

Laura Prather in TAB Newsletter: Federal anti-SLAPP bill gets hearing; Texas' state anti-SLAPP law hailed as a success

June 30, 2016 Laura Prather

PRACTICES Litigation, Media Entertainment and Sports

This month marked the fifth anniversary of a state law that Texas media outlets have successfully used to dismiss meritless lawsuits filed to silence reporting on matters of public concern.

TAB helped pass the state's anti-SLAPP law, the Citizen Participation Act, in the 2011 Texas Legislature...

Former KTXS-TV news director and anchor Paul Brown moderated the session which featured bill author state Rep. Todd Hunter, R-Corpus Christi; Justice Jane Bland, Texas First Court of Appeals; Bama Brown, iHeartMedia Austin; Terri Burke, Texas ACLU; and [Laura Prather](#), Haynes Boone...

Prather, testifying before the House subcommittee last week, noted there were three reasons why passage of a federal anti-SLAPP law was needed.

"First, there is a patch-work of state laws in the area creating an invitation for forum shopping and inconsistent application of laws; second, there is a split of authority as to whether state anti-SLAPP laws apply in federal court; and, third, even in those states that have anti-SLAPP statutes, they generally do not apply to federal claims."

Excerpted from the *Texas Association of Broadcasters Newsletter*. To read the full article, please [click here](#).