

The Legislative Study Group

An Official Caucus of the Texas House of Representatives

Representative

Desk

ARTICLE III - Amendment Floor Report for SB 1- Thursday, April 6, 2017		
Author	Analysis	Recommendation
Rep. Bernal P. 190 851032	This amendment increases funding for the Foundation School Program by the amount of \$3,750,000 for each year in the 2018-2019 fiscal biennium. It reduces funds appropriated from the Economic Stabilization Fund for Department of Public Safety for border security.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Lucio III P. 191-192 851029	Contingent upon passage of HB 2730 \$1,000,000 per each year of the 2018/19 fiscal biennium of General Revenue Funds to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for Agency Operations It reduces the funds appropriated for Technology/Instructional Materials from the State Instructional Materials Fund in fiscal year 2018 by \$2,000,000. HB 2730 grants the commissioner of education the authority to create career and technical credentials and certificates that may be earned through a career and technology education program. The bill also requires the TEA to conduct a study to identify unmet needs in career and technology education programs offered to public high school students. The intent is to enhance student competitiveness in the labor market and	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Cortez P. 193 851167	for the credentials or certificate to serve as an entry point for employment or a bridge to postsecondary education in the applicable field. This amendment reduces \$165,000,000 for each year of the 2018/19 fiscal biennium from the Economic Stabilization Fund appropriated under Article IX for the Department of Public Safety for border security. These funds would be re-appropriated under Article III for the Texas Education Agency to fund full day pre-kindergarten. Investing in Pre-K is a proven strategy for closing achievement gaps and improving educational outcomes, especially for economically disadvantaged children. The more exposure a child has to educational instruction, the greater the educational gains will be.	<u>Favorable</u>

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Rep. Dutton P. 194 850938	For the purpose of funding full-day prekindergarten, this amendment increases funding to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for Statewide Educational Programs by the amount of \$289,392,589 for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2018 and by the amount of \$289,392,588 for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2019. This amendment reduces the money appropriated from the Economic Stabilization Fund for the Department of Public Safety for border security by \$578,785,177.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Hinojosa P. 195 851140	This amendment proposes an increase in funding for Enhanced Prekindergarten Capacity (Rider 58) that is contingent on the closure of a state jail, prison, or transfer facility that is overseen by the Department of Criminal Justice. The increased amount would be equal to the amount the Department of Criminal Justice identifies as savings from that closure, and the general revenue appropriations to the Department of Criminal Justice would be reduced by the same amount.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Uresti P. 196 851230	This amendment, contingent on the passage of H.B. No. 2296, would appropriate \$180,000,000 out of the Economic Stabilization Fund to the Texas Education Agency in order to provide a more suitable teacher to student ratio for students with disabilities. Also, the appropriation from the Economic Stabilization Fund to the Department of Public Safety allotted for Border Security is to be reduced by \$180,000,000.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. King, K. P. 197 851076	This amendment limits the State Board of Education's ability to provide school districts enough funds for textbooks. It is an attempt to force the underfunded instructional materials allotment to be used for technology. Since 2011, when the legislature eliminated the technology allotment, school districts have not been adequately funding to pay for new technology, including technology infrastructure. This amendment is an infringement on the State Board of Education's authority. Under the Texas Constitution, Article 7 Sec. 3(b) "It shall be the duty o the State Board of Education to set aside a sufficient amount of available funds to provide free text books for the use of children attending the public free schools of this State."	<u>Unfavorable</u>
Rep. Lozano P. 198 850911	This amendment adds Support for Military and Veteran Exemptions as a new item to article III higher education appropriations by adding additional funding of \$20,000,000 for reimbursements for Hazlewood exemptions.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Leach P. 199 851125	This amendment requires local school districts to report to TEA on the cost of administering standardized tests. Between 1995 and 2015, it is estimated that the state of Texas spent an \$268 million on standardized testing.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. VanDeaver P 200 851335	This amendment designates \$8,697,824 for the 2018-19 biennium to item three of Rider 41; it strikes and substitutes the currently designated amount of \$6,000,000. Item 3 of Rider 41 is for grants to pay the tuition and fees for teachers who enroll in an online professional development course designed to provide mentoring and subject specific assistance.	<u>Favorable</u>

