## STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS HEARINGS ACTIVITY REPORT (HARP)

March 1<sup>st</sup> - August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) serves as an independent, neutral forum providing fair and efficient hearings process and the opportunity for alternative dispute resolution proceedings, in accordance with Chapter 2003 of the Texas Government Code. This Hearings Activity Report (HARP) provides detailed information about SOAH's caseload, including SOAH's associated cost of service, during the designated reporting period. HARP is prepared and submitted in accordance with Rider 5 of SOAH's appropriation bill pattern.

Hearings Activity Report: By May 1st and November 1st of each fiscal year, the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) shall submit to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor a report detailing hearings activity conducted during the prior two fiscal year quarters. The report shall indicate in a format prescribed by the Legislative Budget Board, for each agency served by method of finance, the projected and actual person hours allocated to the agency's cases and the cost, both direct and indirect, of conducting the hearings. The report shall also indicate in a format prescribed by the Legislative Budget Board, for each agency served, the projected and actual number of cases received, the number of cases disposed, and the median number of calendar days between the date a case is received by SOAH and the date the case is finally disposed, and any other information requested by the Legislative Budget Board during the reporting period. (H.B. 1, General Appropriations Act, 2024-2025 Biennium, Eighty-eighth Legislature, Regular Session, Article 8.)

#### THE CONTENTS OF THE REPORT

This volume of HARP covers the period March 1st, 2025, through August 31st, 2025.

HARP Part I – Cases summarizes information by agency for actual pending cases, cases received, cases disposed, and median days at SOAH. It also includes Fiscal Year 2026 first half projections.

HARP Part II – Hours and Expenses summarizes hours and costs by referring agency within each method of finance. It also contains the projected hours and costs for each agency for the first half of Fiscal Year 2026. These projections are based on amounts included in the Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) adjusted by the most current information available to SOAH. Please note for simplicity, Groundwater Conservation Districts are listed as agency code 900 and appeals of Appraisal Review Board (ARB) orders are listed as agency code 940.

## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY FOR THE CURRENT PERIOD HARP Part I

ALR Cases:

ALR cases received increased from the prior reporting period to 11,730. Cases disposed increased from the prior reporting period to 11,454 during this reporting period.

#### General Docket Cases:

General docket cases referred decreased from prior reporting period to 1,862. Cases disposed decreased from prior reporting period to 1,883.

#### **HARP Part II**

Hourly Cost:

ALR cases cost \$157.84 per ALJ billable hour, and General Docket cases were \$168.64. General Revenue (GR) funded cases cost \$162.92 per ALJ billable hour, and Interagency Contracts (IAC) cases were \$168.72. The rate swing by agency in this reporting period ranged from \$151.05 to \$197.68 per ALJ billable hour. The overall rate for the current period is \$165.50, an increase from the prior reporting period of \$137.70.

The projected GR rate for the first half of Fiscal Year 2026 is \$177.04. The projected IAC rate for the first half of Fiscal Year 2026 is \$165.00. The projected overall rate for the first half of Fiscal Year 2026 is \$171.84.

Fluctuations in hourly rates are directly attributable to the salary and classification mix of ALJs assigned to cases and to the overall hours worked on cases. SOAH does not assign ALJs to cases by funding source, but by subject matter, experience, expertise, and as

dictated by the workload. Because the funding source does not dictate the ALJ that works on a case, in any given period, or for any given agency, rebalancing the caseload impacts the allocation of costs and, thus, the hourly rate.

#### **HARP PART I - CASES: DEFINITION OF TERMS**

The table in this section lists each agency, identified by name and agency number, served during the reporting period, and provides a summary of the following measured events for those agencies, as applicable:

**NUMBER OF CASES PENDING AT START OF REPORTING PERIOD** - Active cases pending at the beginning of the reporting period that were carried forward from the end of the prior reporting period into the next.

