



The Texas Legislature adjourned on June 2, ending the 89th Legislative Session. Governor Abbott had until June 22 to sign, veto, or allow bills passed during session to become law. Following are brief bill summaries by department/topic; however further evaluation is needed to determine each bill's impact. Use the following quick links to quickly move to a section of interest.

-  indicates bills of greater magnitude.
- NISD Coauthors/Sponsors note our local NISD representatives who signed onto the bill (if they authored the bill, it is in bold as part of the bill title).
- To read the full bill, click on the bill link, select the "Text" tab, and review the "Enrolled" (aka passed) version of the bill.

Bills of Interest Quick Reference

Ctrl+ click on a category below to jump to that section.

Curriculum & School Management

- ACCOUNTABILITY & ASSESSMENT
- CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & CTE
- ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE
- EXTRACURRICULAR AND UIL
- PRE-KINDERGARTEN
- SCHOOL OPERATIONS
- STUDENT SERVICES
- STUDENT HEALTH

- ELECTION RELATED
- FINANCE
- FINANCE, FACILITIES, AND BOND
- LEGAL
- OPERATIONS RELATED
- SCHOOL SAFETY
- STAFF RELATED
- TRUSTEE RELATED
- TRUSTEE, BOARD POLICIES
- TAX RELATED
- VOUCHERS
- OTHER

Curriculum & School Operations

Accountability & Assessment

[SB 1418](#) – Campbell – PreACT Name Update

- Relating to the terminology used to refer to certain assessment instruments administered to public school students.
- Replaces "ACT-Plan" with "PreACT" to align with revised name.
- Includes the PreACT when evaluating the performance of students for the purpose of academic distinction designations concerning postsecondary readiness.



- **Effective Immediately.**
- Signed by the Governor 5.27.25

SB 2786 – Creighton – TSI Exemptions

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to the exemption from the assessment requirements of the Texas Success Initiative for certain students who are public officers or employees.
- Exempts certain students from assessment requirements under the Texas Success Initiative: certified EMT employed by a political subdivision; fire protection personnel; elected, appointed or employed to serve as peace officer.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

Curriculum, Instruction, & CTE

See also **HB 2 – Buckley – Public School Funding (Finance Section)**

SB 25 – Kolkhorst – Nutrition Guidelines, TEKS Nutrition, & PE/Recess

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker, Little

- Relating to health and nutrition standards to promote healthy living.
- Prohibits educators from disciplining students by taking away recess or PE in grades PK
- -8.
- Requires districts to provide elective course in nutrition and wellness that can be a one-half elective credit, effective 2027-2028 school year.
- Creates a Texas Nutrition Advisory Committee to develop nutritional guidelines for Texans to promote healthy living.
- Food labeling requirements “ingredients deemed not recommended for human consumption...” in other countries.
- Requires health TEKS in grades K-8 to include nutrition instruction based on Texas Nutrition Advisory Committee beginning 2027-2028 school year.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Sent to Governor 6.1.25; signed by House 6.1.25; Signed by Senate 5.31.25; Senate concurred with House’s amendments 5.28.25.

HB 20 – Gates – Applied Science Pathway

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner, Capriglione, Geren, Hayes, Hopper, Little, Schatzline

- Relating to establishing the Applied Sciences Pathway program.
- Requires Commissioner to establish Applied Science Pathway program and approve program partnerships between school districts and institutions of higher education for industries (plumbing, electrical, welding, carpentry, etc.).
- **Effective immediately.**
- Sent to Governor 6.2.25.

HB 27 – King – Personal Financial Literacy Course

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Geren, Hayes, Parker

- Relating to courses in personal financial literacy for high school students in public schools.

- Replaces economics or combo personal financial literacy/economics with half credit if personal financial literacy course.
- Adds full-credit economics course to world geography and world history.
- Applies to students entering 9th grade in 2026-2027 or later.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

HB 100 – Leo Wilson – Instructional Materials

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner, Hayes, Hopper, Little

- Relating to the purchase, adoption, and use of instructional materials by public schools.
- Prevents districts from adopting or using materials on a list of instructional materials rejected by SBOE.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Signed by Senate 6.1.25; Signed by House 5.31.25; House concurred with Senate's amendments 5.29.25.

HB 120 – Keith Bell – Career and Tech

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hancock

- Relating to college, career, and military readiness in public schools, including career and technology education programs, the Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST) program, and the Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership (R-PEP) program, funding for those programs under the Foundation School Program, and workforce reporting to support those programs, to the public school accountability system, and to the new instructional facility allotment and the permissible uses of funding under the Foundation School Program.
- Requires board to submit an annual report on CCMR to TEA and LBB and requires board to approve the annual CCMR plan and to post the report online for 2 weeks prior to the vote.
- **Effective for the 2025-2026 school year.**
- Sent to Governor 6.1.25.

HB 322 – Guillen – Jobs and Education for Texans Grant

- Relating to the use of funds awarded under the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program.
- Includes funding for acquisition, implementation and ongoing maintenance of technology necessary to support programs.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Sent to Governor 5.30.25

HB 824 – Jones – Civics Instruction

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner, Schatzline

- Relating to the inclusion of civics instruction in public school government curriculum requirements for high school students.
- Requires SBOE to adopt social studies TEKS that includes role of government officials, voting process and election laws, eligibility requirements to run for office, Robert's Rules of Order, and officials who represent at each level of government.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

HB 5515 – Buckley – Instructional Materials Shipping Costs

- Relating to restrictions on freight and shipping costs included in the price of instructional materials for public schools.

- Prohibits publishers or manufacturers of instructional materials from charging a freight or shipping cost that exceeds the actual cost of delivering the material or includes a handling charge that is not directly related to the shipment of physical copies of the materials.
- Sent to Governor 5.26.25.

SB 24 – Campbell – Social Studies TEKS, Communist Regimes and Ideologies

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to the inclusion of an understanding of communist regimes and ideologies in the essential knowledge and skills for the social studies curriculum for certain public school students.
- Requires the State Board of Education to adopt TEKS for grades 4-12 social studies that develops students' understanding of communist regimes and ideologies, and includes age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate instruction.
- Effective for 2026-2027 school year.
- Sent to the Governor 5.27.25.

SB 519 – Middleton – History Engagement Grant

- Relating to the creation of a grant program to promote educational engagement with Texas history.
- Requires the Texas Historical Commission to create and administer a grant program to promote educational engagement with the history of Texas. The grants would be awarded annually to nonprofit entities that host a statewide Texas history competition for school-aged students and that publish works on Texas history written by students or faculty members.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

SB 569 – Bettencourt – Virtual Education

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to the provision of virtual education in public schools and to certain waivers and modifications by the commissioner of education to the method of calculating daily average attendance.
- Repeals the State Virtual Schools Network and replaces it with the ability for schools to provide hybrid or virtual courses, including full-time programs of hybrid or virtual courses.
- Requires school districts to allow students enrolled in full-time or hybrid courses or programs to participate in extracurricular and UIL activities.
- Provides funding for students enrolled in hybrid or virtual courses or programs in the same manner as if the student was attending in-person courses full-time.
- Allows school districts to charge tuition and fees for out-of-state students or students who are not enrolled in the district to receive a virtual or hybrid course.
- Allows school districts to create virtual or hybrid campuses to provide full-time programs and sets requirements for such campuses.
- Sets specific requirements for student eligibility to enroll in virtual or hybrid programs.
- Requires school districts to consider the appropriateness and feasibility of enrolling a student in a virtual or hybrid program or campus as an alternative to expulsion except in the case of certain violent offenses.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Signed by Governor 5.6.25; House passed 4.17.25; Senate passed 3.13.25.

See also [SB 865](#) – Alvarado – CPR Training for Athletic Trainers (Student Services section)

[SB 1207](#) – P. King – Health Curriculum, Adoption included in Parenting and Paternity Program

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker, Hopper

- Relating to instruction on adoption in the parenting and paternity awareness program in public schools.
- Requires the SBOE parenting and paternity awareness program that a school must use in its high school health curriculum and may use in its middle school curriculum to include information related to adoption, including information specified in the bill.
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

[SB 2314](#) – Creighton – My Texas Future

- Requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to create, maintain, and administer, as a direct admissions and financial aid portal, an electronic platform and submission portal, known as My Texas Future (MyTexasFuture.Org), to facilitate the awareness and application of public high school students into institutions of higher education.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Signed by the Governor 5.19.25.