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Rep. Simmons P. 201 851274	This amendment decreases funding in the Contingency Rider for HB 21, the school finance bill, by \$10,000,000 and creates a Contingency Rider for HB 1335. HB 1335 creates an Education Savings Account Program for children with special needs and other educational disadvantages. While HB 1335 diverts taxpayer dollars away from many and gives it to few, HB 21 benefits everyone by taking the first step to remodel the state's outdated school finance system. HB 21 improves equity, reduces recapture, and increases the state's share of public education funding. This helps all public education students, including children with special needs and other educational disadvantages.	<u>Unfavorable</u>
Rep. Dale P. 202 851240	This amendment adds a rider that requires the TEA to use funds appropriated for Information Systems and Technology to develop and maintain a registry of persons who are not eligible to be employed by a school district, district of innovation, open enrollment charter school, regional education service center, or shared service arrangement. Ineligible persons must be listed in the registry based on current sections of the Education Code that use a person's criminal history record as a basis for ineligibility for employment by public schools. Concerns: • The amendment does not specify whether or not private schools have access to the registry or are required to participate in the registry. • The amendment does not specify how long a person remains on the registry or if there is an appeals process.	<u>Favorable With</u> <u>Concerns</u>
Rep. Walle P. 203 851173	This amendment inserts language into Rider No. 5, following the appropriations to TRS that would not allow the retirement system to increase premiums for retirees without LBB approval in a public hearing. This amendment seeks to create more oversight on the part of the LBB before making substantial changes in premium coverage for educators.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Reynolds P. 204 850900	This amendment proposes a Teacher Retirement System Health Benefits Plan study appropriated from the Teacher Retirement System budget pattern. Under this amendment, the Teacher Retirement System would conduct a study on cost effectiveness of implementing a group plan exchange for non-Medicare eligible retirees and retirees that are eligible for Medicare. This study may be contracted to entities with the necessary expertise to perform the analysis through a competitive bidding process. The findings of the study are to be reported to the Legislative Budget Board by March 1, 2018. This study would be beneficial in obtaining and collecting necessary information for TRS and will contribute insight into future legislative decisions based on the reported results.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Tinderholt P. 205 851341	This amendment would reduce appropriations from the general revenue fund by \$65,820,341 from the Higher Education Coordinating Board for Tuition Equalization Grants (Strategy C.1.4). The aforementioned appropriations would go toward the purchasing of 1,240 new state trooper vehicles to replace outdated vehicles in the Department of Public Safety. Although outdated DPS vehicles should be replaced, decreasing funds from Higher Education is irresponsible and an alternative funding source should be identified.	<u>Unfavorable</u>

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Rep. Blanco	This Amendment Removes the Texas Equalization Grants, and redirects those funds totaling \$182,6888,756 to the Permanent Fund Supporting	
P. 206 851268	Military and Veterans Exemptions. Texas Equalization Grants provide aid to students with financial need that attend private, nonprofit colleges and universities. Providing support for the military and veterans is important however, taking away TEG grants could be harmful to other striving students.	Will of the House
Rep. Springer P. 207 851117	This amendment will strike appropriations from Higher Education for Engineering Recruitment Program in Strategy E.1.3. It would reduce general revenue appropriations for Air Quality Assessment and Planning by the amount of \$175,000 for each fiscal year in the biennium. The amendment also strikes Granbury from areas listed within the Air Quality Planning under TCEQ's appropriation which is included because of its nonattainment status. The funds would go to increasing funds for the purposes of purchasing fuel and lubricants for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for \$425,000 for each fiscal year in 2018 and 2019.	<u>Unfavorable</u>
Rep. Alvarado P. 208 851089	This amendment requires higher education institutions that distribute student loans to provide individual loan debt information to each student with a loan. Students will be advised of their estimated total amounts of education loans they previously acquired including the principal and interest, the total payoff amount or a range for that amount, the monthly repayment amount they may incur, and the remaining percentage of the education loan borrowing limit they have applicable based on their dependency status and degree. It is critical that students are apprised about all of their student loan information in order to make fully informed financial decisions.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Arevalo P. 209 851086	This amendment strikes \$350,000 from the General Revenue Fund to Higher Education Coordinating Board for both FY 2018 and FY 2019. This amendment would provide loans to minority students who pursue a doctorate or master's degree who commit to pursue a doctorate degree for the purpose of increasing minority representation among the faculty and administration at public or private higher education institutions. These loans would be funded by reducing the Act from the General Revenue Fund for all programs and agencies totaling \$700,000 for the 2018-2019 biennium. This amendment would give much needed financial assistance to minority students with ambitions to attain a doctorate degree.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Howard P. 210 851148	This amendment requires the commissioner of education to study and provide a report on the efficiency and effectiveness of electronic instructional materials using funds appropriated to the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The amendment outlines specifics regarding the requirements of the study including a mandate of the study to consider the impact of demographics, geography, home internet access, and campus technical capabilities on the effectiveness and value of electronic instructional materials. The commissioner must also consult with representatives from several stakeholders including the State Board of Education, school technology personnel, and school curriculum departments. The intent is to equip policymakers and school districts with a report that uses metric and qualitative indicators to determine the educational value of electronic instructional materials so that they can distinguish between vendors and the effectiveness of certain products.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Dukes P. 211 851095	This amendment adds "emporium models" to be included as an intervention in the Developmental Education Program to assist underprepared students. Emporium models replace normal lectures provided by teachers with interactive technology programs. The emporium model is composed of personalized assistance, and full collaboration between students and teachers that allows the student to learn by doing instead of listening to someone talk.	<u>Favorable</u>