**NUMBER OF CASES RECEIVED** - Only cases initially docketed at SOAH during the reporting period. Therefore, if casework time is shown but no cases were received during the reporting period, this indicates the time worked was on a case initiated in a prior reporting period.

**NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED** - Includes all matters resolved (*e.g.*, by proposal for decision, final order, settlement, or dismissal) during the reporting period irrespective of when the case was referred to SOAH. If the number of cases disposed exceeds the number of cases received, it indicates that some of the cases disposed during the reporting period were docketed at SOAH in a prior reporting period.

**CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF CASES PENDING AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD** - The number of active cases pending at the close of the reporting period that will be carried forward into the next reporting period.

**MEDIAN DAYS AT SOAH** - Approximates the median time from filing to final disposition that cases were pending on the SOAH docket.

#### HARP PART II - HOURS AND EXPENSES: DEFINITION OF TERMS

The table in this section lists by agency the total hours and costs, as described below, for the reporting period, sorted by method of finance.

**HOURS** - The total amount of actual case-related time.

**DIRECT SALARIES** - Actual salary cost of all hours related to the respective agency or docket during the reporting period.

**COURT COST** - Total direct court costs (interpreters, court reporters, and transcripts) associated with conducting the hearing and performing other work on a particular case.

**TRAVEL COST** - Total direct travel costs (transportation, lodging, and meals) associated with conducting the hearing and performing other work on a particular case.

TOTAL DIRECT - Sum of Total Salaries, Court Cost, and Travel Cost.

**TOTAL INDIRECT** - The costs associated with supporting the hearings activity and allocated to each case on a pro rata basis. These costs include personnel and operating costs for the Clerk's Office, Legal Services, Hearings support staff, and Hearings management. Includes all non-case related ALI costs and all leave time taken.

**TOTAL ADMIN** - Reflects the total administrative costs allocated to each case on a pro rata basis. These costs include personnel and operating costs for Executive Management, Finance, General Counsel, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Records.

**PROJECTED HOURS** - Projected hours for the related agency during the specified time frame.

**PROJECTED COST** - Projected cost attributable to the related agency during the specified time frame.

### State Office of Administrative Hearings Hearings Activity Report (HARP) Part I - Cases

Date Range: 03/01/2025 to 08/31/2025

							Projections						
Agency Number	Agency Name	Number of Cases Pending Start of Reporting Period	Number of Cases Received	Number of Cases Disposed	Cumulative Number of Cases Pending at End of Reporting Period	Median Days at SOAH	Projected Cases Received	Projected Cases Disposed	Projected Median Days at SOAH				
302	Office of the Texas Attorney General	164	503	488	179	33	251	244	16				
304	Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts	127	114	175	66	116	57	87	58				
307	Texas Secretary of State	0	4	1	3	21	2	0	10				
312	Texas State Securities Board	7	5	5	7	57	2	2	28				
327	Employees Retirement System of Texas	4	3	3	4	326	1	1	163				
329	Texas Real Estate Commission - Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board	13	20	12	21	75	10	6	37				
332	Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs	0	1	1	0	165	0	0	82				
338	Texas State Pension Review Board	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0				
362	Texas Lottery Commission	32	112	95	49	42	56	47	21				
405	Texas Department of Public Safety	4,738	11,764	11,486	5,016	59	5,882	5,743	29				
407	Texas Commission on Law Enforcement	171	35	55	151	266	17	27	133				
409	Commission on Jail Standards	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0				
450	Texas Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending	2	1	1	2	48	0	0	24				
452	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation	58	50	61	47	96	25	30	48				
453	Texas Workers Compensation Commission	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0				
454	Texas Department of Insurance	2,510	53	462	2,101	538	26	231	269				
458	Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission	16	6	11	11	109	3	5	54				
459	Texas Board of Architectural Examiners	1	0	1	0	92	0	0	46				
466	Texas Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner	0	2	1	1	86	1	0	43				
473	Public Utility Commission of Texas	133	112	104	141	205	56	52	102				
476	Texas Racing Commission	0	1	1	0	154	0	0	77				
503	Texas Medical Board	44	27	29	42	120	13	14	60				
504	Texas State Board of Dental Examiners	21	28	19	30	27	14	9	13				
507	Texas Board of Nursing	180	209	186	203	44	104	93	22				
508	Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners	2	0	1	1	200	0	0	100				
510	Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council	3	15	8	10	95	7	4	47				