Enrollment and Attendance

[HB 367](#) – Rosenthal – Excused Absence, Life Threatening Illness

- Relating to verification of excused absences from public school for students with severe or life-threatening illnesses.
- Sent to Governor 5.30.25

[HB 2495](#) – Dutton – Sole Managing Conservator and School Enrollment

- Relating to certain rights of the sole managing conservator of a child in relation to the child's enrollment in school.
- Allows a parent, non-parent, licensed child placing agency, or the Department of Family and Protective Services appointed as sole managing conservator the right to designate the school a child will attend and to enroll the child.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

[HB 2757](#) – Frank – Admission Age, Military Children

- Relating to a public school policy for establishing age for purposes of admission into the school for certain children of foreign military members.
- Board may adopt policy to allow active-duty member stationed in Texas to establish age for purposes of school enrollment by demonstrating the child will turn the required age during the school year.
- Intent is to support visiting allied military service members by ensuring their children do not suffer education delays as a result of differences in Texas school enrollment age.

- Applies beginning with 2025-2026 school year.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

SB 207 – Paxton – Excused Absence, Mental Health Appointment

- Relating to excused absences from public school for certain students to attend mental health care appointments.
- Requires a school district to excuse a student from attending school for a temporary absence resulting from an appointment with a mental health professional for the student or the student's child if the student commenced classes or returned to school on the same day of the appointment.
- **Effective immediately, applies beginning with the 2025-26 school year.**
- Signed by the Governor 5.30.25.

SB 226 – West – Parental Child Safety Placement and School Enrollment

- Relating to establishing residency for children who are the subject of parental child safety placement agreements for purposes of admission into public schools.
- Requires a parental child safety placement agreement to include a letter from the Department of Family and Protective Services that contains the child's residence address during the placement. The bill prescribes specific language for the letter, including that the letter serves as proof of residence for the purposes of public school admission.
- Sent to the Governor 5.27.25.

SB 991 – Bettencourt – Chronic Absenteeism

- Relates to the inclusion of chronically absent students and truant students as students at risk of dropping out of school and the collection and reporting of data regarding those.
- It defines a "chronically absent student" as a student who was absent from school for more than 10 percent of the school's required operation and instructional time within a school year or an enrollment period that exceeded 30 instructional days.
- Adds students who are chronically absent and students who fail to attend school without excuses for 10 or more days to the definition of students at risk of dropping out of school for the purposes of compensatory, intensive and accelerated instructions.
- Requires districts to report whether students who are absent for 10 or more days within a six-month period are receiving compensatory, intensive or accelerated instructional services.
- Requires district to report the number of chronically absent students enrolled at each campus and whether the students are receiving compensatory, intensive, or accelerated instructional services.
- Requires TEA to annually publish data for each campus and district.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Sent to the Governor 5.22.25.

SB 1049 – King – Excused Absence, Religious Instruction

- Relating to excused absences from public school for the purpose of attending a released time course.
- Requires districts to excuse absence for students to attend a course in religious instruction for at least 1, but no more than 5 hours per week, upon the request of a parent.

- Specifies what must be included in the policy: written consent, entity to maintain attendance records.
- **Requires district to adopt a policy excusing such absences by January 1, 2026.**
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

Extracurricular and UIL

SB 401 – Paxton – Non-Enrolled Student UIL Participation, Board Policy

- Relating to participation by non-enrolled students in University Interscholastic League-sponsored activities.
- Requires, rather than allows, a public school to provide an otherwise eligible, non-enrolled student the opportunity to participate in UIL activity on behalf of the school, unless the applicable school district board or the governing body of a charter school adopted a policy declining to grant the opportunity to participate.
- Sent to the Governor 5.30.25.

See also **SB 865 – Alvarado – CPR Training, Athletic Trainer, Athletic/Cheer Coach, Band, Sponsor,**

SB 2929 – Creighton – Ejecting Spectators, Verbal Warning

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to the removal of a spectator of certain school extracurricular athletic activities or competitions.
- Allows referees, judges, and other officials at school extracurricular athletic activities to eject spectators without first issuing a verbal warning.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Signed by the Governor 5.27.25.

Pre–Kindergarten

HB 117 – Schoolcraft – Early Childhood Education Taskforce

- Relating to the establishment of the governor's task force on the governance of early childhood education and care.
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

School Operations

HB 6 – Leach – Student Discipline

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner, Capriglione, Geren, Hopper, Schatzline, Hancock

- Relating to discipline in public schools.
- Detailed bill – further review needed for more information.

- Key Components: Expands schools' disciplinary authority; Authorizes student access to tele-mental health; Creates statewide discipline standards framework.
- Allows teachers to remove students from class if they repeatedly interfere with the teacher's ability to communicate with the students or students' ability to learn, if student demonstrates behavior that is unruly, disruptive, or abusive toward another, or if the student engages in bullying.
- Requires written consent of teacher or a return to class plan to return a student to the teacher's classroom.
- Clarifies that the three-day limit on suspension applies only to out-of-school suspension.
- Expands the reasons for which students below third grade can be placed in out of school suspension to include conduct that threatens immediate health and safety of other students in the classroom or conduct that results in repeated or significant disruption to the classroom.
- Allows districts to place expelled students in virtual expulsion program.
- Requires a single person at each campus to be designated to serve as campus behavior coordinator; allows additional staff to assist in those duties provided campus behavior coordinator personally verifies all school discipline provisions are fully implemented.
- Prevents any portion of Chapter 37 (discipline code) from being exempted in a district of innovation plan (note campus behavior coordinator requirement).
- Allows school boards to adopt a policy for parental involvement in school disciplinary placements.
- Requires a placement of a student in DAEP for harassment of a school employee or volunteer regardless of whether the offences occurred on school property or at a school related activity.
- Removes the requirement to place students in DAEP for an e-cigarette.
- **Effective immediately for the 2025-2026 school year.**
- Sent to Governor 6.2.25; House concurred with Senate's changes; bill is heading to the Governor; referred to Public Ed Committee 2.25.25.

► **HB 1481 – Fairly – Cell Phones**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner, Geren, Hayes, Schatzline, Parker

- Relating to school district and open-enrollment charter school policies regarding student use of personal communication devices.
- **Requires board to adopt policy within 90 days of effective date.**
- Requires boards to adopt and implement policy prohibiting students from using devices while on school property during the school day and requires the policy to include disciplinary measures. Allows policy to prohibit students from bringing device on school property. Allows policy to designate a method for storing the device. Allows policy to include provisions for disposing of a confiscated device after having notified child's parent/guardian with 90-day written notice. Requires policy to allow use of a device if necessary to implement IEP or Section 504 plan or for health and safety requirement.
- Effective immediately.
- Sent to Governor 5.28.25, passed in Senate 5.25.25.

► **SB 10 – King – 10 Commandments**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hancock, Parker, Bumgarner, Capriglione, Hayes, Hopper, Little, Schatzline

- Relating to the display of the Ten Commandments in public school classrooms.
- Requires every public school classroom to display Ten Commandments (KJV) if posters or framed copies that comply with requirements are donated.

- Durable poster or framed copy must be at least 16 inches and 20 inches tall and has to include only the text of the Ten Commandments in a size and typeface legible to a person with average vision from anywhere in the classroom.
- Effective September 1 if signed by Gov.
- Sent to Governor June 1, Senate concurred 5.28.25; passed by House 5.25.25.

► **SB 11 - Middleton – Prayer and Religious Reading**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hancock, Parker, Hayes, Hopper, Little

- Relating to a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text in public schools.
- Allows prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text in schools.
- Requires school boards to vote on a Resolution adopting a policy that would provide a daily period for prayer and reading of religious texts; within six months from effective date (**March 1, 2026**).
- If policy is adopted, specifies what must be included and /or prohibited.
- Voluntary consideration for both students and employees; allows employee or parent to revoke consent and no longer participate.
- Sent to Governor 5.27.25; House passed 5.23.25; Senate passed 3.18.25.

