

Texas Silver Haired Legislature
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2010
Wells Fargo Blvd. 3rd Floor Community Room
Austin, TX

Susan Merrick and AT&T were recognized for their dedication to TSHL and for providing lunch.

The meeting was called to order by Speaker Walter Graham. The Invocation was led by Dr. Bruce Davis and the pledges to the American and Texas flags were led by Homer Lear.

Guests, Linda Rehmann, Maureen Gross, and Joe Streckfuss were introduced, and Lu Russell was introduced as the Parliamentarian.

The roll was called by Secretary Porter and a quorum was declared.

The agenda was adopted, followed by the reports from TSHLF Chair Jim Hine who announced that an audit of the TSHLF records is currently under way with the auditor who attended the Board meeting this morning, and the TSHLF Treasurer, Michael Crowe. COPY ATTACHED

The Minutes of the March 22 Executive Committee meeting were approved as presented.

A report from Katy Kappel, Comptroller, was heard.

Reports from Administrative Committees followed:

1. Operations – Joy Jones presented an update on rooms at the La Quinta which are available to us at \$85.00 for up to 4 persons per room plus the 9% City Tax. All parking is valet at additional charge of \$12.99 per night per vehicle. She also reminded us that we can park two blocks north in the Capitol Visitors lot for substantially less per day. Members should reserve their room by calling Group Reservations at 512 476-1166. Ask for La Quinta Austin Capitol and Group No. 616. Information re the room type, arrival and departure dates and smoking preferences need to be supplied by August 29, 2010.

She also reported that food can be available at the Capitol Grill at noon and in the evening for a flat rate of \$17.50 per person per day. This is quite less expensive than having a catering firm deliver to the hotel. We would have a choice of anything on the Grill line at noon at the flat rate and the evening meal would be a meat dish, vegetables, salad and dessert. The Grill will accommodate us as special guests after their usual closing time of 4:00 PM up to a later time, to be determined. The majority of the Executive Committee voted to use this flat rate food service. It is proposed that meal tickets be issued at TSHL registration to those members who are participating. Payment will be required at that time for the number of days participating.

Additional information is being gathered about the outsourcing of printing requirements by electronic transfer and delivery. Details are still being completed.

Transportation back and forth to the Capitol has been discussed with the company we used in the past. We will have a scheduled pickup time in the morning and a scheduled pickup time to return to the hotel after the evening meal. Members should be prepared to pay the driver as they board the bus.

The major change this session is that we will not be meeting in the House chambers as this location is currently undergoing renovation. If it is completed by September, we may be able to use it, but it is not scheduled for completion until November. We are currently scheduled to use the Auditorium (E1.004) on Mon-Tues-Wed-, the Legislative Conference Center on Thursday, and E1.030(House appropriations) on Friday for General Sessions.

Committee rooms are being scheduled and will be provided later. Committee room assignments will be similar to last session as they are not under renovation. All details will follow.

2. Ed Dylla, Chair of Elections and Credentials Committee, noted that a Proposed Amendment to the Election Code will be submitted by Carlos Higgins for consideration at the next General Session.
3. LAC Chair Carlos Higgins reminded members of the Executive Committee that all proposed resolutions should balance between benefit and cost especially in view of the shortfall in the state budget. He also reminded LIC Chairs that they can be studying the results of the Interim Studies being done by Tx Legislative Committees to determine the direction those committees are leaning on our issues, so we can better align our proposals. This information is available on line.

Special Committee Reports:

1. Documents Review chair Carlos Higgins reminded Executive Committee that Draft Bylaws and P&PH as amended in September are currently on the website for critique before printing. The E&C Manual was furnished by email recently and will be up on the website shortly for review as well.
2. Al Campbell, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, presented the proposed 2010-2014 Plan. After much discussion, it was decided that the Strategic Plan would be furnished to all Executive Committee members for an email vote to present the Strategic Plan to the membership in the future. Mr. Campbell reminded that this is a planning document that is subject to changes based on circumstance and is not a static document. It requires nothing and agrees to nothing specific, but is a pathway to get us where we want to go. COPY ATTACHED Secretary Porter will provide the document to members and will furnish a ballot to be returned by September 1.
3. Speaker Graham announced that the Silver Bulletin will now be handled by Nancy Byler and should be published on schedule.
4. Bruce Davis announced that Dr. Darrell Watkins has volunteered to complete the 4th course for the TSHL On-Line Academy with an expected due date of August 1.

No reports were heard from any LIC Committee except from Adalaide Balaban, chair of Human Services Committee. She reported that her AAA, SouthEast Texas, is sponsoring training for Volunteer Benefit Counselors. She will report back the results of this training in the future and hopes that it will be successful enough to replicate in other AAAs. Ms. Balaban also reported that her area is targeting hurricane and other natural disaster evacuation plans for nursing home patients, including ID bracelets. Questions about whether this could be expanded to Assisted Living facilities; discussion followed.

A report from Homer Lear and Betty Streckfuss on the LCA was heard. The next meeting of the LCA will be Thursday, June 24, and will be a live video presentation available to the public. Some topics will be transportation, housing, aging-in-place, and adult day care. Betty Streckfuss noted that the term "caregiver" is being looked at to possibly be changed to "caring and sharing". Another topic that was suggested was to control funding to nonresponsive caregivers.

