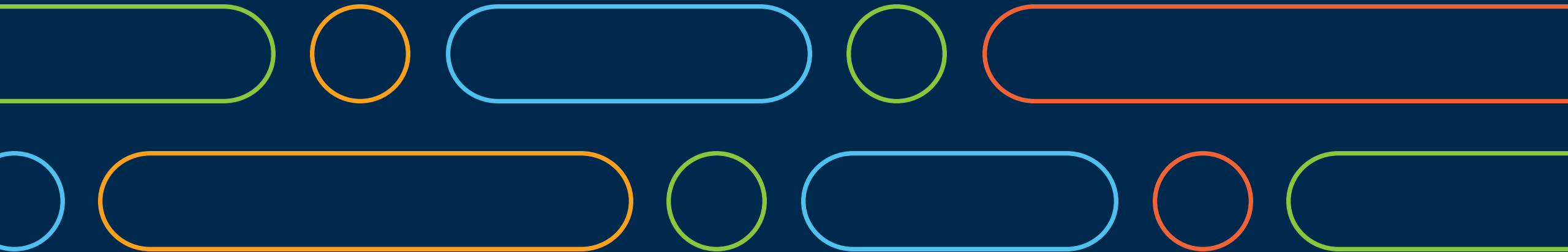


89th Legislative Session Overview

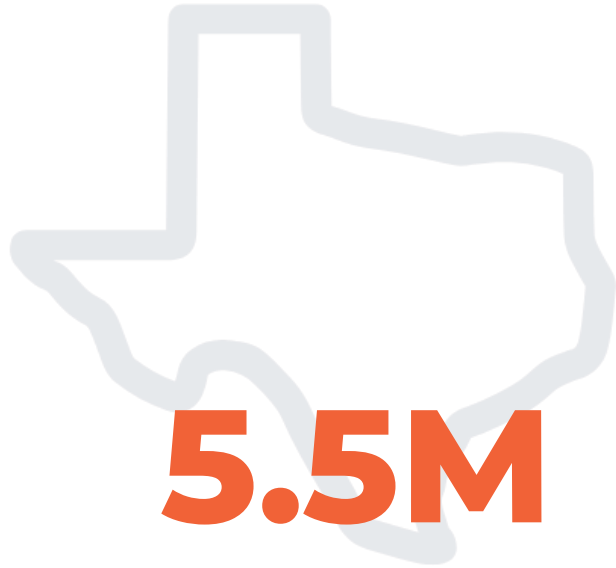
LONSTARP3

January 16, 2025



Preparing Students for Texas' Economic Future

Equipping students for workforce success will significantly benefit our state's economic development and prosperity.



students – 10% of students nationwide – are educated in Texas schools.



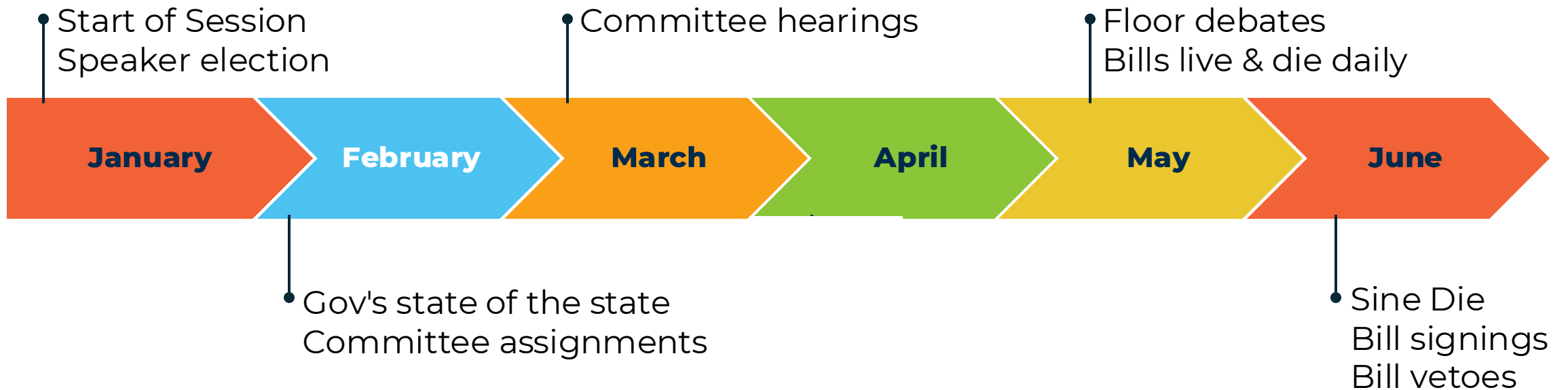
annual job openings in Texas between 2021-2031 will require a postsecondary credential.

Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, *After Everything: Projections of Jobs, Education, and Training Requirements through 2031*.

Note: The North Texas region includes Collin, Dallas, Denton, and Tarrant Counties.

The Texas Legislature has 140 days to from first day to Sine Die

The only constitutionally required action is passing the biennial budget



The Big Three of the Texas Legislature

The Speaker of the House is elected by his/her colleagues, while Governor and Lt Gov are statewide elected positions

The 89th Legislative Session starts today, January 14, 2025.

TEXAS HOUSE



Dustin Burrows, Speaker

Speaker since 2025
150 House Members
32 new for 89th

88

62

TEXAS GOVERNOR



Greg Abbott

Governor since 2015

■ Republican

■ Democrat

TEXAS SENATE



Dan Patrick, Lt. Governor

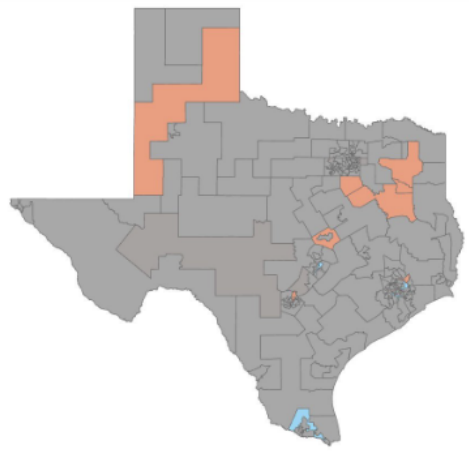
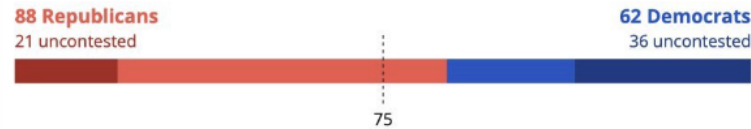
Lt Gov since 2015
31 Senators
2 new for 89th

20

11

The 2024 Election Cycle reshaped the House and Senate

Texas House



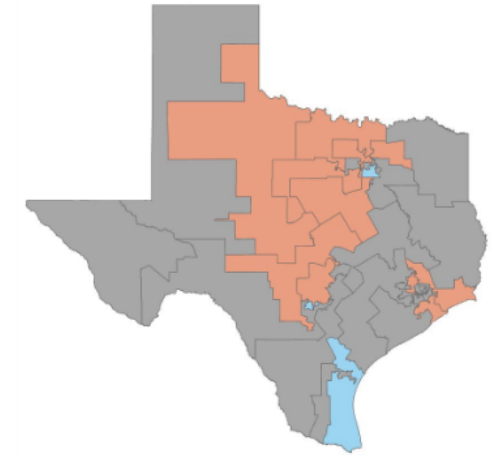
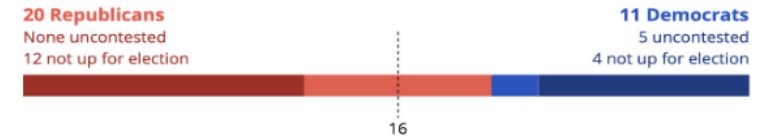
House Pub Education Committee (88R)

The Republican party flipped 2 seats in the House and 1 seat in Senate.

The 89th Texas Legislature will include 32 new House Representatives and 2 new State Senators.

While committee membership is unknown, 2 previous House Public Education committee members and 3 House Higher Education Committee members were ousted in their primary races.