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Rep. Price P. 212 851129	This amendment adds a rider requiring the Higher Education Coordinating Board to apply for the National Health Service Corps State Loan Repayment Program the next time the grant process opens pending availability of funding. The board must apply for the maximum amount available depending on the availability of matching state funds.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Zerwas P. 213 850978	The amendment takes the \$500,000 funded for heart disease projects and combines it with the 2018-2019 biennium funding for the statewide stroke clinical research network at The University of Texas System resulting in \$4,500,000 in general revenue. Additionally, 3,000,000 from the University of Texas will be used to established a statewide Readiness Project, which is a program to create and deploy modular courses to improve student success. This amendment also moves \$200,000 from the Governor's University Research Initiative and appropriates those funds to Disaster Grants resulting in total revenue of \$15,200,000.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Landgraf P. 214 851205	This amendment moves appropriated funds from C.1.1. Strategy: Economic Development, and redirects them to the Special Item Support for The University of Texas Permian Basin adding an additional \$817,116 for fiscal year ending on August 31, 2018 and \$817,116 for fiscal year ending August 31, 2019.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Walle P. 215 851160	This amendment takes \$1,282,875 FY 2018 and \$1,282,875 FY 2019 appropriated out of the Economic Stabilization Fund and moves it to the University of Houston for the purpose of improving educational outcomes and expanding research and community engagement activities related to the Mexican American studies, Asian American studies, and the African American studies. Putting more money into different ethnic studies programs not only expands the academic study department but, increases the chances of scholarship and engagement opportunities in diversity.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Bonnen, G. P. 216-217 850986	For The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB-G), this amendment moves all appropriated funds from the "Provide Health Care Support" goal item to the "Provide Instructional and Operations Support" goal item. The amendment provides a funding formula based on the total number of Texas patients served in 2016 in trauma, primary care, diabetes, heart, psychiatry and telemedicine. It also establishes a rate per person of \$191.72 and a cap on growth in total funding based on the average growth in funding for Health-Related Institutions the Instruction and Operations formula for the current biennium.	Will of the House
Rep. Gutierrez P. 218 851013	This amendment reduces appropriations allocated to border security, under Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor, for sustaining year-round flight capacity for helicopters from the economic stabilization fund in the amount of \$2,500,000. If HB 2571 or similar legislation becomes law, this amount of \$2,500,000 is appropriated to the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio for the creation of a trauma-affected veterans clinical care and research center for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2017.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Gutierrez P. 219 850993	Contingent upon HB 2571, this amendment diverts \$1.25 million from community mental health crisis services in the Health and Human Services Commission to the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio for a research clinic relating to veterans and trauma. The Center already exists and provides clinical services to this population. Appropriations reduced in amount of \$1,250,000 for Strategy D.2.3, Community	Will of the House