► **SB 12 – Creighton – Parental Rights**

- Relating to parental rights in public education, to certain public school requirements and prohibitions regarding instruction, diversity, equity, and inclusion duties, and social transitioning, and to student clubs at public schools.
- Detailed bill – further review needed for more information.
- Bans DEI. Schools are prohibited from assigning DEI duties; DEI programming is restricted.
- Requires districts to adopt policies and procedures, including discipline for any employee or contractor who intentionally or knowingly violates the DEI prohibitions.
- Bans student clubs based on sexual orientation or gender identity.
- Requires districts to report facility usage – square footage, capacity, enrollment, what each facility is used for.
- Requires districts to update Trustee information on website within 30 days; requires districts to submit trustee information to TEA.
- Requires districts to post notice on homepage of website that parents are entitled to review teaching and instructional materials.
- Requires teachers to provide instructional plan or course syllabus to district admin and parents.
- Requires districts to adopt policy for parental engagement that provides portal through which parents may submit comments to campus or district administrators and the board; requires board to prioritize public comments by placing at beginning of each board meeting and requires board meeting to be held outside of work hours.
- Requires districts to provide notice of each health-related service offered at school and the parent's right to withhold consent **prior to the first instructional day of the year**.
- Requires districts to provide a copy of and receive parental consent to administer any well-being or health screening.
- Includes many changes to grievance procedures and policies. Requires a hearing before the board within 60 days after the date the previous decision was made and a decision within 30 days of the meeting. Requires districts to issue decisions on the merits regardless of procedural errors. Must report grievances received and the results of those grievances.

- Requires district to provide at least two opportunities for in-person conferences each school year.
- Addresses parental access to curriculum, library materials, medical records, test scores and attendance records.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- House and Senate signed 6.2.25; House and Senate approved conference committee report 5.31.25.

► **SB 13 – Paxton – Library Books and Library Advisory Council**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hancock, Parker

- Relating to a school district's library materials and catalog, the establishment of local school library advisory councils, and parental rights regarding public school library catalogs and access by the parent's child to library materials.
- Prohibits materials that include indecent or profane content and defines terms.
- Requires parental access to library material catalogs, ability for parents to limit child's access to materials (parents can submit list of materials their child cannot check out).
- Allows schools to establish a local school advisory council to make recommendations, policies, and procedures. Requires establishment if requested by either 50 parents (or 10% of district's students, whichever is lesser). Provides council specifications. Majority of parents must be non-school-employee parents. Requires 72-hour notice for posting meetings, minutes (vote, order, decision, action), and video or audio recording of each meeting.
- Requires school boards to consider recommendations of the local school library council regarding library material, policies or guidelines related to library catalogs. Requires board to approve all library materials (donated or purchased) after the list has been accessible for public review for at least 30 days. Don't have to get board approval if same ISPN.
- Details process for challenging library material. Requires board to take action at first open meeting held after the 90th day on which the challenge was received. Requires board to notify each teacher of any removed books and direct them to remove the title from classroom libraries.
- Allows establishment of library material review committee, if recommended by library advisory council and approved by the board, to review challenged materials.
- **Requires policy updates for acquisition of library materials to be complete before the first day of 2025-2026 school year.**
- House and Senate signed 6.2.25; House and Senate approved conference committee report 5.31.25.

See also SB 204 – Paxton – Parents Rights Handbook and Board Training (Trustee Related section)

SB 326 – King – Antisemitism

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker, Capriglione

- Relating to the procedure for determining whether a student's violation of a public school's or public institution of higher education's student code of conduct was motivated by antisemitism.
- Defines antisemitism as that established in the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission.
- Requires district to use this definition of antisemitism when considering disciplinary action against a student that violates the student code of conduct and that may have been motivated by antisemitism.

- **Applies beginning with 2025-2026 school year.**
- Sent to Governor 6.2.25; passed House 4.30.25, passed Senate 4.14.25.

SB 1191 – Creighton – GPA Computation

- Relating to the development of a standard method of computing a student's high school grade point average.
- Requires creation of standard method for GPA computation that provides equal weight to AP, IB, and dual credit courses.
- Signed by House 6.1.25; Signed by Senate 5.31.25; Senate concurred with House's amendments 5.30.25.

SB 1316 – Cook – E-Cigarette Advertising

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to a prohibition on e-cigarette advertising in certain locations.
- Prohibits the advertising of e-cigarettes closer than 1,000 feet of a school.
- Effective September 1, 2025.
- Signed by Governor 5.21.25.

See also **SB 1621 – Huffman and Parker – Sexually Explicit Visual Material, School Library (Staff Related section)**

Student Services

► See also **HB 121 – King – School Safety Threat Assessment Teams (School Safety section)**

► **SB 568 – Bettencourt – Special Education and Funding**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to special education in public schools, including funding for special education under the Foundation School Program.
- More bill analysis needed.
- State education agency shall develop and revise a comprehensive system to ensure local compliance related to special education law.
- The agency shall adopt performance indicators for measuring quality of learning and achievement for students receiving special education services. Must include CCMR readiness outcomes.
- Includes annual meeting requirement for school board to discuss the performance of students receiving special education services.
- Creates a grant program for students with autism.
- Senate reported enrolled 6.2.25; House adopts conf committee 6.1.25; Referred to Education K-16.

HB 1188 – Manuel – ARD Meetings and Service Benefits Information

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner

- Relating to the referral of certain students receiving special education services to a local intellectual and developmental disability authority for services or public benefits. Requires

school districts to provide information regarding services and public benefits provided by the local intellectual and developmental disability authority for the county to the parent of a student with an intellectual disability or developmental delay at the first ARD meeting.

- Effective Immediately.
- Signed by the Governor 5.29.25; sent to Governor 5.20.25.

HB 2310 – Ordaz – Early Learning for Young Children with Disabilities

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to developing a strategic plan for the improvement and expansion of early learning and educational opportunities for young children with disabilities.
- Requires TEA and Health and Human Services Commission and Workforce Commission to develop and implement a strategic plan to improve early learning and educational opportunities for young children with disabilities or developmental delays.
- Sent to Governor 5.28.25.

HB 2598 – Button – School Psychologist

- Relating to a school psychologist licensed under the Occupations Code. Changes the name of “Licensed Specialist in School Psychology” to “School Psychologist”.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

See also **SB 57 – Zaffirini – Mandatory School Drills & IEP/504 Accommodations (Safety and Security)**

SB 1952 – Paxton – Health & Human Services, SHARS

- Relating to the administration and operation of the school health and related services program.
- Requires HHSC to oversee the participation of local education agencies as SHARS program providers, including administering provider training and providing information and guidance regarding the program to those providers, including applicable federal and state regulatory requirements.
- Effective immediately.
- Sent to the Governor 5.22.25.

SB 2398 – Campbell – Concussion/Brain Injury Accommodations

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to certain policies and procedures related to concussions or other brain injuries sustained by public school students.
- Requires TEA to: develop a list of nonmedical academic accommodations a public school district may offer to a student diagnosed with a concussion or other brain injury; develop a form for use by districts describing the accommodations a district may offer; and make the form available on TEA’s website for use by districts, district educators or administrators, students, and parents or guardians.
- Requires districts to adopt and implement policies regarding how to respond to a concussion sustained by a student while on school property or at a school activity, other than athletics. Policy must provide for immediate removal of the student from the activity, notice to the parent, and student’s return to activity after completion of concussion protocol.
- **Effective for 2025-2026 school year.**

- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

Student Health

► See also [HB 6](#) – Leach – Student Discipline (School Operations Section) – Student Access to Tele-Mental Health

[HB 163](#) – Cortez – Epinephrine Auto-Injector

- Relating to the possession and administration of an epinephrine auto-injector by certain entities.
- Broadens health and safety code to allow Texas entities to adopt policy regarding epinephrine.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

[HB 549](#) – Vasut – Airway Clearance Device

- Relating to the availability and use of airway clearance devices at public school campuses.
- Sent to Governor 6.2.25.

[HB 1586](#) – Hull (and Capriglione) – Immunizations

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner, Hayes, Hopper, Little

- Relating to an exemption from required immunizations for school enrollment.
- Requires department of state health to modify blank affidavit form for immunizations exemptions, removing requirement that it includes a seal or security device; requires the form be available on the department's website.
- Sent to Governor 5.28.25.