Carlos Higgins presented a paper on "Tenured Membership". COPY ATTACHED We currently have 27 vacancies and he suggests that the process he suggests could help to increase our numbers to the allotted 117. Discussion followed about how this process would help to close the holes in areas where we have no representatives. Mr. Higgins will make some changes based on our discussion and make an additional presentation in the future.

Speaker Graham accepted with regret the resignation of Lila Millican from TSHL and as editor of the Silver Bulletin. Nancy Byler will assume the position of editor effective immediately.

The TSHL Budget is currently being prepared and will be completed and presented after the TSHL and TSHLF work group meeting to be held July 23.

Speaker Graham announced that since we will not be able to use the House chambers because of renovations, no fee will be charged us for the use of the auditorium and meeting rooms.

Important announcements followed:

1. August 1, deadline for Proposed Resolutions. Send to Pat Porter, pjporter@crcom.net
PRRP will set a date and meet after to assign PRs to LICs.
2. August 23 deadline for beginning of on-line auction for TSHLF
3. June 27-29 Kincare Symposium
4. Any member wanting to use the services of the Legislative Support Council for Proposed Resolutions, contact Al Campbell at granch@earthlink.net .
5. September 12, TSHL 25th Anniversary Celebration
6. September 13-17, 2010 TSHL Legislative Session
7. National Silver Haired Congress MidYear Board meeting, Aug 8-9
8. Officers' meeting to be held in Room 950-D immediately following adjournment.
9. Encouragement to Executive Committee members to take invitations to Celebration home to district offices of TX legislators.
10. Susan Merrick announced the availability of free audio conference calls for any committee. Contact Susan directly by email with 2 days lead time so she can schedule the bridge opening for you and your committee members. She will need to know what day, what time to begin and the expected duration of the call. She will then provide the committee chair the bridge number and passcode to be used; the committee chair will then need to furnish this info to their committee members.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held in September, time and date to be determined.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Pat J. Porter, Secretary

Minutes approved September 12, 2010

**TEXAS SILVER HAired LEGISLATURE FOUNDATION
TREASURER'S REPORT
JUNE 18, 2010**

Balances as of May 31, 2010:

Checking Account	\$49,482.42
Grants Account	\$10,348.74
Investment Account	\$273,125.79
May 1, 2010	\$286,793.58
March 1, 2010	\$274,504.37

THE TEXAS SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATURE

**"TO PROVIDE OLDER TEXANS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME MORE
KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS THROUGH
INVOLVEMENT."**

*Senate Concurrent Resolution, Number 37
69th Texas Legislature, April 1985*



TSHL and TSHL FOUNDATION STRATEGIC PLAN 2010-2014

**Adopted by the 11th TSHL General Session, ----
And TSHL Foundation, -----**

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THE TEXAS SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATURE

Statement of Beliefs

All Senior Citizens should have the opportunity to achieve dignity and independence.

Senior Citizens experience unique problems. They have special abilities and talents, which result from years of experience.

Good government is the result of the active participation of informed citizens.

Being an informed and active voter is the highest responsibility of citizenship.

Effective and lasting solutions to problems result from involvement of those most closely related to the problems.

Volunteer representatives elected by their peers, having close contact with their constituents, are qualified to discuss issues on aging and recommend solutions to problems of older Texans.

Mission Statement

Older Texans are the fastest growing segment of the population. The Texas Silver-Haired Legislature, which was established by Concurrent Resolution of the Texas Senate in April 1985 (Senate Resolution 37 of the 69th Texas Legislature), provides the opportunity for older Texans to solve problems unique to aging. In addition, the Silver-Haired Legislature can make Texas an even better place for all citizens through programs of education, discussion, and encouraging the involvement of older Texans in legislative and governmental affairs.

Vision Statement

The vision of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature is that the applied wisdom, energy, and experience of aging will improve the lives of all Texans through education, knowledge, and involvement in legislation and governmental affairs.

THE TEXAS SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATURE

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

We are the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature. We are volunteers over the age of 60 who have been elected by our peers from 28 regions to serve two-year terms. The Texas Legislature established this senior policy development program in 1985. No State funds have been appropriated for the operation of the Silver-Haired Legislature. We meet in the House of Representatives Chambers of the Texas Capitol and conduct a non-partisan legislative session in even-numbered years.

During our unicameral legislative session, we represent our constituents by considering issues and passing resolutions addressing the needs of all Texans. We then provide this information to the Governor, Lt. Governor, and the members and state and local staff of the Texas Legislature. Additional copies are provided to candidates for State offices, State and community senior organizations, selected media and constituents have special interest in senior issues.

During both odd and even-numbered years, we represent the older citizens of Texas, provide non-partisan education on issues, and motivate citizens to participate in governmental affairs. Finally, the Silver-Haired Legislature provides a forum for persons over the age of 60 to discuss, study, and debate issues concerning not only their own welfare but also that of others.

HISTORY OF THE SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATURE

The first Silver-Haired Legislature was organized by the State of Missouri in 1973. The concept has now been adopted in 26 states.

The Texas Silver-Haired Legislature (TSHL) was introduced to the Board of Directors by the Advisory Council of the Texas Department on Aging in 1983 where it was listed as a “legislative priority”. A resolution to establish the TSHL was passed by the Board in 1984. The following year Senate Concurrent Resolution #37 was adopted by the 69th Texas Legislature. (Appendix 1)

In 1986, planning and implementation was completed by a statewide steering committee together with the Texas Department on Aging Staff, members of the Area Agencies on Aging, and various volunteers. The elected members of the first TSHL met for a five-day training and orientation session in July of 1986. The first TSHL members were sworn in by the Secretary of State on September 29 of that year.

