

# 2025

## STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



## AREAS OF FOCUS

### Education and Workforce

Support additional funding for Texas public schools to meet the cost demands of inflation, teacher pay raises, enhanced school safety mandates, and full-day Pre-K. Oppose legislation that would result in a reduction of funding to public schools.

Support Texas community colleges through continued investments and updates to HB 8 (2023) and authorize eligible community colleges to offer additional bachelor's degrees in industry fields that demonstrate a strong workforce need.

Support increased access to affordable, high-quality childcare.

Support resources and pathways for reskilling and upskilling for in-demand occupations, including expanded access to certificates, microcredentials, or other credentials of value to meet the needs of Texas employers.

### Infrastructure

Support continued investment in the Texas electric grid to reliably meet the long-term affordable energy demands of businesses, consumers, and residents of our growing state.

Support the creation of a dedicated funding stream for water supply acquisition and water infrastructure to meet the state's long term water demand.

Support continued investment in transportation infrastructure and mobility for the safe and efficient movement of commerce and people across Texas.

Support funding for critical communications infrastructure such as Texas' cyber network security, emergency communications equipment, and radio modernization.

## Business Climate

Support balanced consideration for both businesses and individuals when pursuing tax relief for Texans.

Support the continued use and maintenance of economic development programs that enhance job growth and capital investment in Texas.

Support parity between members and non-members of mass transit authorities to access economic development tools while also addressing transportation needs.

Support renewal of the Research & Development Tax Credit.

## Local Government

Support local decision-making, policy implementation, resource allocation, etc. when appropriate, allowing communities to address unique needs with stronger local accountability, while recognizing the essential role of state government in providing an overarching framework for governance.

Support the ability of local governments to engage with government relations professionals and/or trade associations to communicate with state legislators or agencies.

## Health Care

Support expanded access to affordable, quality health care by expanding employer insurance options and with funding mechanisms such as local provider participation funds.

Support increased investment in community-based and hospital-based behavioral and mental health services.

Support addressing workforce shortages with an expanded health care talent pipeline and promoting workplace safety measures to protect against risks of violence in health care settings.