



STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Intergovernmental Relations Office
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INTERGOVERNMENTAL
RELATIONS OFFICE

During session, the Texas Legislature drives our... **WORK TIMELINES.**



2017 TEXAS LEGISLATURE: BY THE NUMBERS

Year	Total Bills Introduced	Total Bills Passed	City-Related bills introduced	City-Related bills passed
75th-1997	5,629	1,487	1,100+	130+
76 th -1999	5,813	1,622	1,230+	130+
...
84 th -2015	6,476	1,329	1,900+	220+
85th – 2017	6,800	1,208	2500+	294

- **3,089** Bills/JR's filed in last 10 business days before filing deadline (47%)



85TH LEGISLATURE: RECAP



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THE AGENDAS

Abbott

- Four Emergency Items: CPS, Sanctuary Cities, Ethics, and a Convention of the States; added a fifth: Voter ID

Patrick

- SB 1-30: Property Tax Caps, School Choice, “Bathroom Bill,” Sanctuary Cities, Voter ID, State Spending Caps, Hailstorm

Straus

- School Funding, CPS, Mental Health, Infrastructure, Higher Education



WHAT PASSED

1. State budget
2. TxDOT sunset
3. RRC sunset
4. CPS reforms
5. Mental health reforms
6. Sandra Bland Act
7. Child trafficking reforms
8. Ethics reforms
9. Public education reforms
10. Cybersecurity
11. Texting while driving
12. Sanctuary cities
13. Convention of the States
14. Voter ID
15. Pro-Life
16. Gun permit fees
17. Protective vests for police
18. Elimination straight party voting
19. TNC/Ride hailing (Uber)
20. Dallas & Houston pension



WHAT DID NOT PASS

- No legislation passed affecting:
 - School finance
 - School choice
 - Bathrooms/LGBT
 - Franchise tax reductions
 - Medical marijuana
 - Higher education funding/tuition



TEXAS LEGISLATURE LENS: PRIORITY ISSUES

Revenue
Caps

Annexation

Austin
Energy

Small Cell

Payday
Lending

Bathrooms

Super
Preemption

Fair Chance
Hiring

TNC's

Short-term
Rentals

Plastic Bag
Ban



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ALL ITEMS ON GOVERNOR'S CALL

1. Teacher salary & benefits
2. School funding
3. Vouchers
4. Property tax reform
5. Spending limits
6. Annexation
7. Trees
8. Permitting
9. Changing the rules
10. Texting
11. Bathrooms
12. Unions dues
13. Abortion provider funds
14. Abortion provider coverage
15. Abortion reporting
16. Do-not-resuscitate
17. Mail-in ballot fraud
18. Maternal Mortality task force
19. Sunset scheduling
20. Sunset – Medical Board



SPECIAL SESSION CITY ITEMS ON THE CALL

Revenue Caps

Annexation

Permitting

Parkland
Dedication

Trees

Bathrooms

Spending Caps

Hands Free

Development/
Preemption



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ITEMS THAT PASSED

1. Teacher salary & **benefits (TRS Care)**
2. School funding (**school finance commission**)
3. Vouchers
4. Property tax reform
5. Spending limits
6. **Annexation**
7. **Trees (Mitigation Fees)**
8. Permitting
9. Changing the rules
10. Texting
11. Bathrooms
12. Unions dues
13. Abortion provider funds
14. **Abortion provider coverage**
15. **Abortion reporting**
16. **Do-not-resuscitate**
17. **Mail-in ballot fraud**
18. Maternal Mortality task force
19. Sunset scheduling
20. **Sunset – Medical Board**



86TH LEGISLATURE



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CURRENT POLITICAL CLIMATE

- Anti-city environment (preempt cities roles and limit property taxes)
- Governor and Lt. Governor committed to property tax issue
- Driven by organized opposition to local governments
- Republican lead legislature – that’s not changing
- Speaker’s race – extremely important to cities



CURRENT POLITICAL CLIMATE

*“...on the topic of **reining in local government**, I am calling for legislation that **reduces, restricts and prohibits local regulations.**”*

– Gov. Greg Abbott, June 6, 2017 in press conference calling a special session of the legislature

*"As opposed to the state having to take multiple rifle-shot approaches at overriding local regulations, I think a **broad-based law** by the state of Texas that says across the board, the state is going to **pre-empt local regulations**, is a superior approach... makes it more simple, more elegant,"*

– Gov. Greg Abbott, March 14, 2017 at Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute

“Local control is a tool, not a rule....”

– Sen. Konni Burton, July 5, 2017 in guest column with Empower Texans



TEXAS LEGISLATURE LENS: PRIORITY ISSUES

Austin Energy

Revenue Caps

Super
Preemption

Bathrooms

Zoning / Short-
term Rentals

Earned Sick
Leave

Fair Chance
Hiring



QUESTIONS?

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