

Legislative Report Card for the 84th Texas Legislative Session

Prepared for

Texas Kids Can't Wait

by

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Legislative Report Card

The Legislative Report Card for the 84th Texas Legislative Session provides an objective measure of each state legislator's support for Texas public schools. Two hundred and ninety three (293) bills, grouped into 15 legislative categories, were utilized in this analysis. Table 1 provides the list of legislative categories and the specific bills for each category. The advocacy position of Texas Kids Can't Wait for each bill is indicated by (o) for opposed or (s) for support.

Table 1
Legislation Analyzed

Legislative Category	Bills	Total Number Of Bills
Public School Options	HB 1891(s), HB 1892(s), HB 424(s), HB 4(s), SB 1483(s), SB 1484(s)	6
Home Schools	HB 2799(o), HB 347(o), SB 391(0)	3
Charter Schools	HB 1276(0), HB 1905(o), HJR 85(o), HB 1728(o), HB 718(o), HB 1170(o), HB 1171(o), HB 3018(o), HB 2851(o), HB 1842(o), HB 1796(o), HB 3173(o), HB 3347(o), HB 3392(o), HB 3487(o), HB 4033(o), HB 4047(o), HB 3375(o), HB 3281(o), SB 1011(o), SB 545(o), SJR 30(o), SB 955(o), SB 1569(o), SB 692(o), SB 1898(o), SB 1900(o), SB 1272(o), SB 1757(o), SB 1897(o), SB 1241(o)	31
Local Control School Districts / Parent Trigger	HB 1798(o), HB 1727(o), HB 2251(o), SB 14(o), SB 2062(o)	5
Opportunity School District	HB 1536(o), SB 895(o), SB 669(o), SB 520(o)	4
On-Line Courses	HB 2032(o), HB 1802(o), HB 2814 (o), HB 2815(o), HB 2760(o), HB 3331(o), SB 894(o), SB 1896(o)	8
Vouchers	HB 4106(o), HB 1043(o), HB 895(o), HB 3887(o), HB 3594(o), HJR 141(o), HJR 82 (s), SB 1447(o), SB 4(o), SB 276(o), SB 642(o), SB 623(o), SB 1123(o), SB 1178(o), SB 1513(o), SB 1611(o)	16
Interstate Primary and Secondary Public Education Compact	HB 1065(o)	1
Assessment	HB 1139(o), HB 829(o), HB 73(s), HB 43(s), HB 514(s), HB 66(s), HB 356(s), HB 406(s), HB 407(s), HB 462(s), HB 588(s), HB 662(o), HB 741(s), HB 742(s), HB 743(s), HB 2195(s), HB 1468(s), HB 1469(s), HB 1673(s), HB 1866(s), HB 2093(o), HB 3973(s), HB 1341(s), SB 1769(s), SB 313(s)	25