[SB 865](#) – Alvarado – CPR Training

- Adds CPR training and certification to provisions requiring each school nurse, assistant school nurse, athletic coach or sponsor, physical education instructor, marching band director, cheerleading coach, and any other school employee specified by the commissioner of education and each student who served as an athletic trainer to participate in the instruction of and receive and maintain certification in the use of an automated external defibrillator.
- Requires districts to establish and implement a cardiac emergency response plan; district must work with local emergency service providers to integrate the plan with the providers' protocols; specifies what must be included in the plan.
- Requires cardiac emergency response plans to be implemented by first instructional day of 2027-2028 school year.
- Sent to the Governor 6.2.25.

[SB 920](#) – Sparks – Administration of Nonprescription Medication

- Relating to the administration of nonprescription medications to certain public and private school students.
- Allows a school district, charter school, or private school to adopt a policy permitting an employee, including a nurse, to administer nonprescription medication to a student without

further authorization or written protocol from the student's health care provider under certain conditions.

- Effective September 1, 2025.
- Signed by the Governor 5.30.25.

SB 1619 – Zaffirini – Epinephrine

- Relating to the use of an epinephrine delivery device by certain entities.
- Allows districts to administer any FDA-approved epinephrine delivery device.
- Replaces references to “epinephrine autoinjector” with “epinephrine delivery device” to allow other modes, including newly released nasal spray varieties.
- Effective immediately.
- Signed by the Governor 5.19.25; passed House 4.30.25, passed Senate 4.1.25.

Election Related

HB 3526 – Capriglione and Bumgarner – Bond Review Board

- Relating to fiscal transparency for bonds issued by local governmental entities.
- Requires Bond Review Board to develop and maintain an online, accessible database that provides information on each bond proposed or issued by a local government by September 1, 2026.
- Requires the database to include the amount of the principal of the bond, the estimated amount of interest on the bond, the estimated total of those two numbers and the estimated minimum dollar amount required for debt service of that bond.
- Requires local governments to report to the Bond Review Board, at least 20 days prior to election day for a bond election, the date of the election, the proposition number for each bond, the total estimated cost of the issuance, the estimated minimum debt services, a description of the purpose of the board, and any other information the Board determines necessary.
- The report is to be published on the board's website.
- Requires local governments with authorized but unissued bonds to report to the board the total amount of unissued bonds, the statute or law authorizing the issuance, the number of the propositions that authorized the bonds, the estimated cost of the issuance of the bonds, the estimated debt service, and any other information determined necessary by the board, by September 30 of each year.
- Requires the Bond Review Board to issue a biennial report to each legislative finance committee that includes the estimated total amount of principal and interest for a voter-approved bond on the date the bond was issued, the total amount paid by the local government on the bond, the minimum debt service for each year of the biennium, and if the tax rate is required to be increased to pay the principal and interest of a bond, the required tax rate increase.
- Intent of the bill is to enhance fiscal transparency for bonds issued by local government entities and ensure taxpayers have easy access to information. Bill analysis, “the bill author has informed the committee that taxpayers and stakeholders often struggle to access clear and comprehensive financial information about these bonds, causing a lack of fiscal transparency that can lead to confusion about how bond proceeds are used, potential tax impacts, and the overall financial health of local government entities.”
- Effective September 1, 2025.
- Signed by Governor 5.28.25; sent to Governor 5.20.25.

HB 3546 – Martinez – Election Date

- Relating to the authority of an independent school district to change the date of the general election for officers.
- Allows school districts to adopt a resolution to change the board election date to November.
- Allows school boards to change the length of the terms of its trustees to accommodate the change in election date, until December 31, 2030.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

SB 506 – Bettencourt – Ballot Propositions

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to requirements for certain ballot propositions and to related procedures and provisions.
- Updates election code provisions.
- Requires propositions must be neutral and not mislead voters.
- For political subdivisions, they may not have two issues on the ballot that address the same subject matter.
- Bills intent was to address home-rule municipalities.
- Effective September 1, 2025.
- Sent to Governor 6.2.25.

SB 1494 – Johnson – Election Date

- Relating to the authority of certain political subdivisions to change the date of their general elections.
- Amends the deadline from December 31, 2016, to 2025, by which a governing body of a political subdivision that held its general election for officers on a date other than the November uniform election date could change the date of its election to the November election date.
- Specifies that a governing body could only change the date of its election to the November uniform election date in odd-numbered years.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Sent to the Governor 6.2.25.

Finance

► HB 2 – Buckley – Public School Funding

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner, Capriglione, Hayes, Hancock, Parker

- Relating to public education and public school finance.
- Takes effect on September 1, 2025, with specific provisions being implemented in the 2026-2027 school year.
- Detailed bill – further review needed for more information.
- Creates teacher retention allotment:
 - Districts with more than 5,000 - \$2,500 for teachers with 3-4 years experience, \$5,000 for teachers with 5 or more years experience

- Districts with less than 5,000 - \$4,000 for teachers with 3-4 years experience, \$8,000 for teachers with 5 or more years experience
- Expands Teacher Incentive Allotment; creates \$45 per student support staff pay allotment; \$250 early literacy intervention allotment; \$106 basic cost allotment; changes guaranteed yield golden penny; addresses teacher prep and certification; includes requirements and changes to math and literacy academies, early childhood assessments, and early literacy intervention; creates \$400 per student grant program for students third grade (and below) who are unsuccessful in reading (beginning 2030-31 requires funding to be paid by district, special education students district is responsible for funding half); establishes teacher liability insurance (TEA); addresses ADSY.
- Also includes language of HB 6, HB 120, SB 12, SB 260, SB 568, and SB 2185.
- Sent to Governor 6.2.25; signed by Senate and House 6.1.25, House concurred 5.29.24.

HB 500 – Blanco – Supplemental Appropriations

- Relating to making supplemental appropriations and reductions in appropriations and giving direction and adjustment authority regarding appropriations.
- Includes \$243 million to assist schools in adopting and using open educational resource instructional materials.
- Includes \$369 million for TRS-Active Care.
- Sent to Comptroller 6.2.25.

SB 1 – Huffman – General Appropriations Bill

- Appropriated \$338 billion across 10 budget articles.
- Includes \$8.5 billion for public education.
- Includes \$1 billion for Education Savings Accounts/vouchers (double what was considered last session).
- Includes \$3.1 billion for student population projections.
- Includes \$3.9 billion for new property tax relief, \$51 billion for previous and impending property tax relief.
- Sent to Comptroller 6.2.25; Signed by House 6.2.25; Signed by Senate 6.1.25; House adopts conf committee report 5.31.25; Senate adopts conf committee report 5.31.25.

SB 1173 – Perry – Competitive Procurement Method

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hayes, Hopper

- Relates to the amount of an expenditure made by certain political subdivisions for which a competitive procurement method may be paid.
- Increases the threshold at which best value procurement methods must be selected from \$50,000 to \$100,000.
- Sent to the Governor 5.21.25.

SB 1453 – Bettencourt – Debt Service, No New Revenue Tax Rate

- Revises definition of “current debt service” to mean the minimum dollar amount required to be expended for debt service for the current year.
- Requires districts to add the minimum amount of funding required to pay the districts debt service on the budget adoption public notice.
- Requires the district to explain in detail why they are adopting a tax rate higher than the no-new-revenue tax rate.
- If the Board adopts a rate higher than the minimum rate, the motion must be approved by at least 60% of the Board.

- Effective January 1, 2026.
- Sent to the Governor 5.27.25.

SB 1502 – Bettencourt – Disaster Pennies After Failed VATRE

- Relating to the authority of the governing body of a school district to adopt an advalorem tax rate that exceeds the district's voter-approval tax rate.
- Prohibits a district from adopting disaster pennies after a failed VATRE election; prohibits in response to a tornado, hurricane, flood, wildfire, or other calamity, but not including a drought, epidemic, or pandemic.
- Effective January 1, 2026.
- Signed by the Governor 5.27.25.

