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Brooks' bill could bring Texas a quick $100 million

State Comptroller Bob Bullock and U.S. Rep. Jack Brooks of Beaumont — two of the toughest office holders anywhere — have turned up on a move which could bring Texas a quick $100 million a year to apply to the state's budget problems.

That's how much sales tax money Texas would get if Congress passes Brooks' bill — H.R. 5021 — to require national mail order firms to collect and remit state sales taxes. "These big firms are doing $3 billion a year in Texas business at the expense of the local merchants of Texas," Bullock said.

Congressional backers of Brooks' bill say that they need evidence of widespread public support in order to move the legislation — and that's where Bullock comes in.

He is leaving no stone unturned in prodding the merchants of Main Street to write their congressmen. He is blitzing the state with a letter writing campaign, with an advertising campaign paid for by local merchants, with television spots and by working with trade associations.

Bullock, convinced that Texas congressmen aren't the only ones who need to be convinced, said he is "taking a page from the mail order folks" own book by sending blueprints and examples of the Texas campaign to supporters in all other states.

"I am also trying to convince the White House to get behind the bill as a tradeoff in giving the states some $1 billion in new sales tax revenue to replace programs the President wants to cut from the federal budget," Bullock explained.

Ink gets redder

Earlier in the week, Bullock warned the governor and state legislators that the state's 10.5 percent unemployment level indicated the state budget might be facing an even larger deficit than revised anticipations.

Bullock wouldn't make a concrete prediction regarding how much further the state is going into the red, opting to wait until next month for a more accurate picture.

"We expect a new revenue estimate shortly before August 1, and, frankly, none of the indicators contain an ounce of good news," he said.

Sul Ross spared

The Select Committee on Higher Education met to hear testimony whether to spare Texas A&M-Galveston, Sul Ross University at Alpine, UT-Permian Basin at Odessa and East Texas State University at Commerce. Last session, the Galveston and Odessa schools narrowly avoided the budget axe. Last week, Sul Ross was spared, thanks to a massive response by its alumni.

State Rep. Dudley Harrison spearheaded a public support campaign that saw more than 58,000 letters mailed and brought close to a thousand alumni to the hearing. The panel dropped the proposal.

"Sul Ross University provides teachers to virtually every West Texas school district and leaders to virtually every community. I knew the committee would do the right thing," said Harrison, who also sits on the powerful Appropriations panel.

Fiddlin' around

Whether a special session will actually be called in August is a matter of much speculation, since House Speaker Gib Lewis and other lawmakers say they cannot find two votes for a tax hike.

An impasse exists for the moment between Gov. Mark White and lawmakers: White says he won't call the session until the Legislature comes up with a plan, while legislators, in the words of Rep. Stan Schlueter reply, "Governor, where's your plan?"

White's Republican opponent, former Gov. Bill Clements, is pressing White's dilemma by charging he is devoid of leadership, "fiddling while Austin burns."

Salary increases

Clements, asked where spending should be cut, sidestepped by saying that wasn't his job, but he recommended again charging all agencies, commissions and departments to prioritize and cut their own budgets.

While the rumor is rampant that state employees will not get their built-in three percent raise on September 1, one agency has already rewarded some of its staff and drew fire for it.

The head of the Texas Department of Human Services, the closest thing Texas has to a welfare agency, approved over $600,000 in annual merit raises last week.

Some thought the raises flaunted Gov. White's austerity order, but the last week White's budget director said they were in compliance with White's directive to trim 13 percent.

Other highlights

•The chairman of the House Judicial Affairs Committee last week asked White to include judicial election reform in the special session. One well-supported plan has the governor appointing state judges who would subsequently face reelection.

•Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox and his GOP opponent, San Antonio District Judge Roy Barrera Jr. squared off with campaign jabs. Mattox released 1,000 names of elected Hispanics who support him, while Barrera drew raised eyebrows when his campaign treasurer and fundraiser resigned. Barrera, meanwhile, won the straw poll of Dallas Bar Association lawyers.

