



89TH

PRIORITIES FOR THE TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION

*Prioritizing the success of our students
& the strength of our community*

APRIL 11, NO. 7

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with the most current information on the 89th Legislative Session, as it relates to public education and CFISD's Legislative Priorities. Be sure to stay informed and engaged!

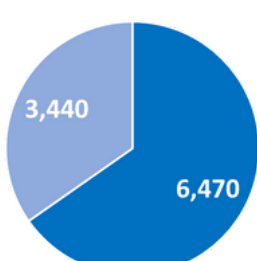


BILLS BY THE NUMBERS

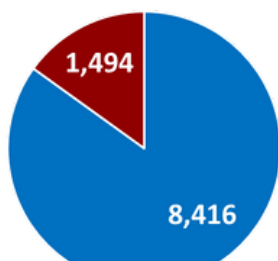
9,910
total bills filed

1,494
public education bills filed

■ House
■ Senate



■ Other
■ Education



BILLS TO WATCH

SENATE

- **SB 1 (Huffman): Budget** (passed House 4/11)
- **SB 568 (Bettencourt): Special Education** (passed Senate 4/8)
 - Expands TEA's authority to implement special education law and oversight of school districts
 - Transitions to intensity of services based funding
 - Charges the Commissioner with the establishment of seven tiers of intensity and four service groups and weights assigned to student counts inside each service group
 - Grants authority to the Commissioner to fund school districts for the next biennium
 - Establishes an allotment of \$500/student for initial full and individual evaluation
 - Doubles the CCMR bonus for special education students to \$4,000
 - Increases the special education transportation rate by \$0.13 per mile or a greater amount set by legislators
 - Establishes a grant to support the recruitment of special education staff
 - Reinstates autism and dyslexia grants
 - Aligns state law with federal requirements related to student eligibility for special education services
- **SB 571 (Hinojosa): Do Not Hire registry** (left pending Senate Ed. Committee 4/8)
 - Prohibits district contractors and subcontractors from using employees identified in the Do Not Hire registry to perform work at an instructional facility
- **SB 1224 (Sparks): Reporting of certain misconduct to law enforcement** (left pending Senate Ed. Committee 4/8)
 - Requires a superintendent or director to notify local law enforcement (not an ISD police department) not later than 48 hours after becoming aware that an educator is alleged to have engaged in certain types of misconduct
- **SB 1832 (Parker): Student transfers** (vote taken in Senate Ed. Committee 4/10)
 - Allows parents to elect for a student to be transferred to another school district campus or receive funding for the cost of a private school education if an employee is convicted or place on deferred adjudication for an offense committed against the student
- **SB 2392 (King): Reporting of certain offenses to law enforcement** (left pending Senate Ed. Committee 4/8)
 - Adds to the list of offenses that must be reported to law enforcement by the principal or designee
 - Sets a time limit of 72 hours
- **SB 747 (King): Defines cyberbullying and placement** (vote taken in Senate Ed. Committee 4/10)
 - Expands the definition of "cyberbullying" to include producing and distributing videos or images that depict, or appear to depict, another student's intimate parts exposed, or another student engaged in sexual conduct
 - Requires school districts to adopt a policy to address the misconduct
 - Misconduct includes video or image created through the use of AI
 - Clarifies a student may be disciplined for misconduct



Senate Ed. K-16 Committee hearing - 4/10/25



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HOUSE

- **HB 367 (Rosenthal): Excused absences for serious illness** (left pending House Pub. Ed. Committee 4/8)
 - Provides for use of a district-developed form for excusing student attendance due to a serious or life-threatening illness
- **HB 497 (Patterson): Parental consent for behavioral/mental health treatment** (left pending House Pub. Ed. Committee 4/8)
 - Requires written parental consent before providing behavioral/mental health service, including contraceptives and information on family planning, human sexuality, or mental health
- **HB 1368 (Jones, Venton): Parent notification if no nurse, counselor, or librarian** (left pending House Pub. Ed. Committee 4/8)
 - Requires parental notification when a full-time nurse, school counselor, or librarian is not assigned at a school for more than 30 consecutive days
- **HB 2243 (Oliverson): Texas Commission on Teacher Job Satisfaction and Retention** (left pending House Pub. Ed. Committee 4/8)
 - Establishes a commission to study and deliver a report by 12/31/26 to recommend statutory changes to improve teacher satisfaction and retention
- **HB 2849 (Allen): Recess period in public schools** (left pending House Pub. Ed. Committee 4/8)
 - Requires development of a model recess policy with review/revision every 5 years



House Public Ed. Committee hearing - 4/10/25

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, April 15 - 8:00 a.m.

