



**CHALLENGES  
FOR THE 85<sup>TH</sup>  
SESSION**

**LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING**



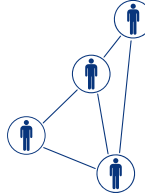
**Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce**



# WHO IS TAB?



VOICE FOR PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES & E2E TOOLS



CONNECTS MEMBERS TO STATE & FEDERAL LEGISLATORS



MEMBER SERVICES TO CUT COSTS AND PROTECT



BENEFITS FOR MORE THAN 4,300 BUSINESS MEMBERS & CHAMBER PARTNERS



# STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ADVOCACY THAT WORKS

**MEMBER  
BUSINESS BY INDUSTRY**

36% Manufacturing,  
Trade & Transportation

22% Finance, Real Estate,  
Professional & Technical Services

21% Agriculture, Mining & Construction

8% Repair, Maintenance & Personal Services

7% Chambers of Commerce

3% Education & Healthcare  
3% Arts & Hospitality

**EMPLOYEE SIZE  
OF MEMBER BUSINESSES**

57% 1-10 Employees

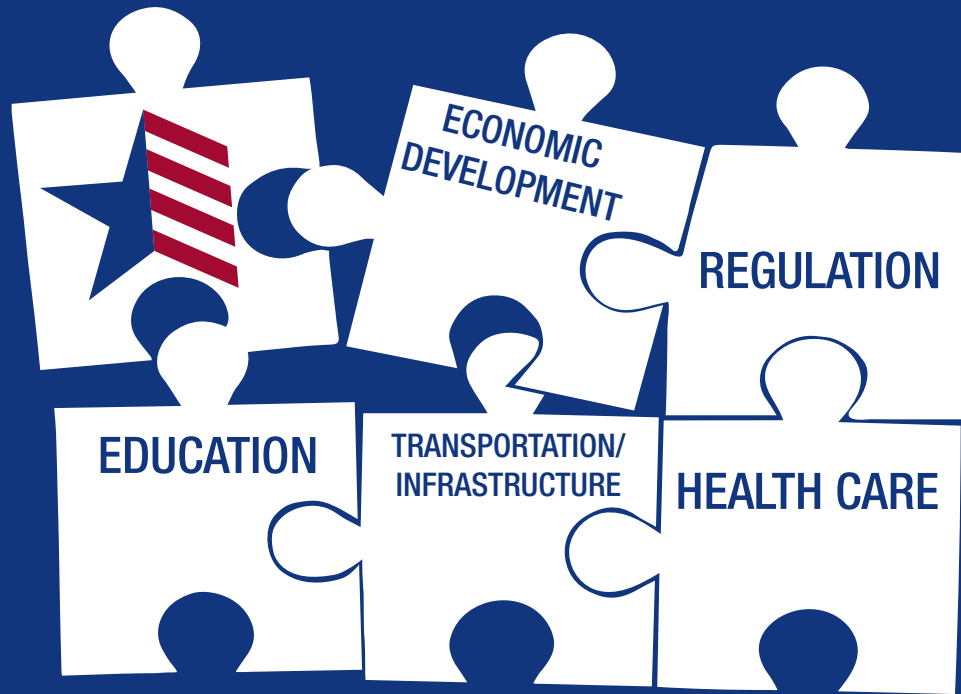
18% 11-25 Employees

10% 26-50 Employees

6% 51-100 Employees

9% 100+ Employees

# WHO IS TAB?



**HOW  
TAB DEVELOPS  
ANNUAL  
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

**MEMBERS**

**STAFF**

**REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION  
BY SPECIFIC POLICY  
COMMITTEE**



**OFFICERS  
INCLUDING  
REVIEW BY  
LEGAL COUNSEL**



**EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE**

ACTS IN BETWEEN BOARD MEETINGS



**BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS**

MEETS 3-4 TIMES PER YEAR

**FAST TRACK  
PROCESS**

SOMETIMES USED TO ENSURE  
TIMELY ENGAGEMENT



**RECENT  
STATE  
LEGISLATIVE WINS**



**TAX CUTS**

**\$4.6 BILLION  
TAX CUTS**

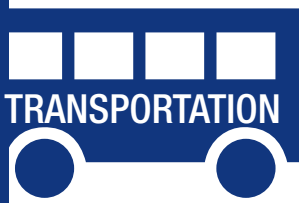
**INCREASED  
HOMESTEAD  
EXEMPTION TO  
\$25,000**

**25% FRANCHISE  
TAX CUT FOR TEXAS  
BUSINESS**



**\$130 MILLION  
FOR PRE-K  
EDUCATION**

**NEW A-F GRADING  
SYSTEM**



**\$2.5 BILLION  
TO IMPROVE  
HIGHWAYS &  
BRIDGES**



**PERMITTING  
REFORM TO  
INCREASE OUR  
STATE'S  
COMPETITIVENESS**



**\$3.55 BILLION  
SAVINGS/YEAR**

**INCREASED  
NUMBER OF  
PRIMARY CARE  
DOCTORS**

**BALANCE BILLING  
REFORM**



## STATE ISSUES FOR THE 85<sup>TH</sup> SESSION

- EFFECT OF THE LOW COST OF OIL ON THE TEXAS ECONOMY
- PUBLIC EDUCATION-COST OF EDUCATION INDEX, SCHOOL CHOICE, RECENT SUPREME COURT RULING
- HIGHER EDUCATION-60X30 PLAN
- USING THE RAINY DAY FUND (\$10.4 BILLION) FOR UNFUNDED LIABILITIES OR RETIRING DEBT
- MEDICAID EXPANSION / EXTENDING THE 1115 WAIVER LONGTERM
- TELEMEDICINE
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAMS/TOOLS
- “RELIGIOUS FREEDOM” BILLS
- STATE VS. LOCAL CONTROL



- **TRANSPORTATION**
- **TAXATION**
- **EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE READINESS**
- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
- **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**





# **BUSINESS MUST ENGAGE**

**AARON COX • VP CHAMBER RELATIONS**

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS

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