The work of this non-partisan, volunteer organization was started immediately and this body of 117 representatives has each year continued to increase its accomplishments. During the 1998 Texas Legislative session, 90% of the legislative issues identified by the TSHL were passed into law.

Since no State funds are provided for the operation of the TSHL, the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature Foundation was established as a non-profit corporation (Charter No. 770092-1) under the guidelines of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (ID # 74-2419398). The Foundation obtains tax-free funds from donations, grants, endowments, and fundraising projects. These funds generate revenue that is used to finance some of the basic operational expenses of the TSHL. The members of the TSHL and the TSHL Foundation are volunteers who receive no monetary compensation, but personally continue to provide most of the operating funds.

GOALS

- A. To motivate older citizens to realize that legislative involvement is a primary responsibility of effective citizenship.
- B. To help Texans know that citizenship is dependent upon information and knowledge about issues facing the community, state, and nation.
- C. To develop an organizational structure which will provide for an effective non-partisan forum of persons over the age of 60 who are elected by and representative of their peers. This body will research, discuss, and debate issues concerning not only their own welfare but also that of others.
- D. To provide leadership and education for the members of the Silver-Haired Legislature in order that the members and the organization will serve as a resource to the Texas Legislature, the public and private sectors, boards and commissions, and provide services that will complement other senior groups and organizations.
- E. To provide for a legislative body that will enable the Silver-Haired Legislature to introduce,
- F. study, discuss, pass, and prioritize resolutions dealing with major concerns of our State.
- G. To provide educational support for the resolutions that has been accepted by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

ADMINISTRATIVE GOALS

1. The Texas Silver-Haired Legislature and the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature Foundation* will obtain adequate funds to carry out the goals of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature. Generally accepted financial records, audits, and IRS compliance will be maintained.

2. Exemplary administrative and organizational structures will be maintained in order for the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature and the TSHL Foundation to reach their goals.
3. The Texas Silver-Haired Legislature will maintain amicable and consistent relationships and communications with the Texas Legislature, other State agencies, and other organizations for older persons, with the media, and the TSHL membership.
4. High-quality elected membership in the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature will be maintained through the democratic election process, education, communication, and orientation.

*The Texas Silver-Haired Legislature Foundation is a Texas nonprofit corporation, as certified by the State of Texas Charter No. 770092-1 under the guidelines of Section 501 (c) 3 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code #74-2419398.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE TEXAS SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATURE

Goal A – To motivate older citizens to realize that legislative involvement is a primary responsibility of effective citizenship.

A.1 (objective): Members of the TSHL will cooperate with at least three other organizations in promoting the idea that each individual must be involved in legislative and governmental affairs in order to be a good citizen.

A.1 (strategies): TSHL members will offer expertise and support to organizations who have legislative involvement objectives and related publications. League of Women Voters, AARP, and Retired Teachers are examples.

A.2 (objective): The TSHL will develop and distribute publications and provide data to the media concerning the importance of individual participation in legislative and governmental affairs.

A.2 (strategies): The TSHL will develop publications, state-wide news releases, and distribute appropriate information through its newsletter, website, establishment of a speaker's bureau, and through participation of TSHL members in the activities of local organizations.

Responsible: TSHL Executive Director, office staff, and appropriate committees as designated by bylaws and Speaker.

(See Activity A-21 through A-24 and Budget, Goal A)

Goal B – To help Texans know that citizenship is dependent upon information and knowledge

about issues facing the community, state, and nation.

B.1 (objective): Members of the TSHL will cooperate with at least three other organizations in providing their constituents with non-partisan information and education about legislative activities and governmental issues and processes.

B.1 (strategies): TSHL members will offer expertise and support to local and state organizations who provide non-partisan information and education about issues and governmental operations.

B.2 (objective): Each TSHL District will annually participate in one or more community meetings or activities to provide information to constituents about legislation and governmental procedures.

B.2 (strategies): The TSHL will help district members with the community meetings and activities by providing grant money for promotion, speakers, and materials. Members will learn about procedures for organizing, promoting, and administering community activities at the orientation sessions. "How to" manuals and models will be developed and distributed to the members.

B.3 (objective): TSHL members will be available and/or provide for speakers who will provide information and knowledge to local groups and organizations.

B.3 (strategies): The TSHL will develop a state-wide speakers bureau and provide suggested outlines for presentations. Suggestions for effective speaking procedures will be provided to members at the orientation sessions.

B.4 (objective): The TSHL will develop and distribute "media alert" information on critical issues.

B.4 (strategies): "Media alert" materials will be distributed to all media, made available through the TSHL website, distributed to all members, and other appropriate addresses.

Responsible: Texas Silver-Haired Legislature Executive Director, office staff, and appropriate committees as designated by the bylaws and Speaker.

(See Activity B-11 through B-41 and budget, Goal B)

Goal C -To develop an organizational structure which will provide for an effective non-partisan forum of persons over the age of 60 who are elected by and representative of their peers. This body will research, discuss, and debate issues concerning not only their own welfare but that of others.

C.1 (objective): The Texas Silver-Haired Legislature will be made up of individuals who are over the age of 60 and elected by their peers according to service areas established for the Area Agencies on Aging.

C.1 (strategies): Democratic election and qualification procedures will be developed by the TSHL Elections and Credentials Committee with participation by community organizations and state and local Election Commissions which will allow for maximum participation by registered voters.