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Legislative Category	Bills	Total Number Of Bills
Accountability	HB 455(o), HB 868(o), HB 340(o), HB 775(s), HB 1162(s), HB 1164(s), HB 1304(s), HB 1611(s), HB 1612(s), HB 1613(s), HB 2109(o), HB 2176(o), HB 2792(o), HB 2804(o), HB 3106(o), HB 3145(s), HB 3885(s), HB 3886(s), HB 3201(s), HB 3708(s), HB 4028(o), HB 3746(o), HB 2349(s), HB 1227(O), HB 2792(o), SB 916(s), SB 1893(s), SB 1776(s), SB 6 (o), SB 1825(o), SB 1867(s), SB 1868(s), SB 1200(o), SB 149(s), SB 176(s), SB 1431(o), SB 312(s), SB 452(s)	38
Class Size	HB 49(s), HB 51(s), HB 171(s), HB 355(s), HB 515(s), HB 1023(s), HB 3262(S), SB 1221(s), SB 73(s)	9
Teacher Quality	HB 1300(o), HB 387(s), HB 2543(o), HB 513(s), HB 2225(o), HB 2205(o), HB 810(o), HB 874(o), HB 218(s), HB 1601(o), HB 2014(o), SB 893(o), SB 885(o), SB 159(s), SB 168(o)	15
Civil Rights	HB 3219(o), HB 1257(o), HB 3403(o), HJR 16(o), HB 2450(o), HB 3896(s), HJR 86(o), HB 3815(o), HB 3848(o), HB 429(s), SB 711(o), SB 1862(o), SB 1155(o), SB 1842(o), SB 1748(s)	15
Adequacy	HB 1(O), HB 7(o), HJR 97(s), HJR 59(s), HB 1551(s), HB 964(s), HB 654(s), HB 1759(s), HB 2204(s), HB 125(s), HB 1283(o), HB 114(o), HB 506(s), HB 1182(o), HB 134(o), HB 1378(o), HB 2765(s), HB 2852(s), HB 2607(s), HB 256(s), HB 2252(s), HB 1474(s), HB 645(s), HB 720(s), HB 666 (o), HB 719(o), HB 802(s), HB 1135(s), HB 925(s), HB 1157(s), HB 1163(s), HB 52(s), HB 1001(s), HB 128(o), HB 365(o), HB 958(o), HJR 20(o), HJR 64(o), HJR 71(o), HJR 72(o), HJR 74(o), HB 1518(s), HB 1022(s), HB 1519(o), HB 250(O), HB 552(O), HB 321(o), HB 358(o), HB 79(O), HB 668(O), HB 722(o), HB 1047(o), HB 850(o), HB 1134(o), HB 1152(o), HB 1314(o), HB 1315(o), HB 32(o), HJR 19(o), HB 2506(o), HB 129(o), HB 395(s), HB 992(o), HB 399(o), HB 469(o), HJR 48(o), HB 351(s), HB 1261(s), HB 1697(o), HB 2981(o), SB 240(s), SB 15(o), SJR 3(o), SB 243(s), SB 102(o), SB 103(o), SB 310(o), SB 315(s), SB 399(o), SB 1357(s), SB 1570(s), SB 324(s), SJR 1(o), SB 182(o), SB 515(o), SB 156(o), SB 278(s), SJR 28(o), SJR 14(o), SJR 20(o), SB 593(s), SB 7(o), SB 8(o), SB 1248(o), SB 331(o), SB 138(o), SB 52(o), SB 134(o), SB 186(o), SB 330(o), SB 184(o), SB 9(o), SJR 15(o)	103
Tax Payer Equity	HB 945(o), HB 1478(o), HB 1479(o), HB 2026(s), HB 1461(s), HB 1711(s), HB 1305(s), HB 1713(s), HB 2164 (s), SB 556(s), SB 595(s), SB 246(s), SB 247(s), SB 161(s)	14
15	TOTAL	293

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Of the 293 bills analyzed, 62 advanced to a floor vote in one or both chambers. The 62 bills that advanced to a floor vote are delineated in Table 2. The advocacy position for Texas Kids Can't Wait is indicated by (o) for opposed or (s) for support.

Table 2

Bills Advancing to a Floor Vote

Legislation Texas Kids Can't Wait Position	Bill Caption	Legislative Outcome
HB 4 (s)	Relating to prekindergarten, including a high quality prekindergarten grant program provided by public school districts.	Enacted into law
HB 1905 (o)	Relating to certain state and local taxes, including ad valorem taxes, and to the repeal of certain of those taxes.	Enacted into law
HB 1170 (o)	Relating to the applicability to open-enrollment charter schools of certain laws regarding local governments and political subdivisions.	Enacted into law
HB 1171 (o)	Relating to the applicability of certain immunity and liability laws to open-enrollment charter schools.	Enacted into law
HB 2851 (o)	Relating to the limitation on the liability of the nonprofit corporation established by the Texas Public Finance Authority to issue revenue bonds for open-enrollment charter schools to provide educational facilities.	Enacted into law
HB 1842 (o)	Relating to public school accountability, including the intervention in and sanction of a public school that has received an academically unsuccessful performance rating for at least two consecutive school years and the designation of a school district as a district of innovation.	Enacted into law
HB 1798 (o)	Relating to local control school districts.	Failed to pass to engrossment
HB 2251 (o)	Relating to an established schedule of payments from the foundation school fund of the yearly entitlement of certain open-enrollment charter schools.	Enacted into law

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Legislation Texas Kids Can't Wait Position	Bill Caption	Legislative Outcome
HB 66 (s)	Relating to the consideration of the performance of students of limited English proficiency on state assessment instruments and inclusion of related information in campus report cards.	Died in the Senate
HB 743 (s)	Relating to the essential knowledge and skills of the required public school curriculum and to certain assessment instruments for public school students.	Enacted into law
HB 1164 (s)	Relating to requiring the Texas Education Agency to conduct a study to develop a writing assessment method for public school students and establish a pilot program to administer the assessment method developed.	Enacted into law
HB 1612 (s)	Relating to a requirement that public institutions of higher education provide certain information to students and school districts regarding student performance on Texas Success Initiative assessment instruments.	Died in the Senate
HB 1613 (s)	Relating to the alignment of college readiness standards and expectations and essential knowledge and skills and the use to satisfy requirements concerning high school end-of-course assessment instruments of performance demonstrating satisfaction of certain college readiness benchmarks on certain assessment instruments designated by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.	Enacted into law
HB 2804 (o)	Relating to evaluation of public school performance.	Enacted into law
HB 3106 (o)	Relating to the period of time allowed for appointment of a board of managers for a school district.	Enacted into law
HB 2349 (s)	Relating to public school assessment, performance standards, and course requirements.	Enacted into law
HB 1300 (o)	Relating to eligibility requirements for admission of certain persons to educator preparation programs.	Enacted into law