- House Public Education Committee Hearing: [watch livestream](#).
 - **HB 1178 (Cunningham)**: creation of a temporary educator certificate for educators certified by other states
 - **HB 1411 (Allen)**: use of personal leave during school holidays by certain school district employees
 - **HB 1441 (Plesa)**: model training curriculum for school district peace officers and school resource officers
 - **HB 1773 (Bhojani)**: allows the board of trustees of certain school districts to create a nonvoting student trustee position on the board
 - **HB 1813 (Bucy)**: parental right to information concerning a public school special education program and due process hearings
 - **HB 2107 (Fairly)**: training requirements for public school educators
 - **HB 2598 (Button)**: school psychologist licensed under the Occupations Code
 - **HB 2911 (Frank)**: participation in the uniform group coverage program for active school employees and additional state aid for public schools that do not participate in that program
 - **HB 2967 (Dutton)**: vision screenings for students
 - **HB 3672 (Ashby)**: creation of an extracurricular community education grant
 - **HB 5263 (Geren)**: accessibility of results from the state assessment.
 - **HB 3797 (Ashby)**: terminology used to refer to certain assessment instruments



CFISD LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- Fully fund school districts that offer a Local Optional Homestead Exemption (LOHE).
- Increase the School Safety Allotment.
- Increase the Special Education Allotment.
- Increase the Transportation Allotment.

View additional details on the CFISD Legislative Priorities at: www.cfisd.net/89leg

The legislative priorities were researched and developed by the CFISD Board of Trustees.

WHO REPRESENTS ME?

- Utilize the Texas Legislature's helpful "Who Represents Me?" web tool to enter your address and find out which lawmakers serve you.
- Access and save their contact information so you can easily reach out about key issues during the legislative session.
- Scan the QR code to access this tool.



If you would like to be added to the distribution list for CFISD legislative SMS (text) alerts, please text @cfisdleg to 81010.



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CFISD AT THE CAPITOL



*Justin Ray (CFISD Board Secretary)
& Rep. Mano DeAyala*



*Dr. Killian (CFISD Superintendent) &
Carter Moxley (Rep. Schofield's legislative director)*



Tuesday, April 10, 2025



Teresa Hull (CFISD Chief of Staff) & Dr. Killian



Justin Ray & Rep. Valoree Swanson

COMMUNICATION TIPS

89th Legislative Session

Stay connected and let your voice be heard on issues affecting public education.

1 Log on to Texas Legislature Online capitol.texas.gov

The screenshot shows the Texas Legislature Online website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs: Home, My TLO, House, Senate, Legislation, Search, Committees, and Calendars. Below this, there's a search bar with a dropdown menu for the legislative session (89th - 2023) and a search button. The main content area is divided into sections: Texas House, Texas Senate, and My TLO. The Texas House section includes links to Home, Speaker of the House, Members, Committees, Committee Meetings, Committee Witnesses, Calendars, Current Amendment, Journals, News, House Research Organization, and Kids' House. The Texas Senate section includes links to Home, Lieutenant Governor, Members, Committees, Committee Meetings, Calendars, Journals, News, Senate Research Center, and Senate Kids. The My TLO section includes links to Track Legislation With Bill Lists, Receive Bill and Meeting Alerts, Subscribe to RSS Feeds, View Content on Mobile Device, and Saved Bill, Text, Amendment Searches. There are also links to Related Links, Legislative Reference Library, County | State | Federal | Awards, and a section for Access Mobile Version of TLO.

- Create an account by locating the **Login** tab on the home page. Track specific bills and receive alerts when action is taken.
- Find out who represents you by submitting your address.

The screenshot shows the Texas House of Representatives website. The top navigation bar includes: Members, Committees, Broadcast Events, Research, Resources, Schedules, Help, and About. Below this, there's a search bar and a link to Accessibility Policy / Privacy Policy. The main content area is divided into sections: Profile, Biography, Legislation, Committees, Newsletters, Media, and Contact. The Profile section is selected, showing the profile of Rep. Harless, Sam - District 126. The profile includes a photo, a bio, and contact information. The contact information includes the Capitol Address (Room 22.810, P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768, (512) 463-0496, (512) 463-1507 Fax), the District Address (15900 Stuebner Airline Rd., Spring, TX 77379, (281) 251-0194), and an Email button. There are also links to Bills Authored/Sponsored, District 126 Analyses, and Counties Represented.

- Select your representative and locate email button to send message.
- Be sure to include in the message whether or not you support the specific bill you are addressing.

2 Access the TLO mobile site

The screenshot shows the Texas Legislature Online mobile site. The top navigation bar includes: Home, My TLO, House, Senate, Legislation, Search, Committees, and Calendars. Below this, there's a search bar and a link to Accessibility Policy / Privacy Policy. The main content area is divided into sections: Session Times, Calendars, Committee Schedules, Committee Requests for Information, House Witness Registration, Committees, Members, and Bill Lookup. Each section has a link to the corresponding page.

- Enter www.txlegis.com into your mobile device browser for a mobile-friendly version of the website

3 Share info with your contact groups statewide via email and social media.

When sharing info, remember to:

- Encourage others to contact legislators.
- Follow up and stay in touch.
- Be brief and be informed.
- Provide talking points.
- Stay focused and give examples.

KEEP IN MIND

Legislators review ALL communication submitted to them by their constituents and look for the “Yays” and “Nays” of each bill.