C.2 (objective): Provide an adequate source of funding.

C.2 (strategies): Although it was established by the Texas Legislature, there are no public funds appropriated to support the activities of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature. Since the members are volunteers, the burden of expenses reduces the efficiency of the members and places limits on those who would like to participate. An endowment of \$3,000,000 under the direction of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature Foundation with support from public and private agencies will provide a corpus adequate to sustain the basic functions of the organization.

C.3 (objective): Establishment of a central office and staff which will serve the membership through communications, coordination, publications, information resources, media relations, organizational identity and visibility, public relations, research, record-keeping, and general management services.

C.3 (strategies): The central office will be established, appropriately staffed and furnished. Sustained

financial support will come from the investment proceeds of the TSHL Foundation.

C.4 (objective): The TSHL will establish an independent legal and financial status in order to gain control of its financial affairs.

C.4 (strategies): A special committee and legal council will be appointed and retained by the Executive Committee to establish a non-profit legal status of the TSHL.

C.5 (objective): The Office of Historian will be established.

C.5 (strategies): The Historian will collect and analyze data and provide historical information concerning TSHL resolutions and outcomes.

Goal D - To provide leadership and education for the members of the Silver-haired Legislature in order that the members and the organization will serve as a resource to the Texas Legislature, the public and private sectors, boards and commissions, and provide services that will complement other senior groups and organizations.

D.1 (objective): TSHL Legislators will be able to participate in the Texas Silver-Haired Legislative process and activities in order that they will be able to serve as a liaison between their constituents, local and district organizations, governmental agencies and the State Legislature.

D.1 (strategies): The TSHL will provide education opportunities, consulting services and continuing information for members by holding its annual orientation and general sessions.

D.1.1 District and local orientation sessions will be held for prospective TSHL Legislators and candidates in order that they will be able to make judgments about candidacy and about campaign strategies. Prospective candidates will be given complete information about roles and responsibilities of membership in the TSHL.

D.2 (objective): TSHL members will access the needs of their constituents and organizations in order to identify issues and construct resolutions.

D.2 (Strategies): The TSHL will provide educational activities at its orientation and general sessions, consulting services, mentoring for new legislators, and required materials to help members identify issues and construct resolutions. Specialists from universities and other agencies will assist with research, data collection, and educational activities. The TSHL office and staff will assist with research, data collection, materials distribution, and record keeping.

Responsible: District senior legislators, Operations Committee, Elections and Credentials Committee, TSHL Executive Director and office staff. (See Activities D-11 through D-31 and budget, Goal D)

Goal E - To provide for a legislative body that will enable the Silver-Haired Legislature to introduce, study, discuss, pass, and prioritize resolutions dealing with major concerns of our State.

E.1 (objective): The TSHL shall hold a legislative session in even-numbered years in order to consider resolutions for proposed legislation and determination of priorities.

E.1 (strategies): The TSHL will hold its legislative session in the House of Representatives and in various meeting rooms in the Texas State Capitol in the month of September of even-numbered years.

Legislators prepare and present resolutions based upon the needs and expressed interests of their constituents. Resolutions are referred to committees which establish a calendar for hearings. After presentation of the resolution by the author/authors, public hearings are conducted. The committee then combines and refines resolutions which are then presented to the full body of the TSHL in legislative

session.

Resolutions may be amended and, if accepted by the general assembly, they are presented to the Governor and to the Texas Legislature and appropriate State agencies where sponsors are obtained and relevant information is provided.

Finally, the TSHL serves as a “resource” to other elected bodies and various organizations. The resolutions and rationale supporting them are printed, distributed and presented through personal contact, distribution channels and legislative hearings.

E.2 (strategies): An independent Legislative Support Council will be created in order to assist members in resolution preparation through research, assistance in writing resolutions, preparation of calendars and arranging for public hearings.

Responsible: Various Silver-Haired Legislature Committees according to the bylaws including the Legislative Action Committee, Operations Committee, Speaker, TSHL Executive Director and office staff. (See Activity E-11 & Budget Goal E)

Goal F – To provide educational support for the resolutions that have been accepted by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

F.1 (objective): Ninety percent of the prioritized resolutions of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature will be sponsored by Texas Legislators in the next regular session.

F.1 (strategies): The TSHL will establish an action committee to monitor legislation, provide information and support to resolution sponsors and legislative committees, provide information to other organizations having similar legislative objectives, and keep members and constituents informed.

F.2 (objective): The TSHL will provide public information about the adopted resolutions and allow for visibility for the association and its activities.

F.2 (strategies): Printed materials will be developed and distributed specifically outlining the accepted resolutions and supporting rationale.

The TEXAS SILVER-HAIRED DIRECTORY stresses approved resolutions and associated rationale. In addition, it provides additional "user friendly" educational information about the legislative process and issues related to aging. More sponsors will be added, particularly state-wide advertisers. Distribution of the Directory will be increased accordingly.

Visibility has been identified as the greatest single weakness of the TSHL. The TSHL

NEWSLETTER provides pertinent information about the resolutions and Association activities. Therefore distribution of Newsletter will be expanded. The TSHL Web Site carries important information about TSHL activities along with aging issues, senior organizations and governmental programs.

News releases, periodic "Legislative Updates" and speaking engagements by TSHL members and Speakers Bureau participants provide public information and education about the adopted resolutions.

