



WORKFORCE READINESS

EDUCATION:

A skilled workforce pipeline is fueled by quality education. Our public education system and institutions of higher education are vital to the preparation of the future workforce for our region and state. Maintaining full funding for education is necessary to advance educational attainment opportunities and create career pathways.

HEALTH & WELL-BEING:

A healthy workforce is crucial to a productive and stable economy. Producing a healthy workforce starts by addressing health care concerns and improving access to care to the most vulnerable populations in our region by reducing the number of uninsured, increasing behavioral and mental health services, and eliminating social determinants of health. Investing in the health and well-being of North Texans will lead to a more productive workforce.



ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

TALENT PIPELINE:

North Texas represents the most economically diverse and viable region in the state. The NTC believes a healthy and welcoming business climate is critical to sustaining a booming economy and protecting our greatest asset for economic growth - a highly skilled workforce. We must ensure that policies and practices create an inclusive and inviting atmosphere that promotes growth and attracts diverse talent to supply our workforce pipeline.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Texas must remain competitive by continuing the use of all economic development tools that incentivize growth and promote the recruitment of larger employers. Job creating programs begin by reducing regulatory barriers for business. Our region's economic growth relies on a stable, predictable, and business-friendly regulatory environment.



STRONG LOCAL COMMUNITIES

INFRASTRUCTURE:

As one of the fastest growing regions in the U.S., North Texas must continue to invest in the planning and development of critical infrastructure needs. Ensuring adequate water supply, strengthening electric grid resiliency and reliability, providing integrated transportation systems of choice, and expanding access to and adoption of broadband are all necessary to meeting the demands of our rapidly growing region, and continued business development. Through the use of public-private partnerships, projects can be completed efficiently and with minimal taxpayer burden.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

As the fourth largest region in the U.S., North Texas is home to 7.7 million people. The region's 9,000 square mile boundary encompasses 13 counties and more than 150 cities that uniquely contribute to the alluring qualities that define North Texas. Maintaining authority for each of those communities is key to remaining a region of growth. Preserving decision-making authority for local leaders is critical to safeguarding the success of our region and the unique individuality of our communities.

The North Texas Commission convenes public and private sector leaders to ensure that state and federal public policies promote strong local governments, support excellence in public schools, increase the skilled workforce pipeline, and safeguard a thriving business environment. Together as a unified region, we will continue to advocate for policies that improve the sustainability and inclusivity of our growing economy.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE:

(PK-12 & Higher Education)

SUPPORT:

HB 8 (VanDeaver) 60% of Texas jobs will require a degree or certificate in the next decade. To meet these standards, the Legislature passed HB 8 which implements the recommendations of the Texas Commission on Community College Finance, and invests \$683 million and establishes a new funding model for community colleges that focuses on outcomes-based funding. **Outcome: HB 8 has been signed by the Governor.**

HB 100 (K. King) With historic amounts of money due to the states surplus revenue, HB 100 was poised to be the signature piece of public education legislation of the 88th Session. HB 100 would have provided \$5 billion worth of funding to increase the basic allotment and deliver much-needed teacher pay raises. Once in the Senate, HB 100 was amended to include an ESA program that diverted much of the funding originally intended for public schools to private entities. **Outcome: HB 100 failed to pass due to a lack of agreement between the House and Senate.**

HB 4363 (Kuempel) Establishes the Future Texas Teachers Scholarship. The bill creates the scholarship program to help recruit, prepare and retain a diversified workforce of teachers. **Outcome: HB 4363 has been signed by the Governor.**

HB 4402 (K. Bell) Designed to improve the A-F public school accountability rating system currently used by the Texas Education Agency, so students, parents, and the community can better determine school quality. HB 4402 would have reduced emphasis on standardized testing, included additional indicators to determine the success of local public schools, and providing an ongoing assessment strategy rather than one test on one day. **Outcome: HB 4402 passed the House, but failed to receive a vote the Senate.**

OPPOSE:

SB 8 (Creighton) Intended to create a school choice voucher program by establishing and Education Savings Account (ESA). SB 8 would have allowed for taxpayer dollars to be redirected from public schools and sent to private education entities that are not held to the same accountability and transparency standards as public schools. **Outcome: SB 8 passed the Senate, but did not receive a vote in the House. Legislators are expected to return for a special called session in the fall to address school choice legislation.**

HEALTH & WELL-BEING:

SUPPORT:

HB 12 (Rose) A robust health care system is crucial for the overall health and economic stability of our communities. HB 12 provides extended health care for women through Medicaid coverage for 12 months postpartum in an effort to decrease maternal mortality rates in Texas. **Outcome: HB 12 has been signed by the Governor.**

HB 15 (S. Thompson) Aimed to establish the Mental Health and Brain Research Institute of Texas to issue grants to promote research, prevention, treatment, and cures of mental health diseases and disorders. **Outcome: HB 15 passed the House, but failed to receive a vote the Senate.**

HB 2100 (Price) Expands loan repayment assistance to mental health professionals who provide services either to patients in a state hospital or to individuals receiving community-based mental health services from a local mental health authority. **Outcome: HB 2100 has been signed by the Governor.**

HB 3140 (K. King) – Expands loan repayment assistance to mental health professionals who provide services to public school students **Outcome: HB 3140 passed the House, did not receive a vote in the Senate.**

SB 25 (Kolkhorst) Establishes a grant program to support nursing education and training and allows part-time nursing faculty to be eligible for loan repayment assistance. **Outcome: SB 25 has been sent to the Governor, currently awaiting his signature.**

SB 26 (Kolkhorst) Establishes a grant program to address the rising demand for mental health care in Texas. SB 26 provides community based mental and behavioral health systems with financial resources to increase access to care for mental health patients across the state. **Outcome: SB 25 has been sent to the Governor, currently awaiting his signature.**

SB 240 (Campbell) Requires health care facilities to establish a workplace violence prevention committee, to develop policies and a plan of action to prevent and respond to incidents of workplace violence. The bill also requires facilities to respond to incidents of workplace violence by providing post-incident services, including acute medical treatment if necessary, and protects the employee's right to report the incident internally and to law enforcement without retaliation. **Outcome: SB 240 has been signed by the Governor.**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

OPPOSE:

HB 2127 (Burrows) Local control enables the vibrant uniqueness of each community across the state. The Commission has worked diligently to stop the erosion of local control by the legislature. HB 2127, dubbed the “death star,” preempts cities and counties across the state from adopting policies in a broad swath of areas, including labor, agriculture, natural resources, and finance.

Outcome: HB 2127 has been signed by the Governor.

BUSINESS COMPETITIVENESS:

SUPPORT:

HB 5 (Hunter) The Texas Jobs, Energy, Technology, & Innovation Act is a new economic development program that will encourage investment in the State. HB 5 creates a incentive program meant to attract businesses, maximize investment in local tax bases, and create jobs in Texas by offering tax abatements for capital investment projects. **Outcome: HB 5 was signed by the Governor.**

HB 1755 (Button) Establishes the Lone Star Workforce of the Future Fund and a grant program to fund workforce training programs

Outcome: HB 1755 has been signed by the Governor.

OPPOSE:

SB 17 (Creighton) Prohibits public institutions of higher education from establishing or maintaining DEI offices, officers, employees, or contractors that perform the duties of a DEI office. The bill also prohibits requiring related training. **Outcome: SB 17 has been sent to the Governor, currently awaiting his signature.**

SB 18 (Creighton) Originally aimed to enforce a sweeping ban of tenure entirely in Texas. Ultimately the final version of the bill delivered a less severe policy that codifies tenure into state law and outlines the process by which universities must adopt policies and procedures to revoke tenure. **Outcome: SB 18 has been sent to the Governor, currently awaiting his signature.**