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	Mental Health Crisis Services for state fiscal biennium beginning Sep/1/2017, and transferred to the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio to implement this legislation.	
Rep. Geren P. 220 850951	This is amendment is a contingency rider for HB 1913, and clarifies that no funds appropriated to the University of North Texas Health Sciences Center at Fort Worth will be used on costs associated with a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree program. The UNT Health Sciences center will begin awarding M.D. degrees in 2019. This program will be funded through tuition and fundraising, and is not requesting formula funding.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Perez P. 221 851252	This amendment strikes \$775,000 from the Economic Stabilization Fund for Border Security and moves it to the Lee College Prison Higher Education Program. This will give convicted individuals the chance to get an education and vocational training while being in prison so, they can get hands-on training before they finish serving their time. It will give them a better opportunity to seek employment after serving their time.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Stickland P. 222 851002	This amendment eliminates the state feral hog abatement program. The program gained notoriety in recent years when the state made it legal to shoot feral hogs from helicopters. Texas is home to 2.6 million feral hogs, the largest population in the U.S. according to the Texas Department of Agriculture. Commissioner Sid Miller recently approved using a poison known as warfarin, a blood thinner, to help take on what he called the "feral hog apocalypse." Feral hogs have been described as "four-legged fire ants" by Texas scientists, for their ability to cause economic troubles across Texas. The <i>Houston Chronicle</i> recently noted that feral hogs (1) cause \$10 million in damage to agriculture every year; (2) compete with Texas' native white-tailed deer; (3) wreck habitats for Texas turkey and quail; (4) spread rabies into Texas' water systems; and (5) can easily spread disease. Yet, unlike most other animals, Texas law allows feral hogs to be hunted year-round, creating an economy that thrives on hunting and killing approximately 750,000 feral hogs a year. Though the feral hog abatement program is often seen as a silly endeavor by the state, lawmakers should carefully consider the pros and cons of such a widespread industry.	Will of the House
Rep. Guillen P. 223 851192	This rider directs the Texas A&M Transportation institution to use appropriated funds to conduct a study on vehicle fleet management. Motor vehicle fleet management_includes a range of functions, such as vehicle financing, vehicle maintenance, vehicle telematics (tracking and diagnostics), driver management, speed management, fuel management and health and safety management. This study would examine the of cost-effectiveness of motor vehicle fleet management, which is essentially the use of agency vehicles. The results could be an indicator on whether it is worth investing in cars for state agencies.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Munoz Jr. P. 224 851026	This amendment reduces appropriations for DPS Border Security Officer 50-hour work week by \$72,800,000 and transfers it to Article III to fund each public institution of higher education distributed in equal amounts for strategies III-58 through III-238 relating to operations. DPS law enforcement officers deserve appropriate incomes to support themselves and their families, however policies should be equally developed to fund both these very important issues.	<u>Favorable</u>

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Rep. Arevalo P. 225 851084	This amendment mandates that the information contained in the "Woman's Right to Know" pamphlet must be medically accurate. This pamphlet is used to dissuade women from accessing abortion care and contains inaccurate medical information that misleads patients about risks associated with receiving abortion care. In order to make fully informed reproductive health care decisions, women should have access to unbiased and objective data.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Leach P. 226 851127	This amendment attempts to undo affirmative action policies at Texas' major universities. In 2016, the U.S. Supreme Court determined, in a 4-3 decision on Fisher v. University of Texas, that the university's affirmative action program was, in fact, constitutional. Given that ruling, it appears the amendment is asking legislators to adopt an unconstitutional provision to the state budget.	<u>Unfavorable</u>
Rep. Anderson P. 227-230 850958	This amendment would increase general revenue by \$350,000 per biennium to supplement transportation costs for certain school districts through a new rider entitled "Supplemental Transportation Funding". The Commission of Education would distribute the funds to school districts who meet certain bracketed requirements. The funds used to finance this amendment would be taken from Article VII, Strategy A.1.8, Mass Media Advertising Contracts.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Herrero P. 231 850970	This amendment prohibits the use of appropriated money for School Choice Programs by stating that the TEA shall not use funds to support a school voucher, education savings account, a tax credit scholarship program, or any program through which a child may use state money for nonpublic education. School Choice Programs drain taxpayer dollars from public schools that are already under-funded. This amendment prohibits them from doing that.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Cain P. 232 851087	This amendment establishes an education savings account contingent on the passage of a bill authorizing an education savings account program. An education savings account is essentially a voucher program designed to give away public funds to private schools, both religious and secular, that are not required to meet state academic and financial accountability requirements.	<u>Unfavorable</u>
Rep. VanDeaver P. 233 851338	This amendment prohibits appropriations to the Texas Education Agency for use in funding school choice programs. The Texas Education Agency would be prevented from allocating funds for school vouchers, education savings accounts, tax credit scholarship programs or any similar programs that allow a child to use state funds for a non-public education.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Howard P. 234 851161	This amendment requires the commissioner of education to study and provide a report on the efficiency and effectiveness of electronic instructional materials using funds appropriated to the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The amendment outlines specifics regarding the requirements of the study including a mandate of the study to consider the impact of demographics, geography, home internet access, and campus technical capabilities on the effectiveness and value of electronic instructional materials. The commissioner must also consult with representatives from several stakeholders including the State Board of Education, school technology personnel, and school curriculum departments. The intent is to equip policymakers and school districts with a report that uses metric and qualitative indicators to determine the educational value of electronic instructional materials so that they can distinguish between vendors and the effectiveness of certain products.	<u>Favorable</u>