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Legislation Texas Kids Can't Wait Position	Bill Caption	Legislative Outcome
HB 2205 (o)	Relating to the State Board for Educator Certification, educator preparation programs, educator certification, issuance of certain teaching permits, and certain procedures for investigating educator misconduct.	Enacted into law
HB 218 (s)	Relating to certification requirements for teachers in bilingual education.	Enacted into law
HB 2014 (o)	Relating to the authority of military personnel to obtain certification to teach career and technology education classes in public schools.	Enacted into law
HB 1 (o)	General Appropriations Bill.	Enacted into law
HB 7 (o)	Relating to certain fiscal matters affecting governmental entities; reducing or affecting the amounts or rates of certain taxes, assessments, surcharges, and fees.	Enacted into law
HB 1551 (s)	Relating to money distributed by the School Land Board to the available school fund or to the State Board of Education for investment in the permanent school fund.	Enacted into law
HB 964 (s)	Relating to the calculation of the rollback tax rate of a school district.	Died in the Senate
HB 114 (o)	Relating to the issuance of certain capital appreciation bonds by political subdivisions.	Enacted into law
HB 506 (s)	Relating to the issuance of tax-supported bonds by certain school districts and increasing the tax rate limitation on the issuance of those bonds.	Failed to pass to engrossment
HB 1378 (o)	Relating to the fiscal transparency and accountability of political subdivisions.	Enacted into law
HB 256 (s)	Relating to compensatory education allotment funding.	Died in the Senate
HB 1474 (s)	Relating to the placement of money in the state instructional materials fund and payment of the instructional materials allotment.	Enacted into law

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Legislation Texas Kids Can't Wait Position	Bill Caption	Legislative Outcome
HJR 64 (o)	Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of certain property owned by or leased to or by a university research technology corporation.	Died in the Senate
HB 1022 (s)	Relating to the eligibility for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of the residence homestead of certain persons with a life estate in the homestead property.	Enacted into law
HB 32 (o)	Relating to the computation and rates of the franchise tax; decreasing tax rates.	Enacted into law
HB 992 (o)	Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of the total appraised value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran.	Enacted into law
HB 1305 (s)	Relating to a program to provide a free or reduced-price breakfast to eligible students attending a public school and the method of determining the number of educationally disadvantaged students.	Enacted into law
SB 545 (o)	Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of real property leased to and used by certain schools	Died in the House
SJR 30 (o)	Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation real property leased to certain schools organized and operated primarily for the purpose of engaging in educational functions.	Died in the House
SB 955 (o)	Relating to permissible locations of open-enrollment charter schools created by certain institutions of higher education.	Enacted into law
SB 1569 (o)	elating to the applicability of certain immunity and liability laws to open-enrollment charter schools.	Died in the House
SB 1897 (o)	Relating to public school accountability, including the powers and duties of the commissioner of education regarding open-enrollment charter schools.	Died in the House

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Legislation Texas Kids Can't Wait Position	Bill Caption	Legislative Outcome
SB 1241 (o)	Relating to authority of school districts, home-rule school districts, and open-enrollment charter schools to establish innovation zones and the authority of school districts to obtain designation as districts of innovation.	Died in the House
SB 14 (o)	Relating to empowering the parents of students to petition for the reconstitution, repurposing, alternative management, or closure of low-performing public school campuses.	Died in the House
SB 2062 (o)	Relating to authorizing certain charter holders to provide combined services for certain adult and high school dropout recovery programs.	Enacted into law
SB 669 (o)	Relating to state interventions and sanctions against public school campuses with unacceptable performance and the establishment of the Texas Opportunity School District for educating students at certain low-performing campuses.	Died in the House
SB 1896 (o)	Relating to providing public school students tutorials through the state virtual school network for end-of-course assessment instruments required for graduation.	Died in the House
SB 4 (o)	Relating to a franchise or insurance premium tax credit for contributions made to certain educational assistance organizations; adding provisions subject to a criminal penalty.	Died in the House
SB 1178 (o)	Relating to an interim study on an education savings account program.	Died in the House

