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TCCRI Praises Senate Sunset Advisory Commission Appointments

*Three of Five Senators on the Sunset Advisory Commission are
TCCRI Board Members*

AUSTIN – Following the Friday, January 6 announcement of Senate Sunset Advisory Commission appointments, the Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute's (TCCRI) Executive Director John Colyandro praised Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst and his decision to place proven conservative leaders on the Commission.

Mr. Colyandro stated: "By appointing outstanding conservatives to the Sunset Advisory Commission, Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst has set the Commission on the path to a thorough and successful review of state agencies, including how those state agencies might better operate."

The most recent Senate appointments to the Sunset Advisory Commission are:

- **State Senator Robert Nichols** (R-Jacksonville; SD 3) – appointed to serve as Vice-Chairman; TCCRI Board Member
- **State Senator Dan Patrick** (R-Houston; SD 7) – TCCRI Board Member; TCCRI Task Force co-chairman
- **State Senator Brian Birdwell** (R-Granbury; SD 22) – TCCRI Task Force co-chairman

With the addition of Senator Patrick and Senator Birdwell, three out of five Senators who serve on the Sunset Advisory Commission are Directors of TCCRI (Senators Huffman, Nichols, and Patrick), and a fourth is a TCCRI Task Force co-chairman for the 2011-2012 interim (Senator Birdwell).

Agencies being reviewed by the Sunset Advisory Commission for 2012-2013 include:

- Texas Education Agency

- Texas Ethics Commission
- Public Utility Commission of Texas
- Railroad Commission of Texas

Mr. Colyandro concluded: “Like the Sunset Advisory Commission, TCCRI remains committed to defining a principled, limited, effective role for state government. Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst made strong conservative appointments, and we look forward to working with the members of the Sunset Advisory Commission as they take on the indispensable task of conducting comprehensive reviews of major state agencies.”

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