•Four candidates filed for the special state senate election in Northeast Texas, roughly the same area so hotly fought over recently when Dem. Jim Chapman defeated former Aggie quarterback GOP Edd Hargett for the congressional seat. Hargett is in this race, along with Brookston state Rep. Peter Patterson, Judge Richard Anderson of Harrison County, and Mount Vernon businessman Thomas Ramsay.

Waggoner writes Gov. about TECAT, higher graduate degrees

July 11, 1986

The Hon. Mark White
Governor of Texas
P.O. Box 12428
Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor White:

I am writing on behalf of myself and other holders of advanced graduate degrees. Under current statute, I understand, most of us who hold the Texas Professional Teachers/Administrators Certificate, which was issued by the State for life, are expected to submit to a competency/literacy test. Despite the fact that I hold an earned doctorate, I keep receiving tickets to take the Texas Examination of Current Administrators and Teachers (TECAT).

After undergoing the rigors of an academic doctoral program that is easily equivalent to the education of a physician or even an attorney, it seems ridiculous to demean myself by writing such an exam just to validate a life certificate. Personally, I have too much pride in my academic accomplishments! I, therefore, respectfully request that you exempt me and all other holders of advanced graduate degrees from this expensive, perfunctory exercise. There is, of course, ample precedent for such action viz. exemption of some Houston I.S.D. educators. By the way, do you expect the new H.I.S.D. superintendent, a holder of a doctorate, to take the TECAT?

In order to acquaint you with the academic demands of my doctorate, I shall enumerate some of the requirements. Admission to the program required a previous academic average of B or better, an acceptable score on the verbal and quantative parts of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) plus an advanced test in education, and a demonstrated competency on the GRE Area Tests in social sciences, natural sciences and humanities. Moreover, I was required to satisfactorily complete an English usage requirement. Additionally, I passed preliminary oral exams for the graduate faculty and the School of Music. After these initial provisions had been satisfied, I earned 100 quarter hours credit with a grade point average of 3.69. While completing my course work, I also took written and oral comprehensive examinations in education, psychology, aesthetics, music education and music history/theory/literature. The written portion of these exams lasted three days for a maximum of six hours each day. After passing the written exams, I was reviewed by my doctoral committee for several hours in an oral exam. Finally, I wrote a dissertation that I defended before the doctoral committee. This roughly describes the demands of the program. Any reasonable person should recognize at once that this is indeed at least the equivalent of the TECAT!

Since I earned my degree, I have taught 15 years in several colleges and universities. Some of my duties at these institutions included supervision of student teachers and instruction in teacher education courses. Furthermore, I have had articles published in both state and national journals. It seems ludicrous to ask me to prove my literacy again for the State of Texas!

Your prompt and thoughtful attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
William L. Waggoner,
Ed. D.
P.O. Box 785
Eagle Lake, Texas 77434

cc
The Hon. William Clements
The Hon. Robert Saunders
State Board of Education
TEA
TSTA/NEA
TCTA
Media

Sheriff's Report by Jim Broussard
732-2388, 732-2535

The Sheriff's Department would like to remind everyone that officers do not file complaints against a person unless they observe the violation or an investigation has been conducted. After an investigation, officers can file charges on reliable information received. If you have a complaint against a person, bring it to our attention to be investigated. If you fail to do so, officers cannot file a complaint in your behalf and the official filing of a complaint will be the responsibility of the complainant.

7-6-86: assisted at the scene of an accident on 949; removed livestock from the roadway on Bostik Road; assisted the Columbus police with a disturbance call; transported a patient to the San Antonio State Hospital.

7-7-86: had district court; posted a citation in the courthouse; checked on a disturbance east of Columbus; issued five traffic citations; served four civil citations.

7-8-86: checked on a disturbance in Glidden; checked on a report of a possible stolen vehicle in the Borden area; removed livestock from the roadway on 109; assisted at the scene of a vehicle fire on IH-10; issued 10 traffic citations; served five civil citations.