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Legislation Texas Kids Can't Wait Position	Bill Caption	Legislative Outcome
SB 313 (s)	Relating to the essential knowledge and skills of the required public school curriculum, the administration of and reports relating to assessment instruments administered to public school students, the instructional materials allotment, and proclamations for the production of instructional materials.	Vetoed by the Governor
SB 1776 (s)	Relating to the exemption from the assessment requirements of the Texas Success Initiative for students who successfully complete certain college preparatory courses.	Enacted into law
SB 6 (o)	Relating to public school performance ratings.	Died in the House
SB 1867 (s)	Relating to excluding certain adult students receiving special education services from computation of completion rates for purposes of public school accountability.	Enacted into law
SB 1200 (o)	Relating to the creation of a commission to recommend a new system for student assessment and public school accountability.	Died in the House
SB 149 (s)	Relating to alternative methods for satisfying certain public high school graduation requirements, including the use of individual graduation committees.	Enacted into law
SB 893 (o)	Relating to public school teacher performance appraisals, continuing education, professional development, career advancement, and compensation.	Died in the House
SB 159 (s)	Relating to certification requirements for teachers in bilingual education.	Died in the House
SB 310 (o)	Relating to procedures and requirements for the issuance of certificates of obligation.	Died in the House

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Legislation Texas Kids Can't Wait Position	Bill Caption	Legislative Outcome
SJR 1 (o)	Proposing a constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes and providing for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for those purposes on the homestead of an elderly or disabled person to reflect the increased exemption amount, authorizing the legislature to prohibit a political subdivision that has adopted an optional residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation from reducing the amount of or repealing the exemption, and prohibiting the enactment of a law that imposes a transfer tax on a transaction that conveys fee simple title to real property.	Passed both chambers
SJR 20 (o)	Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the governing body of a political subdivision other than a school district to adopt an exemption from ad valorem taxation of a portion, expressed as a dollar amount, of the market value of an individual's residence homestead and authorizing the legislature to prohibit the governing body of any political subdivision that adopts an exemption from ad valorem taxation of a portion, expressed as a percentage or a dollar amount, of the market value of an individual's residence homestead from reducing the amount of or repealing the exemption.	Died in the House
SB 593 (s)	Relating to pretrial settlement discussions during ad valorem tax appeals.	Enacted into law
SB 7 (o)	Relating to the computation of and to decreasing the rates of the franchise tax.	Died in the House
SB 8 (o)	Relating to the total revenue exemption for the franchise tax.	Died in the House
SB 9 (o)	Relating to limitations on the rate of growth of appropriations for certain categories of spending.	Died in Conference Committee

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Legislation Texas Kids Can't Wait Position	Bill Caption	Legislative Outcome
SB 161 (s)	Relating to a study regarding the costs of educating students of limited English proficiency in public schools.	Died in the House

For the 62 bills advancing to a floor vote, each legislator was awarded one point for voting with the Texas Kids Can't Wait position; legislators voting contrary to the Texas Can't Wait position received a one-point deduction. In addition, authors and sponsors of all favorable legislation were awarded an additional point and authors and sponsors of unfavorable legislation received a one-point deduction. Similarly, coauthors and cosponsors received a half-point for favorable legislation or a deduction of a half-point for unfavorable legislation. Tables 3 and 4 detail how points were distributed for supported and opposed bills respectively.

Table 3

Point Distribution for Bills Supported by Texas Kids Can't Wait

Bills Advancing to Floor Vote	Bills Not Advancing to Floor Vote
1 point for voting "yes"	1 point for authors and sponsors
-1 point for voting "no"	½ point for coauthors and cosponsors
1 point for authors and sponsors	
½ point for coauthors and cosponsors	

Table 4

Point Distribution for Bills Opposed by Texas Kids Can't Wait

Bills Advancing to Floor Vote	Bills Not Advancing to Floor Vote
-1 point for voting "yes"	-1 point for coauthors and cosponsors
1 point for voting "no"	-½ point for coauthors and cosponsors
-1 point for authors and sponsors	
-½ point for coauthors and cosponsors	

The final value for each legislator was determined by summing the points earned for each bill. Tables 5 and 6 delineate the final value, numerical rank, and percentile rank for each member of the House and Senate respectively.