SB 1419 (Birdwell) Limiting the use of economic development programs is detrimental to our local communities. SB 1419 would have placed limitations on 380 agreements that would deter businesses from continuing to invest in the state. **Outcome: SB 1419 passed the Senate but did not receive a vote in the House.**

INFRASTRUCTURE:

SUPPORT:

HB 9 (Ashby) Creation of the Texas Broadband Fund which invests \$1.5 billion in broadband development to meet the needs of 2.8 million households, 7 million Texans, who lack access to quality broadband. **Outcome: HB 9 has been signed by the Governor.**

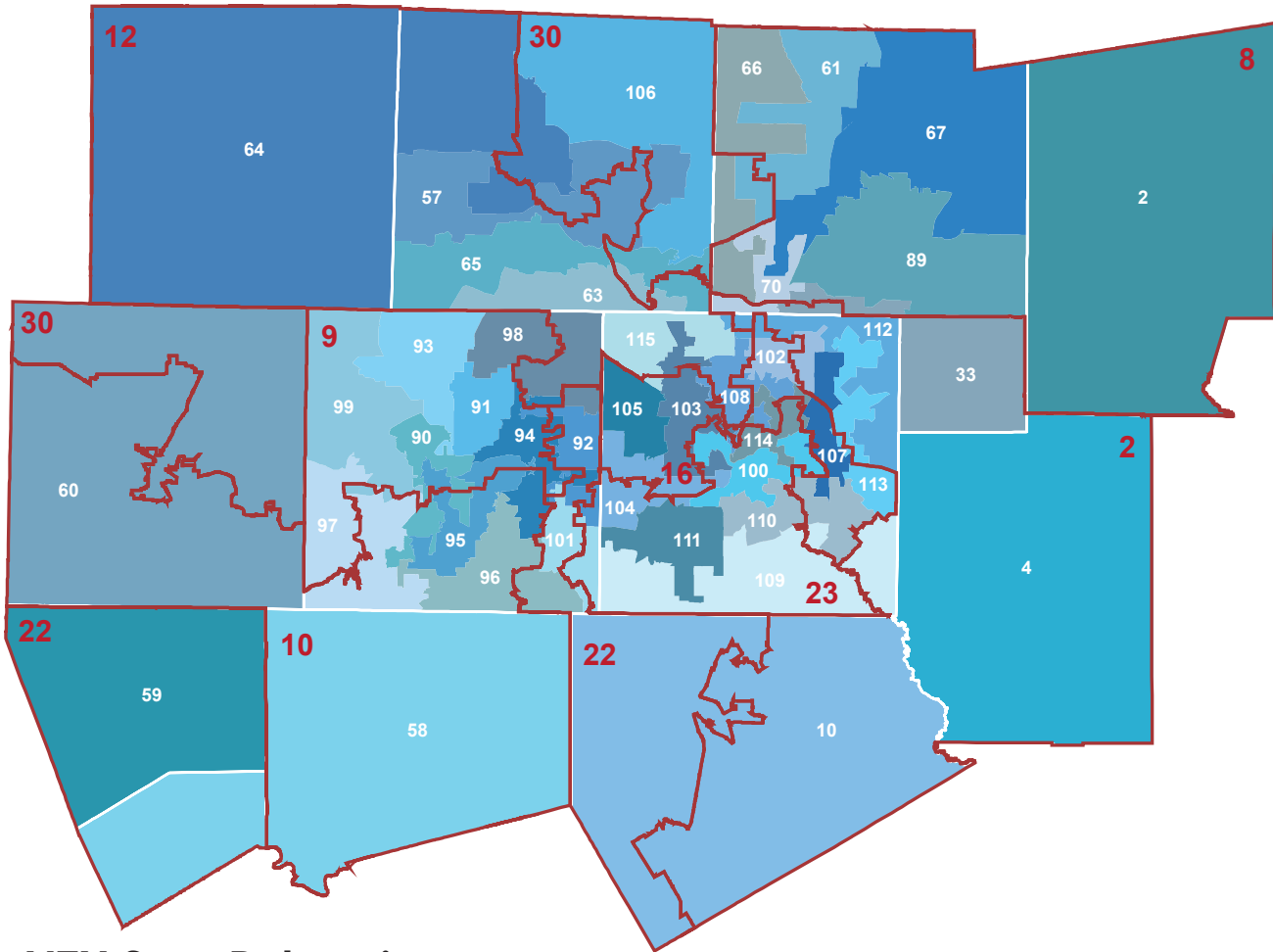
HB 2230 (Canales) Enhances transportation funding by extending Proposition 1 allocations of oil and gas severance taxes to the State Highway Fund from 2034 to 2042, as established by voters in 2014. **Outcome: HB 2230 has been signed by the Governor.**

