



# Up The Enterprize™

A View from Below the Texas Health and Human Services Enterprize System

# The

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

L E A D S T O R Y

IN THIS ISSUE (or not)

**No Monkeying Around:  
SB7 Advisory  
Committees Twiddling  
Their Opposable  
Thumbs!**

**That ain't no tax!  
It's just a fee!  
That ain't no tax!  
Just let it be!**

Anticipating his move into the Governor's Mansion, candidate Abbott is working on his budget cheerleading scripts.

**Most Congenial  
Employee Award  
Announced!**

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## Enterprize Commissioners Clash at Sunset Commission Hearing

Commissioners of the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) and Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) clashed at the August 13 Sunset Commission hearing to decide the future of both agencies.

Lunging from the audience at DARS Commissioner Durden, DADS Commissioner Weizenbaum screamed (in a very manly voice), "what the hell's wrong with you? You got enough kids with disabilities!! All I got is old people and they're all dying!!"

An immense brouhaha (*big fight*) erupted as other Enterprize commissioners tried to separate their colleagues. DADS and DARS agency staff dutifully awaited direction from their superiors on the floor.

The argument stemmed from an agreement that DADS autism programs would be transferred to DARS this month. But that was before the latest federal data showing a significant increase in the number of individuals with autism.



Commissioner Durden, leaving the Sunset hearing.

"You knew all along you'd be stealing thousands of my kids with autism," Mr. Weizenbaum was heard yelling from beneath the pile of commissioners. "You can't even run your own early childhood intervention program! Why don't you just steal all my 90 year-olds too while you're at it??!!"

And then, as suddenly as the brawl had started, it stopped. Commissioner Durden emerged from the pile seemingly untouched, re-assumed her chair at the witness table, told that inspiring story she always tells about a carpenter (no, not him...a real carpenter), and left the room.

The Sunset Commission will present its final recommendations to the Texas Legislature in January 2015.



Commissioner Weizenbaum is expected to make a full recovery.

**Up The Enterprize  
balks at merger  
offer from  
HHSC Press Office.**

**What your mama  
don't know...**

Pre-session training for Texas legislators includes tips on how to keep your mom from finding out exactly what the hell you're doing down there in Austin.

**New autism  
vaccine stymies  
anti-vaccine  
coalition.**

**Does your  
commissioner  
have a Wikipage?**

If they do, you can add to it! If they don't, why not make one for them?

**Diggin' deep.**

As suggestions for funding Medicaid expansion abound, commissioners are directed to check their pockets and couches for spare change.

## Love and Loss in the Enterprize

### *Johnnie Filbert reveals the true story behind his hit single, I Hired My Girlfriend.*

Speaking from his Nashville mansion, former HHS Enterprize unit manager Johnnie Filbert recalled the night he went home and wrote what has become the number one hit on the country music charts, [I Hired My Girlfriend](#).

“I couldn’t take it anymore,” Mr. Filbert, explained. “I did the worst thing a man can do and that’s hire his girlfriend. There’s no way that ain’t goin’ bad.”

In October 2013, Mr. Filbert hired his longtime girlfriend, Miss Mayla Grant, to fill a Program Specialist position in his department. “She was eminently qualified,” stated an Enterprize human resources specialist who asked not to be identified. “Unfortunately, things went south fast. It was pretty clear that Mayla wore the pants in that family and she wasn’t about to take ‘em off just because she was at work!”

“It was November 6, last year. After a rough day at work with Mayla I came home alone, grabbed a six-pack and my guitar, and started singin’” recounted Mr. Filbert. And sing he did, right into a number one hit, a mega record deal, and induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame.



*Mr. Johnnie Filbert walking away from the Enterprize and his one true love, Miss Mayla.*

The passion and pain of Johnnie Filbert’s [I Hired My Girlfriend](#) has sent shock waves through Nashville and prompted changes to the hiring practices of the HHS Enterprize system.

“We’ve always had policies in place to prevent managers from hiring their own spouses but we’ve added the **Johnnie Filbert Rule**. From now on, no Enterprize manager can hire or manage anyone they’ve gotten to second base with. Anything under the shirt qualifies.”

Sadly, the Filbert Rule was put in place too late for Johnnie and Mayla. “I would trade a million number one hits for Mayla, but our relationship couldn’t withstand me trying’ to boss her around at work. She just ain’t that kinda gal.”

UpThe readers can listen and sing along to [Johnnie’s hit single here](#).

### Enterprize Old Settlers Club

The first meeting of the Old Settlers Club will be next Thursday during lunch in the Brown-Heatly cafeteria. All Enterprize employees who have had the same job for more than five years without applying for any other positions are welcome! No agenda, we'll just hang out.

C'mon by, you don't have to be old. You just have to be settling.

## Still No Lack of Services for Texas Veterans!

Longtime UpThe readers will recall our May 2014 report on the statement from HHSC Assistant Commissioner for Veteran's Services Hupp that "there is no lack of services for veterans in Texas." She also mentioned, speaking before several hundred state employees, that she had developed an app with four buttons that will lead all veterans to the abundance of services available in Texas.