7-9-86: transported a patient to the San Antonio State Hospital; checked on a roadside littering near Nada; assisted the Columbus police with traffic control due to hay in the roadway; checked on a disturbance in Rock Island; issued four traffic citations; served six civil citations.

7-10-86: posted a citation in the courthouse; delivered an emergency message in Glidden; checked on a disturbance near New Bielau; transported two prisoners to Harris County; issued one traffic citation; served 10 civil citations.

7-11-86: checked on a disturbance in New Town; checked on a reported burglary on Kansteiner Road; delivered an emergency message at Thousand Trails; investigated a burglary near Eagle Lake; served 15 civil citations.

7-12-86: removed livestock from the roadway on 109; assisted at the scene of an attempted robbery in Columbus.

Thank You

We wish to thank **all the people** who have supported us with their business for the **past 25 years.**

We ask you to support the **new owners, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Balas,** and wish them as much success with Eagle Lake Drugs as we have enjoyed.

The Balas' plan to carry on with business as usual.

Mr. & Mrs. Les Euers

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County Courthouse Report

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Rickey Thyrol Mayo, 24, and Rebecca Ruth Beych, 27.

REAL ESTATE DEEDS

Deed, Delton G. Hollmann Jr., et ux, to Elizabeth J. Lack, 0.271 acre, city of Columbus; 6-30-86.

Deed, Edna D. Goldsberry, et al, to Linda Corliss, et vir, 88.18 acres, H. Muckleroy League; 5-2-86.

Deed, John R. Fields, et ux, to John R. Fields, Inc., 0.207 acre, BBB&CRR Company Survey; 6-1-86.

Deed, Robert G. McCandless to All American Pipeline Company, 5 acres, Martin D. Ramsey Survey; 2-19-86.

Deed, Colorado Oaks Enterprises, Inc. to The Falls, Inc., 675.73 acres, Charles Fritsche Survey, and 2.271 acres, Robert H. Tobin Survey; 7-3-86.

OIL, GAS LEASES

Lorenzo C. Manzanera, et ux, to Sunbelt Energy Co., 5 acres; 4-11-86.

L.C. Manzanera, et ux, to Sunbelt Energy Co., 95 acres, J.F. Smith Survey; 4-11-86.

Glen Hoegemeyer, trustee, to Southern Sunbelt Exploration and Energy, Inc., 152 acres, J.F. Smith Survey; 6-23-86.

Joyce Bowker Roupp to TXO Production Corp., 80 acres, Southeast quarter of the H&GNRR Company Survey; 4-4-86.

Lena E. Balusek to Shell Western E&P Inc., 542.6 acres, E.S. Woolery Survey; 5-20-86.

U.L. Austin to Amoco Production Survey, 46.48 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 4-23-86.

Janie M. Dillard to Amoco Production Survey, 46.48 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 4-23-86.

Richard Woods to Amoco Production Survey, 46.48 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 4-29-86.

Ginger Chavis to Amoco Production Survey, 46.48 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 5-2-86.

Claudette Edwards to Amoco Production Survey, 46.48 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 5-2-86.

Grady Allen Dillard to Amoco Production Survey, 46.48 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 5-7-86.

Clara Hill to Amoco Production Survey, 46.48 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 4-28-86.

Florence Dillard Steward to Amoco Production Survey, 46.48 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 4-21-86.

Linda Dillard Addo to Amoco Production Survey, 46.48 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 5-9-86.

Earnest Woods to Amoco Production Survey, 46.48 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 5-1-86.

Ruth Berenbaum, et al, to Amoco Production Survey, 7.5 acres, J. Gillispie 1/3 League; 5-15-86.

Winona Zwiegel Tolbirt, et al, to Amoco Production Survey, 7.5 acres, John Gillispie 1/3 League; 5-12-86.

Joe F. Stavinoha, et ux, to American International Energy Corporation, 292.73 acres, Chas. Larbalister Survey; 7-1-86.

