedule is Subject to Change)

Thursday, January 14th

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Temperature Rising: A Heated Global Warming Debate and Breakfast

Moderated by Dr. Bryan Shaw, Chairman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

- Dr. Jerry North, Climate Scientist, Texas A&M University
- Dr. Roy Spencer, University of Alabama, Climate Scientist, Lead, NASA Satellite Study

9:40 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS I

Taxing Texas: Is There a Better Way?

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

- Donna Arduin, partner at Arduin, Laffer & Moore, Econometrics, LLC
- The Honorable Rene Oliveira, Chairman, Texas House Ways and Means Committee*
- The Honorable Ken Paxton, Committee Member, Texas House Ways and Means Committee

Western Civilization: Dead or Alive in Academia?

Moderated by Elizabeth Young, Policy Analyst, Center for Higher Education

- Steve Balch, National Association of Scholars
- Dr. Richard Brake, Director of University Stewardship & the Culture of Enterprise Initiative at the Intercollegiate Studies Institute
- The Honorable Lois Kolkhorst, member, Texas House of Representatives
- Professor Lorraine Pangle, Co-director, Thomas Jefferson Center for the Study of Core Texts & Ideas, University of Texas

10:55 a.m. – 12:05 p.m. CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS II

There's No Such Thing as a Free Road

Moderated by Justin Keener, Vice President of Policy and Communications

- Dr. Joseph Giglio, Professor, Northeastern University
- The Honorable Talmadge Heflin, Texas Public Policy Foundation
- The Honorable Robert Nichols, Texas Senate Transportation & Homeland Security Committee and former TxDOT Commissioner
- The Honorable Joe Pickett, Chairman, Texas House Transportation Committee

Corrections Solutions for a Tight Budget

Moderated by Marc Levin, Director, Center for Effective Justice

- Dr. Tony Fabelo, Council of State Governments
- Adam Gelb, Pew Center on the States Public Safety Performance Project
- The Honorable Jim McReynolds, Chairman, Texas House Corrections Committee
- The Honorable John Whitmire, Chairman, Texas Senate Criminal Justice Committee

12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Opening Lunch with ABC/ESPN Sports Commentator and Entrepreneur Craig James

2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS III

The Overcriminalization of Business: More Laws, Less Freedom?

Moderated by Marc Levin, Director, Center for Effective Justice

- The Honorable Bill Callegari, Texas House of Representatives
- Shannon Edmonds, Director of Government Relations, Texas District and County Attorneys Association*
- Timothy Lynch, Cato Institute
- Richard Thornburgh, Former U.S. Attorney General

Going out of Business? The Future of the Texas Public Utility Commission

Moderated by Bill Peacock, Director, Center for Economic Freedom

- Dr. Jerry Ellig, Mercatus Center
- Barry Smitherman, Chairman, Public Utility Commission
- The Honorable Burt Solomons, Chairman, Texas House State Affairs Committee
- The Honorable Kirk Watson, Texas Senate Business and Commerce Committee

3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS IV

Regulatory Takings: A Bigger Problem than *Kelo*?

Moderated by Bill Peacock, Director, Center for Economic Freedom

- Dr. Wendy Lee Gramm, Chairman of the Board, Texas Public Policy Foundation*
- The Honorable Bryan Hughes, Vice Chair, Texas House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence Committee
- Kendall Miller, Tanglewood Corporation

Ensuring Quality: Balancing Charter School Growth with Accountability

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

- Dr. Patricia Crisp, Regional Representative, U.S. Department of Education*
- Richard Kouri, Texas State Teachers Association
- The Honorable Florence Shapiro, Chair, Texas Senate Education Committee
- Soner Tarim, Superintendent of Schools, Harmony School Systems

5:00 p.m. Reception

Discussion with economist and *New York Times* bestselling author Thomas E. Woods

6:15 p.m. Movie Screening of *The Cartel* and Q&A with Director Bob Bowdon

(movie munchies will be provided)

The Cartel exposes our educational system like we've never seen it before and explores what dedicated parents, committed teachers, officials, and tireless reformers are doing to improve it.

Friday, January 15th

8:15 VIP Breakfast with Guest Speaker Richard Thornburgh-Exclusive to legislators, sponsors, and their guests

Mr. Thornburgh is the former governor of Pennsylvania and former U.S. Attorney General

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS V

Don't Mess with Texas: Economic Freedom and the 82nd Texas Legislature

Moderated by Bill Peacock, Director, Center for Economic Freedom

- Don Baylor, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for Public Policy Priorities
- Steve Moore, Editor and Senior Economics Writer, *The Wall Street Journal*
- Jeff Sandefer, Sandefer Capital Partners
- The Honorable Mark Strama, Texas House of Representatives

ObamaCare: What Now? The Future of Health Care Reform

Moderated by Arlene Wohlgemuth, Executive Director and Director for the Center for Health Care Policy

- The Honorable Joe Barton, U.S. Congress*
- Michael Cannon, Director of Health Policy Studies, CATO Institute
- The Honorable Lois Kolkhorst, Chair, Texas House Public Health Committee
- The Honorable Judith Zaffirini, member, Texas Senate Health & Human Services Committee*

10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS VI

Texas Water Rights: Property Interests or State Permits?

Moderated by Katharine Armstrong, Former Chair, Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission

- The Honorable Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller
- The Honorable Bill Callegari, Vice Chairman, Texas House Natural Resources Committee
- The Honorable Kathleen Hartnett White, Distinguished Senior Fellow-in-Residence and Director, Armstrong Center for Energy & the Environment

Budget Climate – Fair or Stormy?

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

- The Honorable Craig Eiland, Committee Member, Texas House Appropriations Committee
- The Honorable Jim Pitts, Chairman, Texas House Appropriations Committee
- The Honorable Royce West, Committee Member, Texas Senate Finance Committee
- The Honorable Tommy Williams, Committee Member, Texas Senate Finance Committee

12:15 p.m. Closing Lunch with Keynote speech from Governor Rick Perry

Visionaries Meeting

- 2:30 p.m.** Special presentation with Steve Moore of *The Wall Street Journal* on the future of conservatism in America
AT&T Conference Center
- 3:00 p.m.** Roundtable Policy Discussion with TPPF expert analysts and board members
“Challenging Washington Directives: Texas Leading the Way”
AT&T Conference Center
- 4:30 p.m.** Private Tour of the new Michael S. Stevens Building

- 5:30 p.m. Private Reception and Tour: Governor's Reception Room & Office Capitol Building, hosted by the governor's Chief of Staff Ray Sullivan and Deputy Chief of Staff Kris Heckman**
- 7:30 p.m. Visionaries Gathering Dinner
At the Nationally-recognized home of fellow-Visionary Kimberley Granger with Dr. Bill Bennett, former President Ronald Reagan Secretary of Education and former President George H. W. Bush "Drug Czar"**