



The North Texas Commission formed the Regional Chamber Coalition (RCC) in 2018 to create an unified regional advocacy effort. Prior to the start of the 87th Regular Legislative Session, over 100 chambers of commerce met and identified key legislative priorities that will support growth of the North Texas economy, business competitiveness, local governments, water and infrastructure, health care systems, public schools, higher education, and workforce development. **Pro-business** priorities and positions (Support or Opposition) were selected. Along with the Commission's Advocacy team, nine Chambers have dedicated government relations professionals. These advocacy professionals led a specific legislative priority throughout the session. In addition to tracking bills and providing topic-specific information, we frequently communicated with our delegation to influence legislation.

The Accountability Index serves as a record of how the North Texas Delegation voted on each of the RCC's priority bills that reached the House and Senate for final consideration. The RCC appreciates the leadership of each of our 50 North Texas representatives and senators. The RCC will continue to advocate for legislation which is **pro-business** and makes Texas a more competitive state in terms of attracting and retaining talent, and we encourage our delegation members to take the same approach during the two special sessions.

PRIORITY BILLS

Maintain public school funding levels established in HB3 including full funding for high-quality pre-K and early childhood education for all eligible children.

SUPPORT: SB 1 and HB 1525

Maintain higher education formula funding from the 86th Session including restoring 5% mid-biennium cuts to higher education institutions.

SUPPORT: SB 1, HB 1530, and HB 3767

Maintain funding for the Skills Development Fund grants to improve workforce training including 60X30TX, the Texas Reskilling & Upskilling Through Education initiative, and continuing investment in SBDCs to support small businesses.

SUPPORT: SB 1102

Maintain all economic development tools available, reauthorizing Chapter 313 to enable Texas the ability to compete for major capital-intensive projects, fund the Texas Enterprise Fund, Event Trust Fund, Texas Tourism, the Texas Music Office, and the Texas Film Commission at levels that keeps Texas competitive with other states.

SUPPORT: HB 1556* and HB 4242

Support the reduction of the number of uninsured Texans by securing federal/state funds to reform and renew opportunities to broaden the net of coverage for the uninsured.

SUPPORT: HB 133, SB 117/HB 3871*, and SB 1 Amendment 54

Keep Texas open for business by ensuring all persons are welcome regardless of race, religion, or gender expression including supporting comprehensive non-discrimination policies.

SUPPORT: HB 3860*; OPPOSE: SB 29 and HB 4042

Support innovative financing tools that would leverage state funds to create jobs and expedite delivery of needed transportation and infrastructure projects as well as maintenance.

SUPPORT: HB 2219, HB 2905*, HB 3159*, HB 3160*, and HB 4420

Oppose any attempt to limit or prohibit the authority of city, county, and/or school district officials to use public funds to communicate with legislators and state agencies.

OPPOSE: SB 10 and HB 749*

Continue the exercise of equitable eminent domain to allow for construction of roads, pipelines, power transmission lines, rail, and water infrastructure.

OPPOSE: HB 3312* and HB 3633*

Developing plans and resources needed for greater broadband connectivity to enhanced access to public education, healthcare, employment, news, and information.

SUPPORT: HB 5

Additional RCC Priority Bills that impact the business climate and economic viability of the North Texas region.

SUPPORT: SB 3 (Power Grid Reform), SB 6 (Pandemic Reliability Act), and HB 1195 (PPP Tax Exemption)

OPPOSE: SB 19 (Prohibits Contracts with Companies that Discriminate Against Firearms) and SB 219 (Limits Civil Liability & Contract Negotiations)

* **Bill died in legislative process**