### State Office of Administrative Hearings Hearings Activity Report (HARP) Part I - Cases

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							Projections						
Agency Number	Agency Name	Number of Cases Pending Start of Reporting Period	Number of Cases Received	Number of Cases Disposed	Cumulative Number of Cases Pending at End of Reporting Period	Median Days at SOAH	Projected Cases Received	Projected Cases Disposed	Projected Median Days at SOAH				
513	Texas Funeral Service Commission	2	3	1	4	43	1	0	21				
514	Texas Optometry Board	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0				
515	Texas State Board of Pharmacy	11	8	13	6	129	4	6	64				
529	Texas Health and Human Services Commission	393	262	242	413	255	131	121	127				
530	Department of Family and Protective Services	33	42	34	41	425	21	17	212				
533	Executive Council of Physical and Occupational Therapy Examiners	0	3	0	3	0	1	0	0				
537	Texas Department of State Health Services	63	24	41	46	317	12	20	158				
554	Texas Animal Health Commission	12	1	8	5	154	0	4	77				
578	Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners	8	4	7	5	369	2	3	184				
582	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	85	50	61	74	413	25	30	206				
601	Texas Department of Transportation	8	2	3	7	898	1	1	449				
608	Texas Department of Motor Vehicles	62	50	61	51	28	25	30	14				
701	Texas Education Agency	144	172	169	147	151	86	84	75				
710	Texas A & M University System	1	0	1	0	1,296	0	0	648				
729	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas	3	0	2	1	84	0	1	42				
781	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0				
802	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0				
900	Groundwater Conservation District	9	1	4	6	282	0	2	141				
940	Appraisal Review Board	27	57	23	61	188	28	11	94				
	Total for 45 Agencies:	9,092	13,746	13,876	8,962	N/A	6,864	6,925	N/A				

# State Office of Administrative Hearings Hearings Activity Report (HARP) Part II - Hours and Expenses Date Range: 03/01/2025 to 08/31/2025

