



KEY POLICY PRIORITIES

89TH TEXAS
LEGISLATIVE
SESSION

WORKFORCE & EDUCATION PRIORITIES

- Support innovative solutions and funding to increase access to affordable, high-quality childcare.
- Support fully funding K-12 public education that will preserve high-impact programs, attract and retain high quality teachers and maintains a strong system of accountability.
- Support full funding to implement Texas community colleges' outcomes-based funding model (HB 8) and amend the State Funding Performance Tiers to include students transferring from public junior colleges to private institutions of higher education.
- Support a capital funding plan for Texas State Technical College to boost capacity and meet the rising demand for workforce development across the state.
- Support solutions and funding to unlock and retain more workers that will strengthen the talent pipeline and supports training programs including: TRUE (Texas Reskilling and Upskilling through Education) program; Lone Star Workforce for the Future; Skills Development Fund; JET (Jobs & Education for Texans) grant and others.

INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES

- Support the protection of the Central Texas watershed and dedicated funding to ensure the adequate supply of water that supports future economic growth of the region.
- Support the expedited completion of the expansion of Waco's section of I-35 to minimize economic disruption.
- Support increased transportation funding and dedicated funds for small/mid-size MPOs and preserve the local decision-making ability of MPOs in the prioritization, planning and designation of funding for regional transportation projects.
- Support the further implementation and funding of the statewide broadband plan that fairly serves all Texans.
- Support the domestic production of efficient energy sources to strengthen Texas as a global energy leader and ensure a reliable, sustainable electric grid that meets current and future electricity demands.

BUSINESS CLIMATE PRIORITIES

- Support solutions that reduce the property tax burden on businesses and promote a fair, professional appraisal process that retains local authority and spurs business development and growth.
- Support tax provisions that spur private sector innovation and development and that encourage the formation of new businesses large and small.
- Support legislative efforts to ensure that regulations reflect a cost-benefit perspective that maintains a regulatory climate that does not impose hidden taxes on employers through excessive fees and fines, but rather reduces excessive regulations to promote economic growth and job creation.
- Oppose any regulations or policies that incentivize able-bodied workers to not join or return to the workforce.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

- Support maintaining and strengthening existing economic development tools including:
 - Extending the Research and Development Tax Credit
 - Funding the Texas Enterprise Fund (TEF)
 - Enhancing the effectiveness of the Jobs, Energy, Technology and Innovation (JETI) Act
 - Preserving Chapter 380/381 agreements
- Support innovative solutions to increase the supply and access to affordable housing.
- Support prioritizing funding from the Texas Space Commission towards private sector companies.
- Support policies, regulations and programs that increase access to capital for small business loans and provide valuable resources for small business development.
- Support policies and regulations that prioritize maintaining local control and input for land use and development regulations.
- Support legislation adding Waco to the list of municipalities eligible for designation as a Project Financing Zone.