Texas Senate



Senate Education Committee (88R)



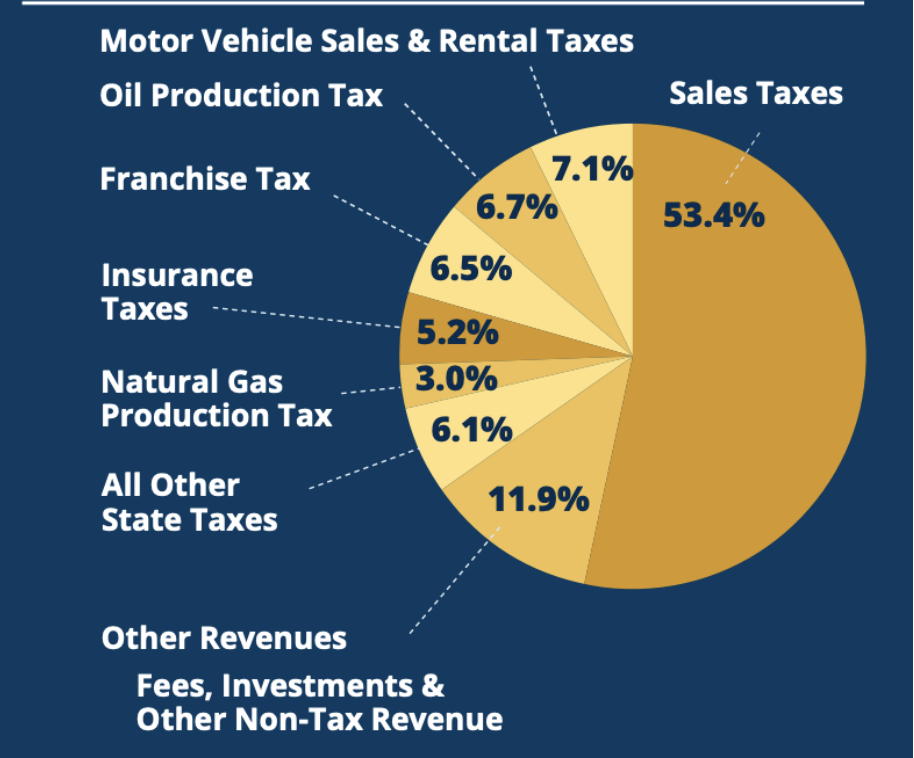
Texas Comptroller Projects \$194.6 billion in Biennial Revenue Estimate

Revenue Available for General-Purpose Spending		PROJECTED In Billions of Dollars	
		2024-25	2026-27 BIENNIUM
GR-R Tax Collections	+	\$143.36	\$155.42
Other GR-R Revenue	+	\$24.03	\$21.01
TOTAL GR-R REVENUE	=	\$167.38	\$176.43 SUBTOTAL
Beginning Balance	+	\$39.43	\$23.76
TOTAL GR-R REVENUE & FUND BALANCES	=	\$206.81	\$200.19 SUBTOTAL
Reserve for Transfers to the Economic Stabilization and State Highway Funds	-	\$10.38	\$11.19
Reduction of Reserve for Transfers of Severance Taxes to the Economic Stabilization Fund	+	\$0.31	\$5.60
TOTAL REVENUE AVAILABLE FOR GENERAL-PURPOSE SPENDING	=	\$196.73	\$194.60 TOTAL

Totals may not sum because of rounding.

Total amount is slightly below 2024-25 levels

State Revenue, General Revenue-Related





Education Policy Headlines



Bill filing began on November 11, 2024; over 2,360 bills have been filed so far with 8 weeks left until the March 14th bill filing deadline

Over 440 of the filed bills impact the Texas Education Code, or approximately 19%

House: filed over 1,630 bills | Senate: filed over 730 bills

Bill Authors: House D – 52%, House R – 48% | Senate D – 51%, Senate R – 49%

Almost half (45%) of bills filed are re-files from previous sessions

Texas leadership, known as "the Big 3," have shared their priorities for the 89th legislative session, signaling alignment on a majority of education-related policies

Governor Greg Abbott

- School Voucher Program/Education Savings Accounts (ESAs)
- "Fully funding Texas' public schools"
- Teacher pay raises
- Enhancing career training opportunities for students