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Agy #	Agency Name Il Revenue	Hours	Direct Salaries	Col	urt Cost	Irav	ei Cost	Total Direct	10	otal Indirect	100	ai Aumin	Case Total	Hours	Case	e Total
307	Secretary of State	4	\$ 271	¢	-	\$	_ 1	\$ 271	\$	419	¢	106	\$ 795	19	\$	3,328
312	State Securities Board	168	\$ 9,358		_	¢		\$ 9,358		14,485	-	4,157		87	•	15,358
323	Teacher Retirement System of Texas	100	\$ 5,550 \$ -	φ Φ	_	φ (¢	_	\$ 2,550	φ Φ	17,705	\$	-	\$ 27,333	4	ф ¢	620
327	Employees Retirement System of Texas	63	\$ 4,047	\$	_	φ <b>¢</b>	_	\$ 4,047	' <b>\$</b>	6,265	\$		\$ 11,875	168	φ <b>¢</b>	29,654
332	Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs	82	\$ 4,375	\$	-	\$	_	\$ 4,375		6,771	\$	2,035	•	41	\$	7,259
338	State Pension Review Board	4	\$ 223	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 223		345		-	\$ 660	2	\$	407
362	Texas Lottery Commission	141	\$ 8,159	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 8,159	-	12,629			\$ 24,275	165	\$	29,238
405	Department of Public Safety	503	\$ 24,912		22	\$	-	\$ 24,933		38,559	-	12,484		807	\$	142,854
405	Department of Public Safety - ALR	11,991	\$ 623,219		7,184	\$	-	\$ 630,403		964,652	-	297,599		11,772		,084,199
407	Texas Commission on Law Enforcement	1,311			-	\$	-	\$ 72,492		112,206	-	32,524		1,313		232,437
452	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation	809	\$ 42,711	\$	3,762	\$	-	\$ 46,474	-	66,111		20,072	•	748	•	132,409
454	Texas Department of Insurance	=0.1	\$ 43,647	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 43,647		67,560	-	19,383		797		141,173
456	Board of Plumbing Examiners	-	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	63	\$	11,198
458	Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission	261	\$ 13,452	\$	249	\$	-	\$ 13,702	\$	20,822	\$	6,471	\$ 40,995	274	\$	48,580
473	Public Utility Commission of Texas	3,467	\$ 198,992	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 198,992	-	308,011		86,032		2,420	\$	428,510
476	Texas Racing Commission	84	\$ 4,568	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 4,568	\$	7,070	\$	2,091	\$ 13,728	66	\$	11,711
503	Texas Medical Board	806	\$ 44,566	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 44,566	\$	68,982	\$	19,997	\$ 133,545	960	\$	169,942
504	State Board of Dental Examiners	341	\$ 20,237	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 20,237	\$	31,324	\$	8,451	\$ 60,012	318	\$	56,237
507	Texas Board of Nursing	1,825	\$ 104,253	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 104,253		161,368	\$	45,293	\$ 310,914	1,963	\$	347,514
508	Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners	2	\$ 114	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 114	\$	176	\$	43	\$ 334	25	\$	4,497
510	Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council	39	\$ 2,161	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 2,161	\$	3,345	\$	968	\$ 6,474	44	\$	7,790
513	Texas Funeral Service Commission	123	\$ 7,417	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 7,417	\$	11,481	\$	3,059	\$ 21,957	66	\$	11,738
514	Texas Optometry Board	-	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	14	\$	2,390
515	Texas State Board of Pharmacy	217	\$ 11,936	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 11,936	\$	18,475	\$	5,386	\$ 35,797	190	\$	33,576
533	Executive Council of Physical and Occupational Therapy Examiners	17	\$ 921	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 921	\$	1,426	\$	422	\$ 2,770	49	\$	8,675
578	State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners	95	\$ 5,819	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 5,819	\$	9,006	\$	2,364	\$ 17,189	73	\$	12,995
601	Texas Department of Transportation	201	\$ 12,270	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 12,270	\$	18,992	\$	4,988	\$ 36,250	160	\$	28,238
781	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	79	\$ 4,411		-	\$	-	\$ 4,411	-	6,827	-	1,961	•	64	\$	11,242
802	Parks and Wildlife Department	31		\$	-	\$		\$ 1,788		2,767	\$	769	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	17		3,054
	General Revenue Total	23,443	\$ 1,266,316	\$	11,217	\$	-	\$ 1,277,533	\$	1,960,073	\$	581,797	\$ 3,819,402	22,689	\$ 4,	,016,824
	gency Contracts	460	A 25.474	_ <b>_</b>	224		ı	÷ 25.400		20.066		11 416	A 75 700	474	_	70.120
302	Attorney General	460			234	\$	-	\$ 25,408		38,966	-	11,416		474	· .	78,128
304	Comptroller of Public Accounts	2,121	\$ 135,105		1,125	\$	-	\$ 136,230	-	209,123		52,639	•	2,111		348,299
329	Texas Real Estate Commission	358	\$ 20,499		-	\$	-	\$ 20,499		31,729	-	8,885		239	\$	39,377
409	Texas Commission on Jail Standards Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending	3	\$ 170	\$	-	<b>\$</b>	-	\$ 170	_	263	<b>\$</b>		\$ 494	1	<b>\$</b>	206
450	Texas Department of Insurance - Workers Compensation	0 218	\$ 16	<b>\$</b>	-	<b>\$</b>	-	•	\$	24	<b>\$</b>		\$ 46	172	<b>\$</b>	25
454 459	Texas Board of Architectural Examiners	6	\$ 13,107 \$ 326	4	-	<b>\$</b>	-	\$ 13,107 \$ 326		20,287 505	ф ф	5,410 149	•	173 4	ф ф	28,611 602
460	Texas Board of Professional Engineers	-	\$ 320	φ Э	-	d d	-	\$ 320 ¢ _	ф Э	505	¢ →	149	ф <sub>-</sub>	33	ф ф	5,486
466	Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner	9	\$ 454	¢	_	d d	_	\$ 454	ф ф	703	¢.	217	\$ 1,374	4	ф ф	726
469	Credit Union Department	-	\$ TOT	¢ P	_	d d	-	ф тот ф -	ф ф	705	¢		\$ -	5	ф ¢	850
473	Public Utility Commission of Texas - Waste Water	1,939	Ψ	ψ <b>¢</b>	_	\$	_	\$ 112,316	¢	173,848	ψ <b>¢</b>	48,122	Т	2,101	•	346,665
529	Health and Human Services Commission	3,468	\$ 174,263		447	\$	_	\$ 174,711		269,734	-	86,063		2,101		483,599
530	Department of Family and Protective Services	819			-	\$	_	\$ 41,462	-	64,178		20,332	•	1,245		205,392
537	Department of State Health Services	347	\$ 19,543		-	\$	-	\$ 19,543		30,250	-	8,599		375		61,916
554	Texas Animal Health Commission	39	\$ 2,151		-	\$	-	\$ 2,151		3,329		956	•		\$	8,316
582	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	2,485			-	\$	-	\$ 150,353		232,725	-	61,667		2,214	•	365,236
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# State Office of Administrative Hearings Hearings Activity Report (HARP) Part II - Hours and Expenses Date Range: 03/01/2025 to 08/31/2025