SCR 2 (Nichols) Enhances transportation funding by extending Proposition 7 allocations of vehicle sales taxes (2039) and sales taxes (2042) to the State Highway Fund, as established by voters in 2015. **Outcome: SCR 2 has been signed by the Governor.**

SB 28 (Perry) Investing in new water sources is vital to the continued growth of the state. SB 28 creates the Texas Water Fund, administered by the Texas Water Development Board, that will provide \$1 billion of state investment in innovative water sources such as desalination, produced water treatment, and aquifer storage. **Outcome: SB 28 has been signed by the Governor.**



NORTH TEXAS COMMISSION



NTX State Delegation

88th Texas Legislative Session

State House

- HD 2 - VACANT
- HD 4 - Keith Bell (R)
- HD 10 - Brian Harrison (R)
- HD 33 - Justin Holland (R)
- HD 57 - Richard Hayes (R)*
- HD 58 - DeWayne Burns (R)
- HD 59 - Shelby Slawson (R)
- HD 60 - Glenn Rogers (R)
- HD 61 - Fredrick Frazier (R)*
- HD 63 - Ben Bumgarner (R)*
- HD 64 - Lynn Stucky (R)
- HD 65 - Krona Thimesch (R)*
- HD 66 - Matt Shaheen (R)
- HD 67 - Jeff Leach (R)
- HD 70 - Mihaela Plesa (D)*
- HD 89 - Candy Noble (R)
- HD 90 - Ramon Romero (D)
- HD 91 - Stephanie Klick (R)
- HD 92 - Salman Bhojani (D)*
- HD 93 - Nate Shatzline (R)*
- HD 94 - Tony Tinderholt (R)
- HD 95 - Nicole Collier (D)
- HD 96 - David Cook (R)
- HD 97 - Craig Goldman (R)
- HD 98 - Giovanni Capriglione (R)
- HD 99 - Charlie Geren (R)

- HD 100 - Venton Jones (D)*
- HD 101 - Chris Turner (D)
- HD 102 - Ana-Maria Ramos (D)
- HD 103 - Rafael Anchia (D)
- HD 104 - Jessica Gonzalez (D)
- HD 105 - Terry Meza (D)
- HD 106 - Jared Patterson (R)
- HD 107 - Victoria Neave (D)
- HD 108 - Morgan Meyer (R)
- HD 109 - Carl Sherman (D)
- HD 110 - Toni Rose (D)
- HD 111 - Yvonne Davis (D)
- HD 112 - Angie Chen Button (R)
- HD 113 - Rhetta Andrews Bowers (D)
- HD 114 - John Bryant (D)*
- HD 115 - Julie Johnson (D)

State Senate

- SD 2 - Bob Hall (R)
- SD 8 - Angela Paxton (R)
- SD 9 - Kelly Hancock (R)
- SD 10 - Phil King (R) †
- SD 12 - Tan Parker (R) †
- SD 16 - Nathan Johnson (D)
- SD 22 - Brian Birdwell (R)
- SD 23 - Royce West (D)
- SD 30 - Drew Springer (R)

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• denotes issue areas covered

* Newly Elected Freshman House Member | † First-Term Senator; Former State House Member