Responsible: TSHL Executive Director and staff and appropriate committees (see Activity F-11 through F-41 and Budget Goal F)

STRATEGIC PLAN ACTIVITIES

Goal A – To motivate older citizens to realize that legislative involvement is a primary responsibility of effective citizenship.

STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES:

- (1) TSHL will cooperate with and support other organizations with similar objectives.**
- (2) TSHL will develop and distribute publications and provide data to media regarding Goal A. Establishment of a speaker's bureau, town-hall meetings the TSHL Newsletter (Silver Bulletin) and website will also be used for this goal.**

Activity A-21 – Members will be surveyed for participation in other groups.
Responsible: Executive Committee. Budget requested - \$500.00

Activity A-22 – TSHL will develop publications and provide media releases related to Goal A.
Responsible: Special Committee or ad hoc committee within Communications Committee. Budget requested - \$3,000.00

Activity A-23 – Publications and information will be distributed, a speaker’s bureau will be established, and the website will be utilized for distribution of information related to Goal A.

Responsible: Special Committee or ad hoc committee within Communications Committee. Budget requested for Speaker’s bureau - \$6,000.00

Activity A-24 – Collect data and provide information to TSHL members and prospective members about “best practices” of cooperating and supporting other organizations in reaching Goal A.

Responsible: Training Committee. Budget request - \$1,000.00

Goal B – To help Texans know that citizenship is dependent upon information and knowledge about issues facing the community, state, and nation.

STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES:

- (1) TSHL will offer expertise and support to other organizations providing non-partisan information and education about issues and governmental affairs.**
- (2) Each TSHL district will participate in one or more community activities and/or town-hall meetings about legislation and governmental activities.**
- (3) TSHL will provide speakers for groups and organizations.**
- (4) TSHL will develop and distribute “media alert” information on legislation and governmental activities.**

Activity B-11 – The TSHL will provide members with “best practices” ideas about working with local organizations.

Responsible: Training Committee Budget: See A-24 above

Information about legislation and governmental affairs will be provided by the Legislative Action Committee and distributed by a Special Committee within the Communications Committee through the website, Newsletter and “media alerts”. On-going activities. Budget for LAC - \$6,000.00 Media alert publications - \$500.00

Activity B-21 – Each TSHL district will annually sponsor at least one town-hall meeting or community educational activity. “How To” manuals will be developed to help members and sponsoring

organizations to promote and hold community activities.

Responsible: Training Committee Budget for forums: \$10,000.00

Activity B-31 – Develop a state-wide speaker’s bureau with constantly updated scripts and ideas for presentation. (See Training Committee in B-21). Also development of a quality TSHL video or power point presentation that will be available for speakers and forums.

Responsible: Training Committee and ad hoc committee within Communications Committee. Budget: see A-23 for speaker’s bureau. Budget for initial development of video: \$22,000.00

Activity B-41 – Develop and distribute “media alert” information. See B-11 above. Website will be utilized for distribution of special information.

Responsible: Technology Committee Budget: \$10,000.00

GOAL C -To develop an organizational structure which will provide for an effective non-partisan forum of persons over the age of 60 who are elected by and represent their peers.

STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES:

- (1) Democratic election and qualification procedures will be developed which will allow for maximum participation by registered voters over the age of 60. All positions will be filled either by election, appointment or by at-large selection.**

- (2) An adequate source of funding will be established so that the TSHL can carry out Its goals; this will be accomplished through endowments, grants, and fund-raising activities.**
- (3) A central office will be appropriately staffed and furnished.**

Activity C-11 – The election process has been identified as a major weakness of the TSHL and it is recommended that the Elections and Credentials Committee formulate a long-term plan to meet to overhaul the current system in order to meet the objective of “maximum participation by registered voters over the age of 60”. Alternative procedures for conducting elections to be studied include participation in State Primaries, school elections, and elections held by district and community coalitions of senior organizations. It is recommended that other Silver-Haired Legislatures be contacted to find out about their procedures.
Responsible: Elections and Credentials Committee. Budget \$10,000 depending on new plan.

Activity C-21 – Special endowment committees within the TSHL Foundation and TSHL will actively solicit endowment moneys. Proposals for grants will be written according to items in this plan.
Responsible: TSHL Board of Directors, the TSHLF and TSHL Endowment Committees and the Grant Writing Committee within the Finance Committee.

Activity C-31 – Recommend a special committee be established to coordinate central office operations.
Responsible: Special Committee on Central Office.

Activity C-41 – Recommend a special organizational affairs committee be established to prepare recommendations for the establishment of an independent financial and legal status for TSHL

Activity C-51 The Bylaws will be amended to establish a permanent office of Historian appointed by the Executive Committee.

Goal D - To provide leadership and education for the members of the Silver-aired Legislature in order that the members and the organization will serve as a resource to the Texas Legislature, the public and private sectors, boards and commissions, and provide

services that will complement other senior groups and organizations.

STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES:

- (1) TSHL will provide educational opportunities, consulting services, and continuing information to members.**
- (2) District and local orientation sessions will be held for prospective legislators and candidates. Candidates will be given complete and non-partial information about roles and responsibilities.**
- (3) TSHL will provide instruction and assistance to its members in assessing needs of constituents, identification of issues, and resolution process.**

Activity D-11 – “How To” and “best practices” manuals along with educational programs at the Orientation and General Sessions will be provided to help members of the TSHL so that they will be able to serve as liaison between constituents, local organizations, governmental agencies, and the State Legislature.
Responsible: Training Committee

Activity D-21 – Information and guidance will be provided for prospective candidates for TSHL membership prior to filing. Utilize on-line course for TSHL candidate preparation.
Responsible: Elections & Credentials Committee Budget: \$500.00

Activity D-31 – Training, materials and “best practices” will be provided to members of the TSHL to help with techniques for identification and interpretation of data to identify needs and priorities of constituents. Formal educational activities will be held at the Orientation Session.