SB 2185 – Hinojosa – Bilingual Education Allotment

- Relating to the bilingual education allotment under the public school finance system.
- Allows TEA to require districts to report information related to the bilingual program alternative education methods they are providing.
Requires TEA to review districts with alternative language programs and provide them with an allotment for funding. Districts must be from a cross section of the state. Allotment for the program is 0.15 for an emergent bilingual student in a dual language, one way or two way program model and 0.05 for students not determined to be emergent bilingual.
- Expands the use of the bilingual allotment to teacher salaries.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Sent to the Governor 5.22.25.

SB 2520 – Bettencourt – School District Calculation of Elderly and Disabled Homestead Exemption

- Amends the Texas Tax Code to clarify how school district property taxes are calculated for elderly and disabled homeowners. In the year after a homeowner first qualifies for a residence homestead exemption and keeps that status, the school district tax cap will be whichever is lower: the usual calculated cap or the actual tax amount without any cap.
- Effective January 1, 2026.
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

Finance, Facilities, and Bond

HB 103 – Troxclair – Bond/Tax Database

- Relating to the creation and maintenance of a database of taxing unit bonds, taxes, and bond-related projects.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25; Signed by Senate 5.31.25; Signed by House 5.30.25; House concurred with Senate's amendments 5.28.25.

SB 843 – Kolkhorst – Bond, Tax, and Project Database

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to a Texas Education Agency database of school district bonds, taxes, and bond-related projects.
- Requires TEA to maintain a database of school district bonds, taxes, and bond-related projects.
- Bond data to include bond ballot language, projected I&S tax rate, result of election, list of projects funded, accounting for use of proceeds of the bond, any increase in I&S.
- Tax data to include each district's proposed or approved tax rate, ballot language, election results.
- Effective September 1, 2025.
- Sent to Governor 5.28.25; Senate concurred 5.26.25; House passed 5.20.25.

SB 1062 – Kolkhorst – Newspaper Notice, Digital Newspaper

- Relating to the type of newspaper required for publication of public notices.
- Amends the Government Code to authorize a governmental entity, in lieu of publishing a notice in a newspaper in certain counties, to publish such notice in a digital newspaper if that digital newspaper meets certain criteria.
- Requirements for the digital newspaper include: has an audited paid-subscriber base, has been in business for at least three years, employs staff in the jurisdiction of the governmental entity, reports on local events and governmental activities in the jurisdiction of the governmental entity, provides news of general interest to people in the jurisdiction of the governmental entity, updates its news at least once each week.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Signed by the Governor 5.19.25.

Legal

► **HB 4623 – Little – Government Immunity**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner, Capriglione, Hopper, Hancock, Parker

- Relating to the liability of public schools and professional school employees for sexual misconduct involving students.
- Holds district liable for employee's sexual misconduct or failure to report abuse.
- Removes schools' governmental immunity.
- Signed by Senate and House 6.1.25; House concurred with Senate's amendments 5.30.25.

HB 4214 – Curry – Public Information Requests

- Relating to public access to the mailing address and electronic mail address designated by a governmental body to receive a request for public information under the public information law.
- Requires each governmental body, each year by October 1, to notify the attorney general of the current mailing and email address designated for receiving written public information requests.
- Requires the attorney general to create and maintain an online database of addresses and email addresses provided by governmental bodies.
- Sent to the Governor 5-31-25.

HB 4219 – Capriglione – Public Information Request, Non-Responsive Timeline

- Requires a public information officer to notify a requestor in writing within 10 business days of receiving a request for public information if the applicable governmental body determined it had no information responsive to the request.
- Allows requestor to file written complaint to AG if government entity fails to respond. AG is required to notify entity and require public information officer to complete open records training no later than six months after receiving notification.
- Effective September 1, 2025.
- Sent to the Governor 5-22-25.

Operations Related

SB 314 – Hughes – Food Additives

- Relating to prohibiting certain food additives from being included in free or reduced-price meals provided by school districts.
- Prohibits certain food additives from being included in free or reduced-price school meals, such as brominated vegetable oil, red dye 3, and potassium bromate.
- Effectively immediately; applies to 2026-2027 school year; impacts contracts entered into to provide food on or after September 1, 2026.
- Signed by Governor 5.27.25; Senate concurred with amendments 5.14.25; House passed 5.10.25. Senate passed 3.12.25.

SB 546 – Menendez – School Bus Three-Point Seat Belt

- Relating to seat belts on buses that transport children.
- Requires all school buses in the state to have three-point seat belts.
- Expands 2017 law, eliminates the exemption for buses built before 2018.
- Requires district to report to TEA by the end of 2025-2026 on how many buses they operate that have no seat belts, two-point belts, or three-point belts.
- Districts required to submit a compliance plan to TEA, which includes a timeline for implementation and cost.
- Requires TEA to collect information and calculate the amount of financial assistance needed for district to comply with the three-point seat belt requirement and to provide the information to the Governor and Legislature by January 1, 2027.
- Sent to Governor 5.30.25; signed in House 5.30.25, signed in Senate 5.28.25; passed by House 5.27.25, passed by Senate 4.22.25.

SB 2986 – Campbell – School Facility Use by Religious Organizations

- Relating to use by a religious organization of public school or institution of higher education facilities.
- Allows a district to allow religious organizations to use school facilities to host religious services if the use of the facility does not interfere with the primary educational mission, the religious organization pays fair market rental value or reimbursement costs, the religious organization agrees to be held liable for damaged, and the religious organization is subject to the same rental terms as a non-religious organization.
- Defines interfering with the primary educational mission if the organization engages in religious services during school hours; displays signs, symbols, books or flyer on property at

a time other than when being used for religious services; or if the district or employee promotes the religious organizations used of the facility in any manner (distributing information, making an announcement, or including the use or activity on an academic calendar).

- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

School Safety

► **HB 33 – McLaughlin – Active Shooter**

- NISD Coauthors Hayes, Little, Schatzline, Parker
- Relating to active shooter incidents at primary and secondary school facilities and other emergencies.
- Requires district multihazard emergencies operations plan to address prompt recover of services and to include measures to ensure use of standardized response protocol language.
- Requires district to conduct a security review to determine if new or renovated facilities meet school safety requirements and to identify security vulnerabilities.
- Requires districts to employ public information officer who is responsible for communicating with public during a disaster and requires the person to achieve certification form the Texas Division of Emergency Management by Sept. 1, 2026.
- Requires every sheriff to hold annual meetings to discuss school safety and coordination and requires the superintendent to attend the meetings if district has more than 350,000 people.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Sent to the Governor 5.26.25

► **HB 121 – King – School Safety**

- Relating to measures for ensuring public school safety, including the commissioning of peace officers by the Texas Education Agency, public school safety and security requirements, and the provision of safety-related resources.
- Requires district employees hired as armed security officers under good cause exception to complete specified training within 90 days of first date of beginning duties as security officer.
- Requires a board that claimed a good cause exception to the armed security officer requirement to renew the exception and alternative standard each year.
- Allows TEA to employ inspectors to assist in monitoring district compliance and coordinating with law enforcement during an emergency response.
- Requires school district multihazard emergency operations plans to address reunification and provisions (as determined by TEA) for spectators during extracurricular activities.
- Requires TEA to monitor response and use of emergency operations procedures by school district during an emergency response.
- Requires threat assessment teams assessing a SpEd student to include a special education teacher who provides instruction, a licensed behavior analyst, a licensed clinical or master social worker, or a school psychologist.
- Requires threat assessment team (instead of superintendent) to notify the parents of a student who the team determines at risk of violence.
- Requires districts to provide maps of school buildings to each emergency services district.

- Requires districts to provide information on safe firearm storage to parents three times per year.
- Allows school safety allotment funds to be used for interior door safety, behavioral interventionists, and discipline management practices.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**

► **SB 260 – Huffman – School Safety Allotment**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hancock

- Relating to the school safety allotment under the Foundation School Program.
- Doubles the school safety allotment.
- Increases annual allotment from \$10 per ADA to \$20 per ADA.
- Increases per campus allotment from \$15,000 to \$33,540.
- Effective September 1, 2025.
- Sent to Governor 6.2.25; Signed by House 6.2.25; Signed by Senate 6.1.25; Senate concurred with House's amendments 5.31.25; Passed the Senate 3.11.25.