Speaker of the House

TBD

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick

- School choice
- Reading and math readiness
- Testing reform
- Improving K12-College pathways

Senate Education Committee's Interim Report Underscores Desire for "Evidence-Based" Funding Strategies

Recommendations

Based on the findings and analysis conducted over the interim, the Committee recommends to:

1. Reinstate the release of annual A-F accountability ratings to campuses and school systems ensure transparency of education outcomes that allow for responsive decision-making and resource allocation to improve student achievement.
2. Strengthen Texas' policy framework regarding early progress monitoring to ensure school systems utilize valid and reliable screening and diagnostics to identify reading and math learning gaps in K-3, followed by:
 - a. Timely parent notification with reliable information on their student's progress and resources to effectively support at-home learning
 - b. Providing targeted, research-based support and high-quality interventions to struggling students to get them back on track academically
 - c. Providing teachers across foundational subjects in reading and math with additional resources such as data literacy training, instructional coaching, and intervention training and capacity supports
4. Expand the Early Education Allotment so that Pre-K 3 & 4 students generate the weight (in addition to K-3 students as is currently in statute), to provide school systems more resources for evidence-based acceleration strategies from Pre-K to 3rd grade.
5. Expand the Additional Days School Year Program (ADSY) and ease barriers to entry to allow more school systems to participate, accelerate student learning, and close academic achievement gaps by:
 - a. Allowing middle schools to be eligible in addition to elementary campuses
 - b. Incentivizing schools to offer more extended learning time by providing additional resources to those providing students the most additional days

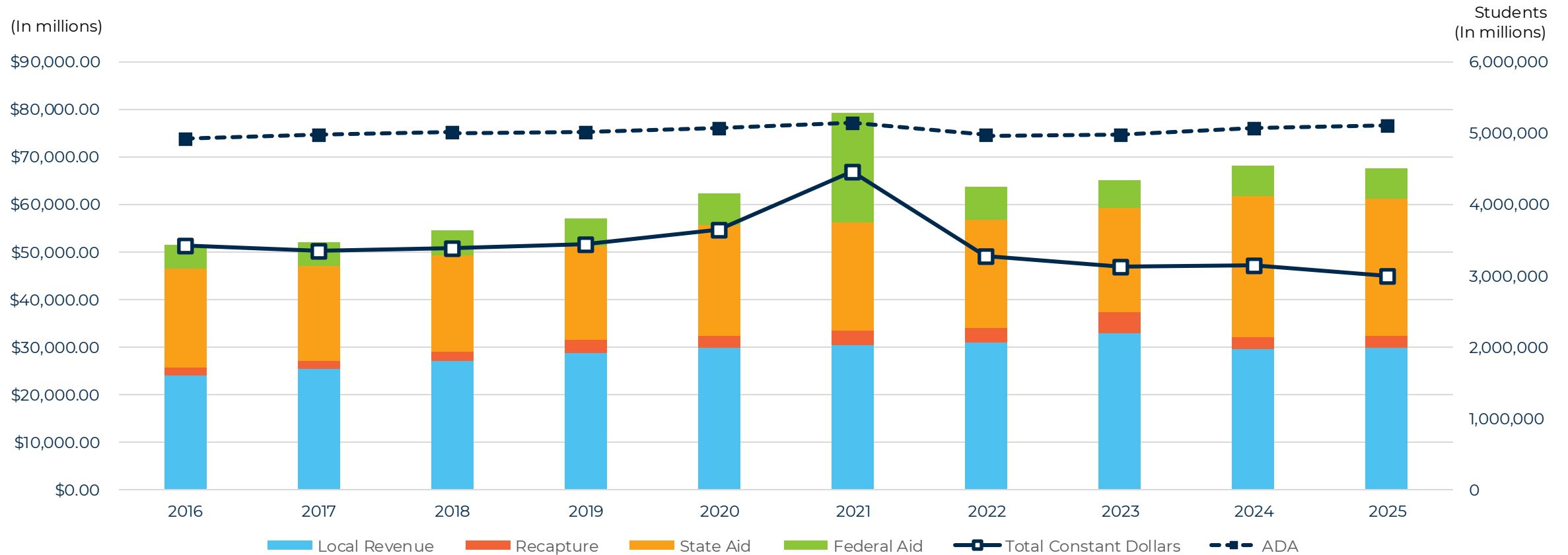
6. Increase the weights for the State Compensatory Education Allotment so that evidence-based learning acceleration supports can be provided to students furthest behind.