World Trade Center excursion

Coleen Zimmerhanzel of The Custom Shoppe and Michele Isenhower of Creative Expressions left Friday, June 27 to attend the summer gift market show in Dallas. Their stay was rather short but very informative. The returned Sunday, June 29 loaded with catalogues and new ideas to incorporate in their respective businesses.

From a unique assortment of Christmas cards to 'do-it-yourself' frame kits to Crabtree and Evelyn soaps and toiletry to 'baby baskets', these products will be added in August and September to the shops Coleen and Michele own.

"We are very enthusiastic about these expansions in our shops and hope that you come by and see what the excitement is all about," says Coleen and Michele.

1987 farm programs outlined

Limited cross compliance requirements will be in effect for the 1987 crops of wheat, feed grains, cotton and rice. This means that none of the crop acreage bases for a participating farm may be exceeded, said Daniel C. Streckfuss, county exective director of the Colorado County ASCS. The cross compliance requirement is not in effect for this year's farm programs.

The 1987 programs also will prohibit the production of nonprogram crops under the 50/92 provisions-meaning that a producer who plants at least 50 percent of the permitted acreage to the program crop and devotes the remaining permitted acreage to conservation uses will be eligible to receive deficiency payments on 92 percent of the permitted acreage.

Other 1987 farm program provisions prohibit the production of alternate crops on acreage conservation reserve land, and remove the authority for farmers to adjust crop acreages by up to 10 percent of the base with a corresponding downward adjustment in other crop acreage bases on the farm.

Cardiology services coming to Eagle Lake Community Hospital

Eagle Lake Community Hospital announces the institution of Diagnostic Cardiology, out-patient and in-patient, services for the Eagle Lake and adjoining communities.

Diagnostic Cardiology of Houston, P.A. started providing non-invasive cardiac diagnostic services July 9 in Eagle Lake. Dr. Ronald P. Mahoney and his associates, Dr. Thomas E. Young and Dr. John Passmore will provide maximum stress exercise testing and cardiac consultation at facilities provided by the Eagle Lake Community Hospital, according to Jack Harrell, administrator of Eagle Lake Community Hospital.

Clinic operations began July 9 and will be in operation for maximum stress exercise testing and cardiac consultation on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Appointments can be made by calling the Eagle Lake Community Hospital admitting office at (409) 234-5571.

Additional services such as, cartoid artery and peripheral vascular flow studies as well as echocardiology and cardiac doppler evaluations are being planned in the future to provide full service cardiac non-invasive diagnostic studies for the Eagle Lake and adjoining communities.

Alligator hunting season , tag issuance set

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials have announced schedules and locations for issuance of alligator tags, licenses and permits for the September 5-21 alligator hunting season.

Alligator tags are issued to landowners or their designated agents. Department officials remind agents of landowners that they must present a notarized letter from the landowner(s) that verifies their selection and specifies the acreage represented.

An alligator tag is required in addition to an alligator hunting license. Tags will be issued during late August. Fees are: alligator hunter's license, resident $25, nonresident, $300; alligator buyer's license, resident $150, nonresident, $600; alligator parts dealer permit, resident $20, nonresident $900; alligator farm permit, $150; and alligator import permit, $5.

Prospective alligator buyers, parts dealers and alligator farmers may obtain licenses or permits by mail starting August 1 from department headquarters, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744 by submitting the appropriate fee and the following information: name, address, height, weight, hair color, eye color, sex, date of birth, and type of license or permit requested. Three weeks processing time is required for licenses and permits requested from Austin.

Tags, as well as alligator-related licenses and permits, may be applied for at the J.D. Murphree Wildlife Management Area (WMA), the TPWD office in the Matagorda County Courthouse in Bay City and White Park Community Center in Chambers County. Issuance schedules are as follows: August 21-22, and September 5, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Murphree WMA and 8 a.m. to noon at Bay City; August 21, 7-9 p.m. at Murphree WMA and at Bay City; September 6-11 from 1-2 p.m. at Murphree WMA and August 20 from 7-9 p.m. at White Park in Chambers County.