SB 57 – Zaffirini – Mandatory School Drills & IEP/504 Accommodations

- Relating to provisions and plans by public schools to ensure the safety of individuals with disabilities or impairments during a mandatory school drill or a disaster or emergency situation.
- Requires the committee or team of a student with an IEP or a Section 504 plan to consider whether the student's disabilities or impairments require the school district to provide any specific accommodations for the student during a mandatory school drill. If so, the committee or team must identify each disability or impairment that requires accommodation and specify required accommodations compliant with guidelines established by the education commissioner for each disability or impairment.
- Requires school district safety and security committee to include at least one administrator special education.
- Requires school district mutihazard emergency operations plans to include recommended accommodations for a student with an IEP or Section 504.
- Requires Commissioner to adopt rules by June 1, 2026.
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

SB 826 – Parker – DWI Penalties in School Zone

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Little, Hopper

- Relating to the operation of a motor vehicle in a school crossing zone while intoxicated.
- Enhances DWI in school zone to state jail felony.
- Amends current law, operating a vehicle in a school crossing zone while intoxicated and increases a criminal penalty.
- Sent to Governor 6.1.25.

SB 1177 – Alvarado – Fire Safety Inspection, Defibrillator

- Relating to fire safety inspections at public and private schools.

- Requires a fire safety inspection of a school required by a state or local law, rule, regulation, or ordinance to include an examination of each automated external defibrillator on the school campus to determine whether the defibrillator is fully functional.
- Requires a representative of the school campus to present each automated external defibrillator for inspection.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Signed by the Governor 5.29.25.

SB 1858 – Hagenbuch – Peace Officer, Bulletproof Vest

- Relating to eligibility for the bulletproof vest and body armor grant program.
- Defines a law enforcement agency for the purposes of the bulletproof vest and body armor program as an agency of the state or an agency of a political subdivision of the state authorized by law to employ peace officers, including an independent school district.
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

VETOED – HB 353 – Patterson – Criminal Trespass

- Relating to creating the criminal offense of trespass on or near school or day-care center property.
- The bill aimed to create a protected zone within 2580 feet of public schools and daycare centers, making it a crime to enter or remain in that zone without proper authorization.
- Governor argued that language was too broad.
- Vetoed by Governor 5.24.25; sent to Governor 5.13.25; passed Senate 5.9.25; passed House 5.1.25.

Staff Related

► **HB 3372 – Metcalf – Personal Services**

- Relating to prohibiting certain personal services performed by school district administrators; providing a civil penalty.
- Prohibits a school administrator from performing personal services or receiving any financial benefit for the performance of personal services for:
 - any business entity that conducted or solicited business with the school district that employed the administrator
 - an education business that provided services regarding the curriculum or administration of any school district
 - or another school district, charter school, or regional education service center.
- Allows administrators other than superintendents and assistant superintendents to receive financial benefit for personal services for education business if the board approves the contract between the administrator and other entity.
- **Effective immediately.**
- Signed by Governor 6.22.25; sent to Governor 6-2-25.

► **See also HB 4623 – Little – Government Immunity (Legal section)**

► **SB 571 – Bettencourt – Reporting and Employment Requirements, Employee Misconduct**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to the reporting and investigation of certain misconduct and child abuse and neglect; creating a criminal offense.
- Multifaceted bill that addresses reporting and employment requirements related to educator and school employee misconduct.
- Requires principals to report to superintendent within 48 hours if principal is aware of evidence the educator abused or committed an unlawful act with a student/minor and other reporting requirement changes.
- Addresses changes to the "Do Not Hire" registry.
- Applicants must disclose past investigations, registry status, employment history, and separations.
- Includes TEA requirements.
- Applies reporting requirements to private schools.
- Requires reports of child abuse be made within 24 hours.
- Repeals the provision that allows superintendents to complete investigations of misconduct prior to reporting and not report if the investigation found the allegations were false.
- **Effective immediately for 2025-2026 school year.**
- Sent to Governor 6.3.25.

HB 762 – Leach – Severance Pay

- Relating to severance pay for political subdivision employees and independent contractors.
- Limits severance pay provisions to 20 weeks pay.
- Requires posting of severance pay agreements on website.
- Applies to contracts entered into after effective date.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

HB 1178 – Cunningham – Temporary Educator Certificate

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner

- Relating to the creation of a temporary educator certificate for educators certified by other states.
- Requires SBOE to establish temporary certificate for educators certified in other states.
- Sent to Governor 6.1.25.

HB 3512 – Capriglione – AI Training

- Relating to artificial intelligence training programs for certain employees and officials of state agencies and local governments.
- Establishes new requirements for AI training for employees and officials of local governments.
- School district cybersecurity coordinator must complete both trainings annually, schedule for other employees will be determined in consultation with coordinator.
- Requires Department of Information Resources to certify AI training programs annually.
- Effective September 1, 2025.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

SB 127 – Hall – Extends Statute of Limitations, Failure to Report Abuse

- Relating to the offense of failure to report child abuse or neglect by certain professionals and the statute of limitations for that offense; harmonizing other statute of limitations provisions.

- Reenacts and amends Code of Criminal Procedure provisions regarding statutes of limitations for certain offenses, including failure to report child abuse or neglect.
- Intent is to aid in the prosecution of professionals who fail to report child abuse or neglect by extending the statute of limitations period for presenting an indictment or information for failure to report abuse or neglect.
- Sent to the Governor 5.30.25.

SB 905 – Zaffirini – Licensing of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists

- Relating to the licensing and regulation of speech-language pathologists and audiologists.
- Sent to Governor 6.1.25.

SB 965 – Parker – School Employee Prayer

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Capriglione, Hopper, Little, Schatzline

- Right of a public school employee to engage in religious speech or prayer while on duty. Amends Texas Educational Code to allow all school employees to engage in religious speech or prayer while at work.
- Right is safeguarded against unless two conditions are met: 1) infringement must be necessary to promote a compelling state interest and 2) must be accomplished in least restrictive manner possible.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Sent to Governor 5.27.25; House passed 5.23.25; Senate passed 4.1.25.

SB 1241 – Middleton – Academic Teaching Institution, Auto Admission

- Relating to the consideration of college entrance examinations for admission to certain public institutions of higher education and a study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board regarding those examinations.
- Revises the criteria that an applicant must meet to qualify for automatic admission as an undergraduate student at a general academic teaching institution.
- Sent to the Governor 5.23.25.

SB 1455 – Hagenbuch – Workers' Compensation

- Relating to the funding mechanism for the regulation of workers' compensation and workers' compensation insurance.
- Establishes a funding mechanism for the regulation of workers' compensation and workers' compensation insurance through the imposition of surcharges on insurance carriers, certified self-insurers, and self-insurance groups.
Sets limits on surcharge rates, outlines the calculation and collection methods, and specifies the allocation of funds to support administrative functions, fraud prosecution, research, and the office of injured employee counsel.
- Clarifies the recovery of surcharges by insurers and enforces timely payment through administrative violations.
- Effective January 1, 2026.
- Sent to Governor 5.22.25.

SB 1621 – Huffman and Parker (NISD) – Child Sexually Explicit Visual Material, School Library

- Relating to prosecution and punishment of certain criminal offenses prohibiting sexually explicit visual material involving depictions of children, computer-generated children, or other persons; creating criminal offenses; increasing criminal penalties.
- Establishes that if an individual displays the prohibited material at a school library it is a first degree felony punishable by life in prison or any term of not more than 99 years or less than 25 years.
- Creates definitions of the criminal offense of possessing or displaying sexually explicit visual material involving depictions of children, computer-generated children, or other persons.
- Bill's intent was to update state law and child pornography statutes to address use of deepfake technology and AI to create sexually explicit material and create penalties for computer-generated offenses.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Sent to Governor 6.1.25.

SB 2237 – Bettencourt – Severance Pay

- Relating to severance pay for certain political subdivision employees.
- Requires a political subdivision that provides severance pay with an executive employee to include: a requirement that severance paid from tax revenue could not exceed the compensation the employee would have been paid for 20 weeks, excluding paid time off or vacation leave; and a prohibition of severance pay if the employee was terminated for misconduct.
- Requires political subdivisions to post severance agreement on prominent place on website.
- Applies to contracts entered into after the effective date.
- Effective September 1, 2025.
- 5-27-25 Sent to the Governor 5.27.25.