Responsible: Training Committee

Preliminary Plan Budget: \$500.00

Goal E - To provide for legislative body to introduce, study, discuss, pass, and prioritize resolutions. (To include orientation and general session)

STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES:

- (1) To hold a legislative session in even-numbered years.**
- (2) Legislators prepare and present resolutions according to a calendar of hearings. After presentation by the author, public hearings are conducted. Finally, committees may approve the resolution and then they are presented to the full body of TSHL.**

Activity E-11 – The TSHL will hold a legislative session in the House of Representatives chambers and various meeting rooms of the Texas State Capitol in the month of September.

Responsible: Operations Committee, Elections and Credentials Committee, Legislative Action Committee, and various committees according to the bylaws. Budget: \$5,000.00

Goal F – To provide support for the resolutions that have been accepted by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

STRATEGIES AND OBJECTIVES:

- (1) Ninety percent of the prioritized resolutions of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature will be sponsored by Texas Legislators.**
- (2) A Legislative Action Committee will monitor legislation, provide information and support to sponsors, provide information to appropriate organizations, and keep members informed.**
- (3) The TSHL will provide public information about the adopted resolutions.**
- (4) Printed materials will be distributed outlining all of the accepted resolutions and supporting rationale within twenty one (21) days following the Legislative Session.**
- (5) The TEXAS SILVER-HAIRED DIRECTORY will be printed and distributed and will contain information about the legislative session and other “user-friendly” information.**
- (6) The TSHL SILVER BULLETIN will provide pertinent information about resolutions and activities of the organization.**
- (7) Legislative updates and speaker’s bureau information will provide public information about the adopted resolutions. (See Goal A, Activity A-23)**

Activity F-11 – An action committee will monitor legislation, provide information and support, provide information to other organizations and members. The LAC will work closely with the Communications Committee to develop public information and printed materials.

Responsible: Legislative Action Committee and Communications Committee (see B-11).

Budget: Resolution printing and distribution: \$7,000.00

Activity F-21 – The TSHL DIRECTORY will be presented and distributed according to a uniform plan by a special committee. The DIRECTORY will be made more user-friendly in order to be a service to users as opposed to strictly a fund-raising activity. The DIRECTORY will be divided into two

divisions; i.e. "Sales" and "Production." The DIRECTORY will be available for distribution no later than January 15 of the Legislative Year.

Responsible: DIRECTORY Committee. Budget: \$30,000.00

Activity F 22: the TSHL SILVER BULLETIN will be expanded to provide information to a wide variety of TSHL supporters. Thus the format will be changed to reflect the readers.

Responsible: SILVER BULLETIN Editor. Budget - \$3,000

Activity F 23: News releases in the form of "Legislative Updates" will be distributed in order to provide more information about the adopted resolutions and related TSHL issues.

Responsible: Legislative Action Committee and the Communications Committee. (See Activity B-11).

Budget: \$500.00

SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES

CENTRAL OFFICE COMMITTEE

C-31 Central Office Plan

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE and Special Committees within

A-22 Publications about legislative involvement

A-23 Speaker's Bureau – B-31

F-11 Information about legislation

F-23 "Legislative Updates"

DIRECTORY COMMITTEE

F-21 Directory

ELECTIONS AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

C-11 Report on "overhaul" of elections procedure

D-12 "A Guide to Serving in the TSHL" publication

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE (TSHLF and TSHL)

C-21 Plan for endowments

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

C-31 Central Office -administration

C-41 Establish a committee to create an independent financial and legal status for the TSHL and study the organizational structure

C-42 Create a permanent position in the TSHL-TSHLF for a "Historian."

FINANCE COMMITTEE and Special Committee within

C-21 Grant writing, proposal plan

LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

B-11 Provide data about legislation and governmental affairs

E-11 Legislative session plan

F-11 Provide information about legislation

F-41 Provide information on "Legislative Updates"

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

E-11 Logistics for Legislative, General, and Orientation sessions

SILVER BULLETIN - Editor

F-22

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

B-41 Plan for the website

TRAINING COMMITTEE

A-24 "Best practices" for cooperation with other organizations

B-11 "Best practices" about citizenship

B-21 "How To" manual on public forums

B-31 State-wide Speaker's bureau

D-11 “Best practices” and training manual for TSHL member, August 2003
D-21 D-11 Orientation Session and materials development

TEXAS SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATURE FOUNDATION
C-21 Endowments and Grants

TEXAS SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATURE EXPENSE BUDGET*

(Sample for discussion only 2010-2014)