Recommendations

1. Enhance College and Career Advising:
 - a. Clearly define "advising" and the role of an "advisor" in the Texas Education Code as well as what constitutes effective advisor training
 - b. Ensure adequate student-to-advisor ratios, year round support, and dedicated advisors to enable effective advising that guides students toward courses aligned with their postsecondary goals and provides strong returns on investment including dedicated support related to student success initiatives such as dual credit, IBCs, and AP coursework
 - c. Require data collection and transparency linked to student outcomes to determine effectiveness
2. Expand Access to Underserved Students: Invest in programs like H.B. 8's FAST initiative to ensure all students, regardless of socioeconomic status, have access to dual credit opportunities.

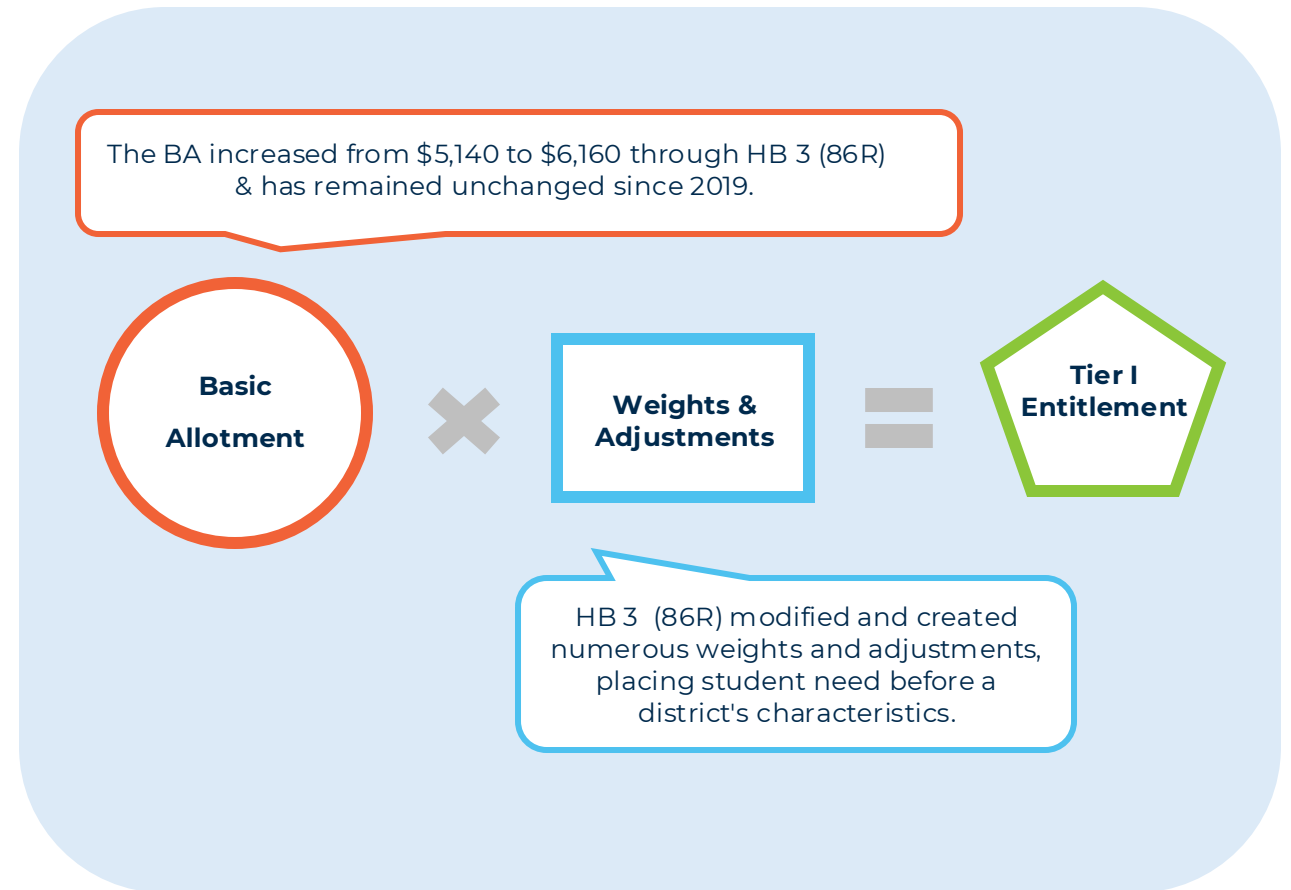
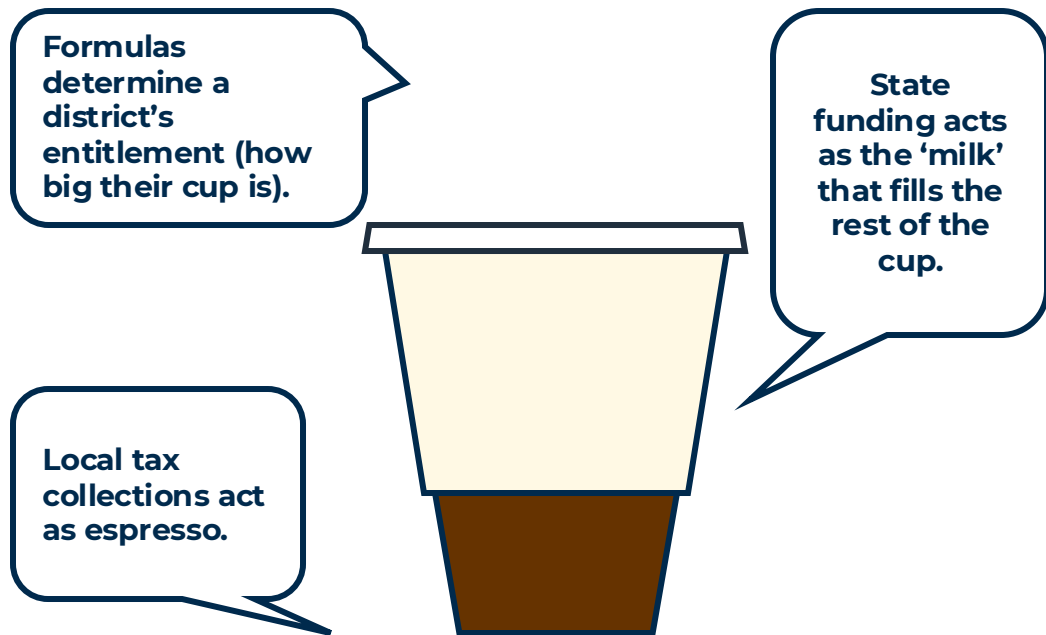
Targeted funding can provide structured and critical financial benefit to schools after LBB reports constant dollars at the lowest level in 10 years

PreK to Grade 12 Texas Education Agency Funding in Actual and Constant Dollars, Fiscal Years 2016 to 2025



Source: Legislative Budget Board Staff – ID: 8130, Fiscal Size-Up 2024-25 Biennium – August 2024

Total per-student funding is the result of the basic allotment and a series of weights & adjustments



Notable Bills Filed Thus Far

Bill	Author	Caption
SB 260	Huffman	Relating to the School Safety Allotment in the Foundation School Program
SB 192	Menéndez	Relating to a grant program to reimburse public schools for certain costs associated with hiring retired teachers.
HB 362	Bucy	Relating to the assignment of public school students enrolled in certain school districts to an uncertified teacher.
HB 1334	García	Relating to the payment of a fee for the administration of a special education or bilingual education certificate examination.
HB 1429	Buckley	Removes funding cap for R-PEP Programs

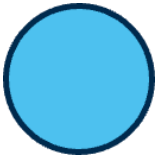
Sources to keep track of legislative updates



Track a bill: capitol.texas.gov



Find your legislators: <https://wrm.capitol.texas.gov>



Follow legislative hearings: house.texas.gov and senate.texas.gov



Questions



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