

Key Takeaways:

1. The state's regulation of law enforcement has been called "toothless." Texans deserve a regulatory framework for officers and agencies that serves the profession **by modernizing the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement** by investing in its data and IT capacity, improving transparency, and addressing wandering officers.

2. Texas should **reduce the state court backlog** that was exacerbated by the pandemic, leaving Texans waiting longer for justice and contributing to overcrowding in our jails. Texas should support the judicial workforce and upgrade the judiciary's legacy IT and data infrastructure.

1,400

Re-hirings of dishonorably discharged peace officers since 2012

154,000

Added pending cases in state district courts since March 1, 2020

Bills To Monitor:

- **HB 252 (Ann Johnson)** – criminal record sealing for Texans in specialty court programs.
- **HB 841 (Ordaz)** – collection of case-level data from district and county courts.
- **HB 892 (Burrows) & SB 267 (King)** – grants for law enforcement agency accreditation.
- **HB 1747 (Leach)** – improved occupational licensing for Texans with criminal history.
- **HB 1907 (Anchia)** – streamlined expunctions on completion of pretrial interventions.
- **HB 2043 (Bowers) & SB 875 (West)** – pretrial sentencing database.
- **HB 3249 (Ann Johnson)** – regular reporting of district court workload.
- **HB 3937 (Julie Johnson)** – criminal justice sentencing database.
- **HB 4251 (Cook)** – enhanced data collection & regulatory framework for post-secondary education in TDCJ.
- **HB 4873 (Holland)** – minimum professional conduct standards for peace officers.
- **HB 4966 (Ken King)** – law enforcement agency personnel records and standards of hiring and separating peace officers.

83%

of Texas voters said **making it harder to rehire law enforcement officers who were previously fired for poor conduct would increase their confidence in law enforcement.**

89%

of Texas voters are concerned about the **historic backlog of criminal cases in our courts.** 59% are "extremely" or "very" concerned.