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Rep. Herrero P. 235 851114	This amendment promotes equity by prohibiting the TEA from distributing funds to schools or instructional settings that are not subject to all the accountability measures, reporting requirements, and accreditation requirements applicable to a school district.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Bailes P. 236 851262	This amendment increases the transportation cost allotment within Rider 5 of the Texas Education Agency's budget by \$0.20 per mile for each density grouping. Density grouping is calculated based on the total number of students riding a mile of a route, with more populated routes receiving higher allotments. The amendment does not identify which strategy dollars for this increase would be drawn from, making it impossible to assess the impact on other funding formulas within the public education system. Given the lack of specificity in execution and effect, the LSG cannot endorse the amendment.	Will of the House
Rep. Lozano P. 237 850906	This amendment requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to consult with the Texas Workforce Commission and no later than December 1, 2018 report to the Governor and Legislature proposed standards that requiring approval to utilize the State Board of Education approved high school equivalency exam and its effectiveness in measuring college readiness and providing a pathway leading to more working adults earning postsecondary credentials in accordance with the Texas 60x30 goal.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Lozano P. 238 850905	This amendment states that by December 1, 2018 the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall report best practices on the implementation of innovative pricing techniques, programs that deliver digital learning systems created to reduce student costs, digital textbooks, maintain quality, and improve learning outcomes coinciding with the 60x30 goal to the Governor and the Legislature. Information included in this report shall consist of recommendations to the Legislature on how to facilitate the adoption of these best practices and institutions of higher education.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Canales P. 239 851004	This amendment requires private and independent colleges and universities that enroll students receiving Tuition Equalization Grant funds to be subject to the requirements regarding public information outlined by the Government Code in the same manner as public institutions of higher education. Increasing accountability for private institutions helps protect the privacy, safety, and best interests of their students.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Hinojosa P. 240 851155	This amendment appropriates any unexpected balances in the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education Grant Program that are on hand at the end of fiscal year 2018 back into the program for fiscal year 2019. It is essentially a technical fix that grants unexpended balance authority to the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education Grant Program.	<u>Favorable</u>
Rep. Alvarado P. 241 851091	This amendment stipulates that Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service Funds cannot be used for any action related to feral hog abatement that uses warfarin. Warfarin is a toxic and potentially dangerous substance that has not been scientifically studied and should not be used for feral hog abatement until a full study is conducted on potential environmental and public health risks.	<u>Favorable</u>

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Rep. Stickland P. 242 851012	This amendment repeals the Dream Act, a law that allows noncitizens, including some undocumented immigrants, to pay in-state tuition rates at public colleges if they can prove they've been Texas residents for at least three years and graduated from a Texas high school. It is a commonsense approach to ensure that young people who have grown up in Texas can access the education that Texas businesses need. The students targeted by this amendment were brought to the U.S. as children through no choice of their own, and maintaining their access to an affordable education benefits the state's economic success. Not allowing these students access to affordable higher education would reduce their ability to be more productive, earn more and contribute more in taxes.	<u>Unfavorable</u>
Rep. Bonnen, G. P. 243 850985	This amendment eliminates all occurrences of the label "institutional enhancement", and removes those corresponding appropriations. It also requires an adjustment in the weight per semester credit hour within General Academic Funding to increase the total appropriation attributed to the instruction and formula weight, weight components, and teaching experiencing supplements by \$110,000,000. By doing this funds are made available for Alternatives to Abortion in the amount of \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2018, and \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2019.	<u>Unfavorable</u>

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