Goal A – Membership services	\$ 500.00	
.....Legislative Interest Publications	\$ 3,000.00	
.....Speaker’s Bureau program.....	\$ 6,000.00	
.....Best Practices	\$ 1,000.00	
.....Total		\$10,500.00
Goal B – Best Practices – Programs	\$ 6,500.00	
.....Local Programs and forums	\$10,000.00	
.....Speakers bureau & presentation	\$20,000.00	
.....Website & Media alert	\$ 10,000.00	
.....Total		\$ 46,500.00
Goal C – TSHL Candidate elections	10,000.00	
.....TSHL Office (see below)	<u>120,000.00</u>	
.....Total		130,000.00
Goal D – Orientation or General session	30,000.00	
.....Orientation – New and prospective members,Mentoring program	<u>1,000.00</u>	
.....Total		31,000.00
Goal E – Legislative Session.....	5,000.00	
.....Legislative Support Council	<u>\$15,000.00</u>	
.....Total		20,000.00
Goal F – Educational support information.....	6,000.00	
.....Distribution	1,000.00	
.....TSHL DIRECTORY	30,000.00	
.....TSHL NEWSLETTER	<u>3,000.00</u>	
.....Total		<u>40,000.00</u>
Expense Budget total		<u>\$278,000.00</u>

ESTIMATED OFFICE EXPENSES:

Rent	\$12,000.00
Payroll – Executive director, Assistant & intern	75,000.00
.....Taxes.....	5,000.00
Equipment rental and depreciation.....	5,000.00
Utilities	3,000.00
Travel.....	5,000.00
Copying and postage	2,000.00
Communications.....	8,000.00
Awards, trophies, promotions, entertainment.....	2,500.00
Office Supplies	<u>3,000.00</u>
.....Total	\$120,500.00

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORIZATION

Senate Concurrent Resolution 37

69th Texas Legislature

Sponsors: Senator Hugh Parmer
Representative Jerry Clark

WHEREAS, Older Texans are the fastest growing segment of the population with the number of persons over the age of 60 in Texas having increased 32 percent between 1970 and 1980; and

WHEREAS, Many older Texans recognize the need to develop a better understanding of the legislative process through participation in this process of state policy development; and

WHEREAS, It is most appropriate in problem solving to involve those closely related to the problems in order to ensure more effective, lasting solutions; and

WHEREAS, A Silver-Haired Legislature is a model legislative session in which older Texans are elected by their peers to meet at the State Capitol to initiate and debate policy alternatives to deal with the problems that affect them; and

WHEREAS, Silver-Haired Legislatures have been used effectively in other states to inform elderly persons about the legislative process, to serve as a forum where the elderly can discuss policy issues on aging, and to recommend solutions to the problems of older Texans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of Texas, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature of the State of Texas support the development of a biennial Silver-Haired Legislature in Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the legislature of the state of Texas allow its chambers and meeting rooms, and other assistance as determined by the committee on House Administration and the Senate Committee on Administration, to be used by the Silver-Haired Legislature at a time that does not interfere with the regular biennial sessions of the legislature, special called sessions, or meeting of interim Legislative Committees; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That recommendations formulated by the Silver-Haired Legislature be submitted to the Governor of the State of Texas, the Texas Legislature, and the Texas Department on Aging at the close of the Silver-Haired Legislative Session.

Passed by 69th Texas Legislature April 3, 1985
W. P. Hobby, President of the Senate
Gib Lewis, Speaker of the House
Signed by Governor Mark White, April 11, 1985
Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 12, 1985

KEY WORDS IN LEGISLATIVE AUTHORIZATION:

“older Texans need to develop a better understanding of the legislative process”

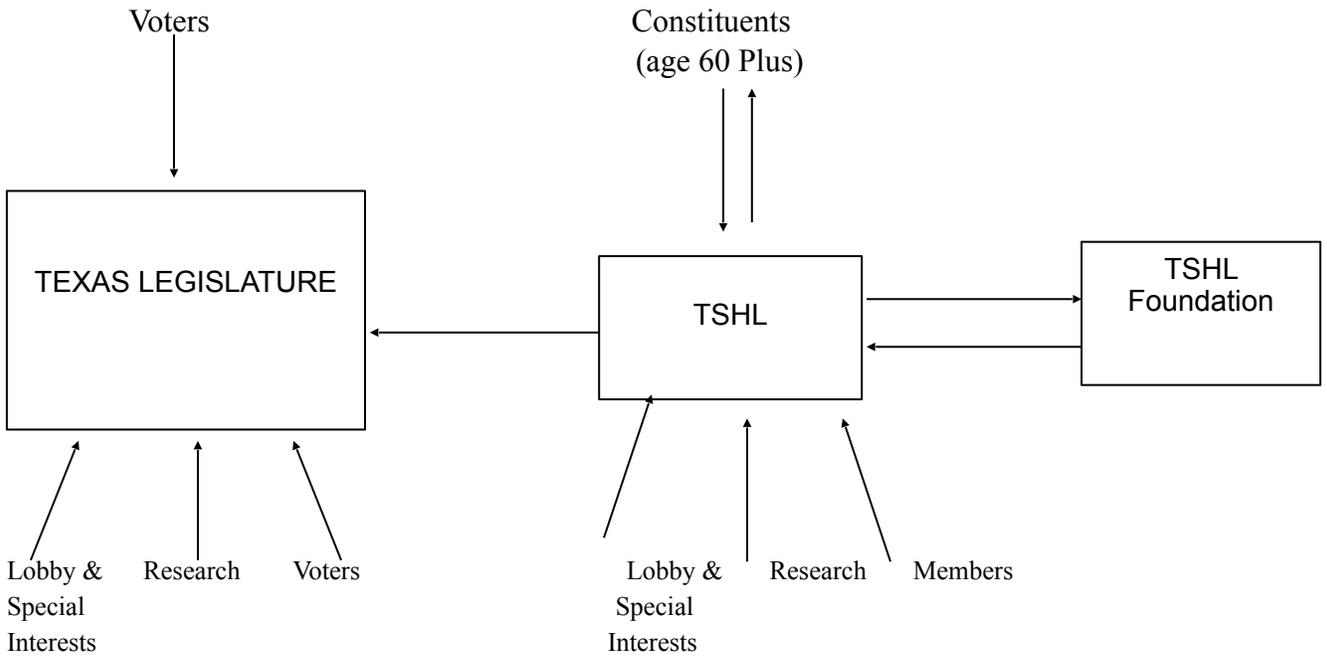
“initiate and debate policy alternatives”