Table 5

House of Representatives Final Value, Numerical Rank, and Percentile Rank

Representative	Final Value	Numerical Rank	Percentile Rank
Gonzales, M	25	1	100
Bernal	14	2	99.3
Howard	13.5	3	98.6
Moody	12	4	97.9
Israel	11	5	97.3

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Representative	Final Value	Numerical Rank	Percentile Rank
Blanco; Collier	10	6	95.9
Rodriquez, J	9	8	95.3
Martinez Fisher; Turner, C	8.5	9	93.9
Coleman; Turner, S; Walle	8	11	91.9
Davis, Y	7.5	14	91.2
Allen; Farias; Nevarez	7	15	89.2
Herrero	6.5	18	88.5
Anchia; Gutierrez; Rose	6	19	86.5
Minjarez	5.5	22	85.9
Rodriguez, E	5	23	85.2
Canales; Wu	4.5	24	83.8
Giddings; Martinez, A; Miles; Naishtat; VanDeaver	4	26	80.5
Farrar; Guillen; Marquez	3	31	78.5
Alvarado; Lucio	2.5	34	77.1
Hernandez; Johnson; McClendon; Munoz; Romero, Thompson, S	2	36	73.1
Pickett; Vo	1	42	71.8
Oliveira	0	44	71.1
Deshotel; Dukes; Longoria; Raymond; Straus	-1	45	67.7
Reynolds	-1.5	50	67.1
Guerra; Sheffield	-2.5	51	65.7
Alonzo; King, T	-3	53	64.4
Harless	-3.5	55	63.7
Aycock; Darby	-4	56	62.4
Simpson	-4.5	58	61.7
Galindo; Kacal	-5	59	60.4
Phillips	-5.5	61	59.7
Lozano; Paddie	-6	62	58.3
Raney	-6.5	64	57.7
Frank; Gonzales, L; Hunter; Price	-7	65	55.0
Ashby; Faircloth; King, S; White, J	-7.5	69	52.3
Bell; Crownover; Davis, S; Dutton, Frullo	-8	73	48.9
Anderson, C; Huberty; Keffer, Miller, D; Pena	-8.5	78	45.6
Burns; Isaac; King, K; Kuempel; Smith; Smithee	-9	83	41.6
Cook; Farney; Klick; Koop; Schubert; Zerwas	-9.5	89	37.5
Cryier; Morrison; Otto; Phelan; White, M	-10	95	34.5
Larson	-10.5	100	33.5
Geran; Hughes; Thompson, E	-11	101	31.5
Burkett; Spitzer	-11.5	104	30.2
Bonnen, D; Burrows; Landgraf; Metcalf; Sheets; Stickland; Wray	-12	106	25.5
Clardy; Craddick; Stephenson	-12.5	113	23.4
Fletcher; King, P; Workman	-13	116	21.4
Anderson, R; Dale; Murr	-13.5	119	19.4
Paul; Schofield	-14	122	18.1

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Representative	Final Value	Numerical Rank	Percentile Rank
Riddle; Villalba	-14.5	124	16.7
Elkins; Meyer; Turner, ES	-15.5	126	14.7
Button	-16.5	129	14.0
Krause; Shaheen	-17	130	12.7
Sanford; Schaefer	-17.5	132	11.4
Capriglione; Laubenbeg; Parker	-18	134	9.3
Fallon; Simmons; Tinderholt	-18.5	137	7.3
Bonnen, G	-19	140	6.7
Zedler	-20	141	6.0
Flynn; Goldman; Miller, R	-20.5	142	4.0
Keough; Rinaldi	-21	145	2.6
Murphy; Springer; Leach	-22.5	149	0.6
Bohac	-26	150	0.0

Table 6
Senate Final Value, Numerical Rank, and Percentile Rank

Senator	Final Value	Numerical Rank	Percentile Rank
Rodriguez; Watson	20.5	1	96.7
Garcia	18	3	93.5
Menendez	14.5	4	90.3
Ellis	13	5	87.0
Zaffirini	12.5	6	83.8
Whitmire	5	7	80.6
Uresti	4.5	8	77.4
Patrick	0	9	74.1
West	-3	10	70.9
Hinojosa	-3.5	11	67.7
Seliger	-7.5	12	64.5
Lucio	-14.5	13	61.2
Nichols	-15.5	14	58.0
Eltife	-17.5	15	54.8
Estes	-21.5	16	51.6
Fraser; Huffman	-22	17	45.1
Perry	-24	19	41.9
Kolkhorst	-24.5	20	38.7
Birdwill	-25.5	21	35.4
Burton	-29	22	32.2

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Senator	Final Value	Numerical Rank	Percentile Rank
Hancock	-29.5	23	29.0
Nelson	-30	24	25.8
Creighton	-31.5	25	22.5
Huffines; Taylor, V	-32	26	16.1
Schwertner	-33	28	12.9
Bettencourt	-34	29	9.6
Campbell	-35	30	6.4
Taylor, L	-37.5	31	3.2
Hall	-38	32	0.0