VETOED - SB 2243 – Oliverson – Texas Commission on Teacher Job Satisfaction and Retention

- Relating to the creation of the Texas Commission on Teacher Job Satisfaction and Retention.
- Creates a Texas Commission on Teacher Job Satisfaction and Retention to make recommendations for improving teacher job satisfaction and retention.
- Requires commission to provide a report by December 31, 2026.
- Sent to Governor 6.1.25.

VETOED - SB 974 – Eckhardt – Appraisal Review Board, Teacher

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to the eligibility of a person employed by a school district as a teacher to serve on the appraisal review board of an appraisal district; creating a criminal offense.
- Allows a person employed by a school district as a teacher to serve on the appraisal review board of an appraisal district. A member of a school district's board of trustees or a school district employee would commit a class A misdemeanor (up to one year in jail and/or a maximum fine of \$4,000) offense if the person communicated with a teacher who was a

member of the appraisal review board with the intent to influence a decision by the member in the member's capacity as a member of the appraisal review board.

- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

Trustee Related

► See also [HB 2](#) – Buckley – Public School Funding (Finance section) and [SB 568](#) – Bettencourt – Special Education and Funding (Student Services section)

- Includes annual meeting requirement for school board to discuss the performance of students receiving special education services.
- Early Childhood Assessments: requires district to report results in a public board meeting and provide results to parents within 20 school days or 30 calendar days (whichever is earlier)
- Specifies requirements of College, Career, and Military Readiness plans adopted by school boards. Requires boards to approve annual CCMR plan and for the report to be posted online for 2 weeks prior.

► See also [HB 3372](#) – Metcalf – Personal Services (Staff section)

- Allows administrators other than superintendents and assistant superintendents to receive a financial benefit for personal services for education business if the board approves the contract between the administrator and other entity.

► See also [SB 12](#) – Creighton – Parental Rights (School Operations section)

- Requires board to prioritize public comments by placing at beginning of each board meeting and requires board meeting to be held outside of work hours.
- Prohibits DEI practices and requires certification to be approved by a majority vote of the board at a public meeting (to include a description of policies and procedures and manner in which employees are notified of policies).
- Includes many changes to grievance procedures and policies. Requires a hearing before the board within 60 days after the date the previous decision was made and a decision within 30 days of the meeting. Requires districts to issue decisions on the merits regardless of procedural errors. Must report grievances received and the results of those grievances. Allows a board to delegate its authority to hear a grievance to a committee of at least three board members. Requires board hearings of grievances to be video or audio recorded or transcribed by a court reporter.
- Requires districts to annually submit information to the TEA for each trustee and that identifies the chair of the board.
- Requires boards to report any violations of district assisting a student with social transitioning to the commissioner.

► See also [SB 13](#) – Paxton – Library Books and Library Advisory Council (School Operations section)

- Requires board to approve all library materials (donated or purchased) after the list has been accessible for public review for at least 30 days. Don't have to get board approval if same ISBN.
- Details process for challenging library material. Requires board to take action at first open meeting held after the 90th day on which the challenge was received. Requires board to notify each teacher of any removed books and direct them to remove the title from classroom libraries.

See also [HB 120](#) – Keith Bell – Career and Tech (Curriculum, Instruction & CTE section)

- Requires board to submit an annual report on CCMR to TEA and LBB and requires board to approve the annual CCMR plan and to post the report online for 2 weeks prior to the vote.

[HB 210](#) – Guillen – Bids/Contracts and Board Member Relations

- Relating to contracting with a school district or open-enrollment charter school by a vendor with whom a member of the board of trustees or governing body of the district or school or a related individual has certain business interests; creating a criminal offense.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Signed by Governor 5.29.25.

[HB 1522](#) – Gerdes – Public Meeting and Notice Requirements

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hayes

- Relating to notice of a meeting held under the open meetings law.
- Requires notice of public meetings to be posted for at least three business days before the scheduled date of the meeting, revising “72 hour” language.
- Requires notices for public meetings at which the budget will be discussed or adopted to include a physical copy of the proposed budget, unless the proposed budget is accessible on the homepage of the website, and a comparison of the property tax bill for the average homestead in the current fiscal year to the same for the upcoming fiscal year.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

[HB 2715](#) – Cook – Suspension and Removal from Office

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hopper, Hancock

- Relating to the suspension and removal from office of certain elected officials of this state or a political subdivision of this state.
- Addition that elected officials must act in accordance with state laws.
- If violation occurs, governor is empowered to suspend the officer and is required to file a removal petition in the appropriate district court.
- The suspension takes effect immediately upon petition filing and remains temporary until a trial is completed.
- Sent to Governor 5.28.25.

[HB 3112](#) – Tepper (and Capriglione and Bumgarner) – Cybersecurity

- Relating to the application of the open meetings law and public information law to government information related to certain cybersecurity measures.
- Allows deliberation of cybersecurity measure, policy, or contract intended to protect communication infrastructure, in closed session.
- Makes information related to cybersecurity confidential and exempt from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act.

- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

See also [HB 3546](#) – Martinez – Election Date (Election Related section)

- Allows school districts to adopt a resolution to change the board election date to November.
- Allows school boards to change the length of the terms of its trustees to accommodate the change in election date, until December 31, 2030.

[HB 3629](#) – Noble – Trustee Eligibility, Prevents Registered Sex Offender

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner, Hayes, Hopper

- Prohibits a person who was required to register as a sex offender from being eligible to serve as a trustee of an independent school district.
- Sent to the Governor 5-31-25.

[HB 3711](#) – Capriglione – Open Meetings Investigation

- Relating to assistance in the investigation of certain open meetings offenses by the open records division of the attorney general's office.
- Establishes that an offense under the Open Meetings Act committed by a county or municipal officer or school district trustee is an offense against public administration under the investigative authority of the Public Integrity Unit within the Department of Public Safety.
- Sent to the Governor 5-31-25.

[HB 4310](#) – Vasut – Board and Public Information

- Relating to a special right of access under the public information law for a member of a governing board.
- Requires public information to be provided to the member of the governing board promptly and without charge.
- Authorizes a member of the governing board of a governmental body or nongovernmental entity to inspect and duplicate public information maintained by the body or entity if the member was acting in an official capacity.
- For the bill's purposes, a nongovernmental entity would mean an entity that executed a contract with a governmental body that had a stated expenditure of at least \$1 million in public funds for the purchase of goods or services or resulted in such an expenditure in a fiscal year.
- If the member requests confidential information, the governmental body may request that the member sign a confidentiality agreement that requires the information to be kept confidential and securely, with all copies being controlled and destroyed or returned to the governmental body.
- Allows a member of a governmental body that fails or refuses to comply with a request under the special right of access to request a writ of mandamus in a district court to compel the governmental body to comply.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

[SB 204](#) – Paxton – Parents Rights Handbook and Board Training

- Requires SBOE to develop training on rights of parents regarding education by April 1, 2026, and requires school board trustees sworn in by January 1, 2026 to complete the training by September 1, 2026.
- Requires TEA to create, not later than January 1, 2026, and maintain, a handbook that explains all rights of a parent regarding the education of the parent's child, including a student's rights that the parent may enforce on the student's behalf.
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

SB 413 – Middleton – Board Meeting Minutes and Votes

- Requires minutes of school board meetings to include each member's vote on any item.
- Requires the minutes and approved resolutions to be posted on the district website within 7 days.
- Requires a recording of each regular or special board meeting.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Sent to the Governor 6.1.25.

SB 765 – Kolkhorst – Fraud Detection and Public Information

- Relating to the confidentiality of fraud detection and deterrence information under the public information law.
- Amends the Government Code to establish that information in the custody of a governmental body that relates to fraud detection and deterrence measures is confidential and excepted from the public availability requirement of state public information law.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.**
- Signed by the Governor 5.19.25.

See also SB 1453 – Bettencourt – Debt Service, No New Revenue Tax Rate (Finance section)

- If the Board adopts a rate higher than the minimum rate, the motion must be approved by at least 60% of the Board.

