



STATE LEGISLATION UPDATE February 24, 2023

**Items added since last Update denoted in red*

Workforce Development

[HB 1755](#) – Rep. Button (companion [SB 592](#), Sen. Alvarado)

Relating to the creation of the Lone Star Workforce of the Future Fund. Would establish a new fund to be administered by TWC to provide grants to eligible public junior colleges, public technical institutes, and nonprofit organizations. Would establish a 6-member advisory board chaired by TWC Chair.

Status: *HB 1755 Filed; SB 592 Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development*

[HB 865](#) – Rep. Gervin-Hawkins

Relating to the application for funding for certain workforce development programs. Would require TWC to adopt a plan to allow nonprofit service providers to apply for funding directly from the commission if the local workforce development board is nonresponsive as defined by criteria included in the bill.

Status: *Filed*

[HB 1338](#) – Rep. Raney

Relating to the participation of community-based organizations in workforce training programs funded by the Skills Development Fund. Would allow a community-based organization to apply for money to participate in a training program if the organization applies in partnership with a community and technical college or the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service

Status: *Filed*

[HB 1602](#) – Rep. Guillen

Relating to performance criteria for the award of adult education and literacy funds. Would establish annual performance requirements that each entity that receives appropriated money must satisfy to qualify for a continuing award of funds, including, achievement of enrollment targets and performance benchmarks; and a process for giving priority in awarding funds to entities that consistently satisfy the annual performance requirements.

Status: *Filed*

[HB 2058](#) – Rep. Gamez

Relating to the establishment of a skilled labor task force by certain local workforce development boards. Applies only to a board established in a county with a population of 400,000 or more that borders the Gulf of Mexico. The task force shall study and develop recommendations for the legislature and board regarding strategies for improving the delivery of workforce education and workforce training and services in the board's local workforce development area.

Status: *Filed*

[HB 2302](#) – Rep. Ann Johnson

Relating to certain requirements for the operational component of a local workforce development board's local plan. Adds language for plans to establish specific goals, objectives, and performance measures for individuals who are least 16 years of age but younger than 25 years of age.

Status: Filed

[HB 2368](#) – Rep. Muñoz, Jr.

Relating to requirements for certain skills development fund grant proposals. Adds requirements for submitting written agreements to TWC outlining each entity's respective roles and duties if the grant is awarded.

Status: Filed

[HB 2575](#) – Rep. Button

Relating to the workforce diploma pilot program. Would expand definition of provider eligibility to those entities working in partnership with approved providers.

Status: Filed

[HB 2598](#) – Rep. Gamez

Relating to the establishment by the Texas Workforce Commission of a workplace soft skills training pilot program. Would require TWC to establish and administer a pilot program in Cameron County offering a six-week training course on workplace soft skills, including workplace ethics and etiquette, effective communication, leadership, organizational skills, and time management; and awards a certificate of completion for a participant's successful completion of the training course.

Status: Filed

Business Operations

[HB 1476](#) - Rep. Harrison

Relating to a limitation on the salary paid to officers and employees of this state and political subdivisions of this state.

Status: Filed

Career and Technical Education

[SB 697](#) – Sen. Alvarado (companion [HB 1812](#), Rep. Thierry)

Relating to authorizing school districts to provide funding using money received under the Foundation School Program to community-based organizations for purposes of reimbursing private employers for paid internships provided to certain students in career and technology education programs in the district. Would allow a school district to contract with a community-based organization to match students in grade 11 or 12 who are participating in a career and technology education program in the district with paid internships or similar programs provided by private employers.

Status: HB 1812 Filed; SB 697 Referred to Education

[HB 2046](#) – Rep. Muñoz, Jr.

Relating to eligibility to receive certain federal funding for postsecondary career and technology education distributed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Status Filed

[HB 2346](#) – Rep. Guillen (Companion [HB 2840](#), Rep. Rogers)

Relating to increasing the expenditure requirement for the career and technology education allotment under the Foundation School Program. Increases required expenditure in providing career and technology education programs in grades 7 through 12 from 55 percent to 65 percent.

Status: *HB 2346 Filed; HB 2840 Filed*

[HB 2615](#) – Rep. Gates

Relating to the operation by a school district of a vocational education program to provide eligible high school students with vocational and educational training under a plan for the issuance of a high school diploma and the application of certain student-based allotments under the public school finance system.

