

House Committee on Culture, Recreation, & Tourism

1. Monitor the repair of state parks from damage caused by natural disasters, including flooding and wildfires. Review the status of securing federal relief funds to offset state costs. Study current programs in Texas, as well as programs in other states, to determine how to mitigate and prepare for potential future hazards in the wildland-urban interface.
2. Study and make recommendations regarding the improvement and expansion of the state parks system, pursuant to the passage of HB 158 (84R). Examine options such as conservation easements that can maintain private ownership and working lands while also preserving open space.
3. Study and make recommendations regarding decreasing illegal behavior, improving public safety, protecting private property rights, and protecting environmental quality on the San Marcos River.
4. Explore ways to promote and improve tourism, youth education and economic development through heritage, cultural, recreational, historical, and nature programs and preservation practices. Consider the long-term economic impact of state parks and state and local historic sites, the Texas Heritage Trails Program, the Alamo Mission Complex, and rural community revitalization in promoting recreation and heritage tourism.
5. Conduct legislative oversight and monitoring of the agencies and programs under the committee's jurisdiction and the implementation of relevant legislation passed by the 84th Legislature. In conducting this oversight, the committee should:
 - a. consider any reforms to state agencies to make them more responsive to Texas taxpayers and citizens;
 - b. identify issues regarding the agency or its governance that may be appropriate to investigate, improve, remedy, or eliminate;
 - c. determine whether an agency is operating in a transparent and efficient manner; and
 - d. identify opportunities to streamline programs and services while maintaining the mission of the agency and its programs.