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															-	-	2025 - 2026
							_			_		_			Total		
Agy #	Agency Name	Hours	Dire	ct Salaries				avel Cost	 Total Direct		tal Indirect		tal Admin	ase Total	Hours	Ca	ase Total
608	Texas Department of Motor Vehicles	259	\$	16,000	\$	480	\$	-	\$ 16,480	\$	24,765	\$	6,434	\$ 47,679	311	\$	51,381
701	Texas Education Agency	399	\$	24,340	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 24,340	\$	37,674	\$	9,909	\$ 71,923	498	\$	82,178
701	Texas Education Agency - IDEA	4,502	\$	248,235	\$	200	\$	-	\$ 248,435	\$	384,231	\$	111,718	\$ 744,385	3,876	\$	639,581
	Interagency Contracts Total	17,431	\$	983,513	\$	2,486	\$	-	\$ 985,999	\$	1,522,334	\$	432,585	\$ 2,940,917	16,646	\$	2,746,574
Other																	
710	Texas A&M University System	5	\$	281	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 281	\$	435	\$	112	\$ 827	4	\$	644
729	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	38	\$	2,408	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 2,408	\$	3,728	\$	943	\$ 7,079	20	\$	3,341
900	Groundwater Conservation Districts	225	\$	12,960	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 12,960	\$	20,060	\$	5,584	\$ 38,604	381	\$	62,906
940	Appraisal Review Boards	116	\$	7,307	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 7,307	\$	11,310	\$	2,885	\$ 21,502	170	\$	28,100
	Other Total	384		22,956		-		-	22,956		35,532		9,524	68,012	576	\$	94,991
	Agency Total	41,258	\$	2,272,785	\$ 1	13,703	\$	-	\$ 2,286,488	\$	3,517,939	\$	1,023,906	\$ 6,828,331	39,911	\$	6,858,389