UpThe crack reporters have recently learned that there is still no lack of veteran services. Although some data indicate that there may be a teensy lack of services for Texas veterans, statements to the contrary by Commissioner Hupp must be true. Naysayers abound, but this publication choses to believe anyone who parlayed a \$7,200/year state representative's salary into \$140,000/year gig at the Enterprize. Good on you, Commissioner.

Meanwhile, we're happy to report that the app's four buttons have turned into five. No doubt, the over 4,000 homeless veterans in Texas relax each night enjoying the app on their iPhones under their favorite bridge.



At his home in Houston, veteran Clarence Goodman plans out his day, using the Texas Veterans mobile app.

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## Say Cheese! Like a Professional, Urges the EC



HHSC Deputy Commissioner Traylor smiling the best he can at a recent training.

"Smile Traylor!" Executive Commissioner (EC) Janek admonished Deputy Commissioner Chris Traylor during the recent *Say Cheese! Smile Like a Professional* class taught by the EC. "Jeeze man, try not look like you're in the middle of a bowel movement!"

*Say Cheese! Smile Like a Professional* is a three-day total immersion training for Enterprize executives and staff who will provide testimony during the upcoming legislative session. Research shows that "a winning smile wins the day," especially during important committee hearings.

"Don't be a Mister Grumpy Pants! C'mon Chris, you can do it!" encouraged the EC.



Candidate Leticia Van de Putte, making the best of a difficult situation.

The hands-on training features lectures by professionals whose success depends a great smile and real-life examples of professionals "smiling to win." Most Commissioner-students said that is was the picture of a young Rick Perry (known then as Ricardo Perrito) moments after he crossed the Texas border from his native Mexico that most inspired them.

There is, however, such as thing as too much enthusiasm, developers of *Say Cheese! Smile Like a Professional* warn. Past students have smiled so hard during the three-day intensive training that they've literally locked their own faces into a smile. For example, this woman was forced to endure years of grueling *no-smile* physical therapy. It didn't work so she decided to run for Lieutenant Governor.



Ricardo Perrito, age seven, after crossing the border into his beloved Texas. Now he's the big dog.

## Enterprize Legislative Reports Slashed to Eleven Pages

Last week, the Legislative Budget Board (LBB) announced that all state agency reports to the legislature should be no longer than 11 pages. "With all the reports legislators have to read, they can't be expected to read more than that," noted the proclamation preamble to the promulgation. "We'll also be looking at reducing the number of P-words with three or more syllables," said a spokesperson.

Boldly responding to the edict, Executive Commissioner Janek announced that the Enterprize would go on step further. "I have directed all Enterprize agencies to reduce every report since 2005 to 11 pages, and re-submit them to the Legislature by October 2014."

When asked about the significant resources required to rewrite hundreds of reports, Commissioner Janek said "What's the big deal? We can count up to eleven just like anybody else."

And with that, he raised the 404-page 2015–2019 Enterprize Strategic Plan, ripped off the first eleven pages and announced, "This one's ready to go!"

**Don't miss these online stories!**

[New Hampshire Rides to the Rescue of DFPS Executives](#)

[Texas State Rep. Coonass Bonnen Embraces His Cajun Heritage](#)

## Governor Perry Seeks AG Opinion on DD Council Legitimacy

"I'm not using the term "bastard agency," but it certainly does not belong to the Enterprize family," said Governor Perry's spokesperson, referring to the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities (DD Council), one of 56 councils on developmental disabilities in the U.S. created through the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act.

"They hide out down there on East Oltorf Street and do nothing but snipe and complain. All those liberal ex-legislative staff and bleeding hearts, always with something to say about how we're doing it all wrong."

"And yes," he added, "they get their marching orders directly from Obama

who holds the purse strings! One hundred percent Obama federal funny-money. That's why Governor Perry is seeking an opinion from Attorney General Abbott to see if this DD Council is even a state agency."

The DD Council is funded by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on a formula basis. Each year, it awards nearly 70 percent of its funds to about 40 projects around the state that address topics such as employment, education and advocacy training.

"These people train agitators to make trouble and they throw around millions of federal dollars at unsustainable projects that can't get it from anywhere else. That money should be down on the border keeping out those little homo-aliens."

"Until General Abbott makes his ruling, the Governor has ordered that all DD Council staff wear special colored hats so they can be easily identified while on Enterprize property."

Asked for a comment, Enterprize Executive Commissioner Janek said, "maroon sure is nice!"



*Unidentified man seeking recognition from the back of the room.*



*Weeping, exasperated man still seeking recognition to add a very relevant comment, no doubt.*



*A maroon hat.*

Up The Enterprize (UpThe) is published bi-monthly, and employs these very clever acronyms: **HHSC** – Health and Human Services Commission; **EC** – Texas Health and Human Services Enterprize Executive Commissioner; **DFPS** – Department of Family and Protective Services; **DSHS** – Department of State Health Services; **DADS** – Department of Aging and Disability Services and, oh yeah, **DARS** – Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services. **Online:** [www.uptheenterprize.com](http://www.uptheenterprize.com) **Twitter:** [@uptheenterprize](https://twitter.com/uptheenterprize) **Facebook:** <http://on.fb.me/ZbhBs/> **Free subscription:** [editor@uptheenterprize.com](mailto:editor@uptheenterprize.com) **Comments and inquiries:** [editor@uptheenterprize.com](mailto:editor@uptheenterprize.com)

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