Hunters orientation sessions are scheduled as follows: Murphree WMA - 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. only on August 21-22 and Sept. 5, 7:30 p.m. August 21; White Park - 7:30 p.m. August 20; Bay City - 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. only August 21-22 and Sept. 5, and 7:30 p.m. August 21. First-time licensed alligator hunters must attend a hunter orientation session prior to issuance of the license and should be at a specified issuance location 30 minutes prior to a scheduled orientation time to insure sufficient processing time.

Any questions concerning these procedures should be directed to the Murphree WMA, (409) 736-2551, or 2540; the TPWD at Bay City (409) 244-7634; or the alligator program staff at Austin, 1-800-792-1112 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

1986-87 waterfowl seasons proposed

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials have announces proposed season dates and bag limits for waterfowl hunting during the 1986-87 hunting seasons.

Final action on the proposals will be taken by the Parks and Wildlife Commission in a public hearing in Austin during late August. Public comment on the proposals may be directed to Dale Witt, migratory game bird program director, TPWD 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744, toll-free 1-800-792-1112.

Sportsmen will notice few variations in season dates or bag limits from last year, officials said.

In the eastern portion of the state, the duck hunting season is proposed for November 1-9 and November 22-30, 1986 and December 13, 1986-January 13, 1987. In the High Plains Mallard Management Unit of West Texas and the Panhandle, the recommended season is November 10, 1986-January 13, 1987. No changes are recommended for the 100-point system of duck bag limits. The coot season would be concurrent with the duck seasons, and the bag limit is proposed to be unchanged, at 15 per day, 30 in possession.

The season for light geese in the eastern portion of the state would be November 1, 1986-January 25, 1987; the dark goose season dates would be November 1-30, 1986 and December 8, 1986-January 18, 1987. The bag limit would be five light geese plus one Canada or black brant and one white-fronted goose per day, for a maximum total of seven geese. The possession limit would be twice the daily bag limit.

In the western portion of the state, the season for all species of geese would be October 28, 1986-January 18, 1987. Bag limit would be five geese, not to include more than two dark geese. The possession limit would be twice the daily bag limit.

The proposed seasons for sandhill cranes are: Zone A, November 8, 1986-February 8, 1987; Zone B, November 29, 1986-February 8, 1987; Zone C, January 3-February 8, 1987. The bag limit would be the same for all three zones, three per day, six in possession.

As in the past, a free sandhill crane permit issued by the TPWD is required of all sandhill crane hunters.

The proposed season dates for woodcock are November 22, 1986-January 25, 1987; bag limit five per day, possession limit 10. The proposed season for common snipe (jacksnipe) is November 1, 1986-February 12, 1987; bag limit eight, 16 in possession.

A complete listing of all the late-season migratory game bird regulations will be contained in the department's supplement to the hunting regulations which will be available in September.

Improvement on waterfowl habitat

Now is the time when landowners can improve waterfowl habitat by manipulating water levels in tanks and planting waterfowl foods.

Biologist Carl Frentress of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department said landowners who have control over water retention structures should lower water levels in early summer to allow growth of vegetation which later will provide waterfowl food when the level rises.

"Considerable duck food can be produced by doing this," Frentress said, "and even more can be done by planting millet or other food items in the exposed mud."

He said Japanese millet can be broadcast in mud areas or in areas of extremely shallow water, at about 20 pounds per acre. Maize and corn are two other plants that can be planted to provide waterfowl food, he said.

Irradiated foods on the way

Shoppers may soon find irradiated foods in their favorite supermarkets, says an economist with the Texas A&M University System.

The Food and Drug Administration recently approved use of low-level radiation to treat fresh fruits and vegetables for insects and to inhibit ripening to extend shelf life. FDA earlier approved the use of radiation on wheat, potatoes, herbs, spices and pork.

Irradiated foods must be identified with a logo, and the processor must maintain detailed records on the treatment. Among products that lend themselves especially well to irradiation are apples, citrus, tomatoes, asparagus, cherries, pineapples, mangos and papayas.

Isn't it about time for a family portrait?

The Gallery 409-732-6241

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