Status: *Filed*

Child Care

[SB 353](#) – Sen. Zaffirini (Companion [HB 1834](#), Rep. Senfronia Thompson)

Relating to reimbursement rates for child-care providers participating in the Texas Rising Star Program. Would require each board to reimburse a Texas Rising Star Program provider in the board's area at the board's maximum rate of reimbursement for the provider's Texas Rising Star Program rating level regardless of the provider's published rate.

Status: *SB 353 Referred to Natural Resources & Economic Development; HB 1834 Filed*

[SB 1145](#) – Sen. West

Relating to an exemption from ad valorem taxation of real property used to operate a child-care facility.

Status: *Received by the Secretary of the Senate*

[SJR 64](#) – Sen. West

Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation real property used to operate a child-care facility.

Status: *Filed*

[HB 342](#) - Rep. Bucy (companion [SB 38](#), Sen. Zaffirini)

Relating to providing free full-day prekindergarten for certain children.

Status: *HB 342 Referred to Public Education; SB 38 Referred to Education*

[HB 940](#) - Rep. Dutton

Relating to the establishment of the private child care task force. The private child care task force is established to study private child care providers in this state and methods to reduce the amounts charged for and increase the availability of child care provided by private child care providers.

Status: *Filed*

[HB 1614](#) – Rep. Dutton

Relating to the eligibility for free prekindergarten programs in public schools of certain children who are eligible for the subsidized child-care program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission.

Status: *Filed*

[HB 1801](#) – Rep. Talarico

Relating to an exemption from ad valorem taxation of real property used to operate a child-care facility.

Status: *Filed*

[HB 1979](#) – Rep. Raney

Relating to the powers and duties of the Texas Workforce Commission and local workforce development boards regarding the provision of child care. Would add to required workforce board membership representatives of the child-care workforce who constitute not less than 25 percent of the membership of the board.

Status: Filed

[HJR 96](#) – Rep. Talarico

Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation real property used to operate a child-care facility.

Status: Filed

Certifications, Credentials

[HB 535](#) – Rep. Bailes

Relating to indicators of achievement under the public school accountability system. Would add to indicators of achievement under the public school accountability system various CTE programs and certifications approved by the State Board of Education based on feedback from their district, such as Workforce Boards.

Status: Referred to Public Education

[HB 2448](#) – Rep. Guillen

Relating to creating a framework for including certain credentials of value offered by general academic teaching institutions as part of a baccalaureate degree program.

Status: Filed

Corrections

[SB 1147](#) – Sen. West

Relating to vocational training for and the occupational licensing of inmates in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Expands language related to vocational programs providing education and training for female inmates designed to ensure successful employment following the inmate's release.

Status: Received by the Secretary of the Senate

Primary & Secondary Education

[SB 68](#) – Sen. Zaffirini (Companion [HB 131](#), Rep. Murr)

Relating to excused absences from public school for certain students to visit a professional's workplace for a career investigation day.

Status: SB 68 Referred to Senate Education; HB 131 Referred to Public Education

[SB 657](#) – Sen. Menéndez (Companion [HB 74](#), Rep. Bernal)

Relating to the establishment of the Texas Teacher Recruitment Scholarship Program and the Texas Teacher Retention Incentive Program.

Status: SB 657 Referred to Education; HB 74 Referred to Public Education

[SB 789](#) – Sen. Johnson

Relating to indicators of achievement, assignment of campus performance ratings, and academic distinction designations under the public school accountability system. Would add as an additional indicator of achievement students who successfully completed a Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program.

Status: Received by the Secretary of the Senate

[HB 1548](#) – Rep. Talarico

Relating to the salary and wages paid to public school employees. Would provide a teacher pay raise for Texas teachers and other school personnel.

Status: Filed

TANF/SNAP

[SB 557](#) – Sen. West (companion [HB 1501](#), Rep. Walle)

Relating to the eligibility of certain students enrolled in a postsecondary educational institution for the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

Status: HB 1501 Filed; SB 557 Referred to Health & Human Services

[HB 2836](#) – Rep. Walle

Relating to eligibility for supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits. Would ensure that an individual whose eligibility for supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits has been initially established or recertified remains eligible to receive those benefits for a period of 12 months.

Status: Filed

Texas Workforce Commission

[HB 1703](#) – Rep. Ordaz Perez

Relating to the workforce development evaluation system administered by the Texas Workforce Commission. Would add to evaluation data to include the attainment of employment paying a self-sufficient wage, following completion of a career education and training program.

Status: Filed

Veterans

[HJR 67](#) – Rep. Ray Lopez

Proposing a constitutional amendment to require the legislature to appropriate funds to state institutions of higher education to fund certain education programs for veterans.

Status: Filed