VETOED – HB 2520 – Johnson – Open Meetings Laws

- Relating to the open meetings law.
- Clarifies the exception to open meetings for deliberation, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee only applies to discussions related to specific individuals and does not apply to operational issues that generally impact a class or group of employees, including changes in the duties or compensation of a class or group of employees.
- Amends the Open Meetings Act to require the written notice of a governmental body's meeting to include an agenda for the meeting that was sufficiently specific to inform the public of each subject to be considered in the open portion of the meeting and describe any subject to be considered in the closed portion of the meeting.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

Trustee, Board Policies

► HB 6 – Leach – Student Discipline (School Operations section)

- Allows school boards to adopt a policy for parental involvement in school disciplinary placements.

► HB 1481 – Fairly – Cell Phones (School Operations section)

- Requires board to adopt policy within 90 days of effective date prohibiting students from using devices while on school property during the school day.

► **SB 11 - Middleton – Prayer and Religious Reading (School Operations section)**

- Requires school boards to vote on a Resolution adopting a policy that would provide a daily period for prayer and reading of religious texts; within six months from effective date (**March 1, 2026**).

► **SB 12 – Creighton – Parental Rights (School Operations section)**

- Requires districts to adopt policy for parental engagement that provides portal through which parents may submit comments to campus or district administrators and the board; requires board to prioritize public comments by placing at beginning of each board meeting and requires board meeting to be held outside of work hours.

► **SB 13 – Paxton – Library Books and Library Advisory Council (School Operations section)**

- Requires policy updates for acquisition of library materials to be complete before the first day of 2025-2026 school year.

HB 2757 – Frank – Admission Age, Military Children (Enrollment & Attendance section)

- Allows board to adopt a policy to allow active-duty member stationed in Texas to establish age for purposes of school enrollment by demonstrating the child will turn the required age during the school year.

SB 401 – Paxton – Non-Enrolled Student UIL Participation, Board Policy (Extracurricular and UIL)

- Requires, rather than allows, a public school to provide an otherwise eligible, non-enrolled student the opportunity to participate in UIL activity on behalf of the school, unless the applicable school district board or the governing body of a charter school adopted a policy declining to grant the opportunity to participate.

SB 920 – Sparks – Administration of Nonprescription Medication (Student Health section)

- Allows a district to adopt a policy permitting an employee, including a nurse, to administer nonprescription medication to a student without further authorization or written protocol from the student's health care provider under certain conditions.

SB 1049 – King – Excused Absence, Religious Instruction (Enrollment & Attendance section)

- Requires district to adopt a policy excusing such absences by January 1, 2026.

SB 2398 – Campbell – Concussion/Brain Injury Accommodations (Student Services section)

- Requires districts to adopt and implement policies regarding how to respond to a concussion sustained by a student while on school property or at a school activity.

Tax Related

► **HB 9 – Meyer – Personal Property Exemption**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Bumgarner, Capriglione, Geren, Hayes

- Relating to an exemption from ad valorem taxation of a portion of the appraised value of tangible personal property that is held or used for the production of income.
- Increases personal property tax exemption from \$2,500 to \$125,000.
- Sent to Governor 5.22.25.

► **SB 4 – Bettencourt – Homestead Exemption**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hancock, Parker

- Relating to an increase in the amount of the exemption of residence homesteads from ad valorem taxation by a school district and the protection of school districts against certain losses in local revenue.
- Increases homestead exemption from \$100,000 to \$140,000.
- Includes hold harmless provision.
- Limits state aid to only debt that was issued and on which a payment has been made by September 1, 2025.
- Sent to Governor 6.2.25; Signed by House 6.2.25; Signed by Senate 6.1.25; Senate concurred with House's amendments 5.29.25.

HB 22 – Noble – Intangible Property Tax Exemption

- Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of intangible personal property.
- Provides for an exemption from property taxation for all intangible personal property.
- Effective January 1, 2026.
- Signed by the Governor 5.24.25.

HB 2508 – Turner – Homestead Exemption, Surviving Veteran Spouse

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hancock

- Relating to an exemption from ad valorem taxation of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a veteran who died as a result of a qualifying condition or disease.
- Sent to the Governor 5.28.25.

HB 2525 – Darby – Property Tax Exemption, Charitable Organization

- Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of certain property owned by a charitable organization that is engaged in providing housing and related facilities and services to people who are at least 62 years of age.
- Sent to Governor 6.2.25.

HB 2730 – Darby – Application & Homestead Exemption

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Parker

- Relating to the authority of the chief appraiser of an appraisal district to require a person allowed an exemption from ad valorem taxation of a residence homestead to file a new application.
- Effectively immediately.
- Signed by the Governor 5.24.25; sent to Governor 5.13.25.

HB 4236 – Martinez Fischer – Property Value Study Task Force

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Capriglione

- Relating to the creation of a study group to evaluate the school district property value study conducted by the comptroller of public accounts.
- Establishes a task force to examine the use and effect of the school district property value study and develop recommendations on the elimination or replacement of the study and alternative methods by which the purpose of the study could be accomplished.
- Sent to the Governor 6-1-25.

Vouchers

► **SB 2 – Creighton (and Parker) – Universal ESA/Voucher Program, Texas Education Freedom Act**

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hancock, Bumgarner, Capriglione, Hayes, Hopper, Little, Schatzline

- Relating to the establishment of an education savings account program.
- Creates universal ESA program within the comptroller's office to pay for education-related expenses. Approved parents to submit request for payment to an educational service provider through comptroller controlled educational assistance organizations (permits comptroller to contract with up to 5).
- Provides universal access to all students. Creates lottery system if there are more applicants than spots – up to 80% of the available positions filled by lottery of students who previously attended a public school and are either from low-income households (defined as 500% of poverty threshold as compared to 130% threshold for free lunch) or have a disability; remaining ESAs provided to any eligible applicant.
- Provides \$10,000 per year for each eligible student, \$11,500 for students with disabilities, \$2,000 for homeschool students, and \$2,500 for homeschool students with disabilities.
- Parent/guardian must agree to have a nationally norm-referenced assessment each year; results would be shared with the state and be part of required annual report.
- Public schools would be allowed to provide certain services to voucher students and could charge a fee (generally less than 2 hours of instruction per day).
- Fiscal analysis assumes the cost of the ESA program is \$1 billion in 2027, but it escalates to \$3.2 billion in 2028, \$3.8 billion in 2029, and \$4.6 billion in 2030.
- **Effective September 1, 2025.** Program begins with 2026-27 school year.
- Signed by the Governor 5.3.25; passed Senate 2.5.25; passed education K-16 committee 1.28.25.

Other

HB 148 – Turner – Appraisal District Training

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Capriglione

- Relating to the qualification of candidates for, and the training and education of members of, the board of directors of an appraisal district.
- Intent is to strengthen the qualifications and preparedness of members of an appraisal district board of directors through mandatory training and certification program.

HB 1393 – Metcalf – Texas Time / Daylight Savings

- Relating to daylight saving time.
- Permanent daylight savings time - a trigger bill waiting for federal government change.
- Sent to Governor 5.26.25; Senate passed 5.22.25; House passed 4.16.25.

HB 2674 – Cook – Prohibits Regulation of Homeschool

NISD Coauthors/Sponsors: Hopper, Hancock

- Relating to prohibiting the regulation of homeschool programs.
- Prohibits TEA, SBOE, and any educational institution from regulating homeschool programs.
- Sent to Governor 5.31.25.

HB 3627 – Tepper – SBOE Personnel

- Relating to allowing the chair of the State Board of Education to employ personnel to assist in performing the board's duties.
- Authorizes the chair of the State Board of Education to: employ personnel as necessary to assist SBOE in performing its duties; prescribe the duties of personnel; compensate personnel through funds made available by the Legislature; and determine whether to promote, terminate, or take any other employment action regarding personnel.
- Sent to the Governor 5-28-25.

SB 1366 – Nichols – Driver Safety Course, Construction/Work Zones

- Requires the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation (TCLR) by rule to require that information relating to construction or maintenance work zones be included in the curriculum of each driver education course or driving safety course.
- Effective September 1, 2025.
- Signed by the Governor 5.19.25.

SB 1415 – Hughes – Tax Free Weekend

- Relating to the sales tax exemption period for clothing, footwear, and certain school-related items.
- Codifies tax free weekend as the beginning on the first Friday in August.
- Effective September 1, 2025.
- Signed by Governor 5.19.25.