“recommend solutions to the problems of older Texans”

“recommendations formulated by the Silver-Haired Legislature be submitted to the Governor of the State of Texas, the Texas Legislature, and the Texas Department on Aging at the close of the Silver-Haired Legislative Session.”

PICTORIAL VIEW OF THE TSHL
AS DESCRIBED IN THE AUTHORIZATION
(Senate Concurrent Resolution #37, 69th Legislature)

Opinion - A. Campbell, Chairman Strategic Planning (September 2007)



TSHL - T M

Tenured Members

PREFACE: We have too many vacancies in the TSHL that have gone unfilled for too long. We previously tried expanding the membership by appointing “at large” candidates. That effort resulted in some success, but also some criticisms. It did produce some notably fine members, but other members expressed concern that the at-large members were not being elected by constituents at the local level, and would not be representing local constituents. If adopted, this proposal should resolve those concerns.

The Tenured Member: A member could convert to Tenured Member (TM) status only after serving at least three terms. Although TM status would be conferred by the Executive Committee, a TM will first have been repeatedly elected by local constituents. Further, a TM member would continue to represent those constituents.

The New Member: Upon accepting TM status, a member’s elected position becomes vacant. That vacancy is then available to be filled through the normal election or appointment process at the local level. A new member who fills such a vacancy would be no different from any other member of the TSHL. That new member will have been elected locally, and will represent the local constituents.

Effect on Statewide Representation: Filling all positions throughout the state through the local election process is preferable, in order to provide well-balanced statewide representation. However, during the past several years, positions in a number of districts have gone unfilled, with no indication any of those historically vacant positions will be filled in the foreseeable future. With care in the appointment of TM positions, the resulting vacancies - and new members filling those vacancies - can be distributed across the state to not only add to the strength and viability of the TSHL, but also to reasonably maintain the organization’s balanced representation across the state.

The program outlined below is designed to achieve these objectives:

- Add vitality and strength to the TSHL by adding new members.
- Generate added vacancies in locations where they are most likely to be filled, while retaining the valued multi-term incumbents of those positions.
- Preserve a balanced statewide membership, with all members elected or appointed by local constituents.

Preserve TSHL Strength and Vitality Add More Members!

A steady infusion of new members adds vitality - energy and new ideas - to the TSHL. At the same time, members who have served many productive years in the TSHL offer stability – experience and steadiness of purpose – through their insight and wisdom about the organization and the legislative process.

By filling our authorized strength, the TSHL more closely achieves that balance of stability and vitality. By creating vacancies for new members – without displacing active and productive long-time members – we will increase the prospects for reaching our authorized strength.

By adding a membership category called **Tenured Member** (TM) the TSHL can more likely reach that goal. Example: If all the positions available in a given AAA area are filled, but that AAA has additional viable candidates, vacancies for those new candidates could be created if one or two of the long-time members in that area accepted Tenured Member (TM) status. A TM would hold a position provisionally added to the number of positions allocated to his or her AAA area.

TM status would not be automatic or an honorary award. Its purpose is to create openings for new members while retaining able, active and productive 'senior' members. TM appointments would be made primarily to meet the needs of the organization rather than to satisfy a member's preferences.

Selection to TM status would be as follows. A TM candidate must:

- Be serving in at least his or her 6th year of continuous service.
- Have served two years or more as an officer or chair of a standing TSHL committee.
- Be approved by a 2/3 vote of the Executive Committee. (2/3 of those present and voting, with a quorum present.)

Any changes to the TM program that the committee determines to be appropriate or necessary may be made during any regular meeting of the committee. A copy of proposed changes shall be provided to members of the committee and to all TM members a minimum of 30 days before the changes are to be considered by the committee.

The initial term of a TM begins upon approved by the Executive Committee, and shall continue to the date of the first TSHL election held in the odd year after that member has served as a TM for at least two years.

The committee shall periodically review the status of all TMs, and may extend the term of a member who has served as a TM for at least one year. An extension may not exceed two years, and shall end during September of an even year. Approval of an extension shall require the majority vote of those present and voting at any regular meeting of the EC, with a quorum present.

Those whose terms expire and are not extended may continue serving as a TM until the next TSHL election is held and the results announced. Those TMs may run for another regular term in his or her district at that election.

By scheduling term extensions of TMs to end in September of even years, TSHL members and the AAAs may anticipate vacancies, and timely prepare for the TSHL election to be held in the following year.

A Tenured Member would:

- Serve as an "At-Large" delegate for his or her AAA area.
- Have all the rights and privileges of membership in the TSHL.

The EC shall hold to a minimum any TM appointments causing the authorized strength of the TSHL to be exceeded. If all authorized THSL positions are filled, no further TMs may be approved until vacancies occur and persist.

Any AAA with a vacancy remains entitled to fill that vacancy at any time.