

The 85th Legislative Session

Don Hudson, Ph.D. – Vice President - Data & Research

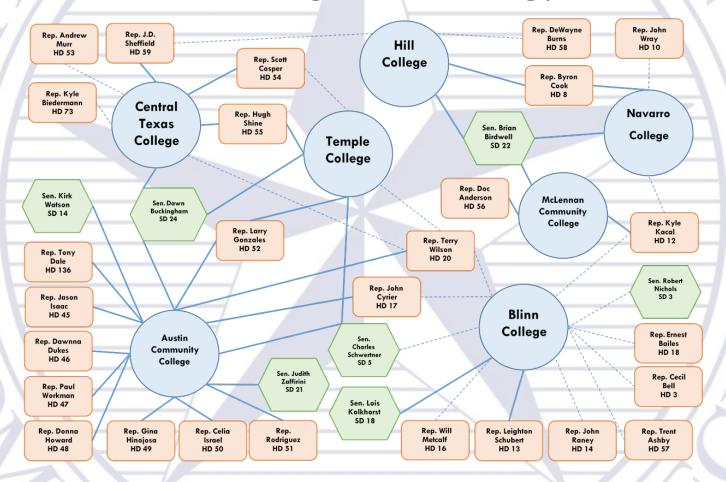
Dustin Meador – Director of Government Relations

The 85th Regular Session by the Numbers

Historically Low Productivity

- Session defined by House/Senate tension
- Lowest Passage Rate for Bills in the Modern Era:
 - 18% of filed bills passed (16% of House bills, 22% of Senate bills)
 - Lowest total number passed
 - 1,211 HB/SBs passed in 2017
 - Most bills filed since 2009
 - 6,631 bills filed in 2017;
 - 7,419 in 2009
 - 50 Bills vetoed by the Governor
 - Bill related to Trustee elections only community college related bill vetoed

TACC Regional Strategy



Unified Advocacy Approach







Texas Community Colleges Funding Request for 2018-19 Biennium

Impact

State: Texas Community Colleges are vital to the <u>economic well-being</u> of the State of Texas. Individually and in aggregate, Texas Community Colleges will play a central role in advancing the key strategies of the new Texas Strategic Plan for Higher Education, 60X30TX.

Policy Victories

- HB 2994: Continuing Education (CE) reimbursement
 - Author Rep. Trent Ashby (R-Angelina); sponsor Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa (D-McAllen)
 - Ensures state reimbursement for continuing education courses taught to high school students or taught to adults with waived tuition.
- SB 2118: Authorization for Baccalaureate Degrees
 - Author Sen. Kel Seliger (R-Amarillo); sponsor Rep. Sarah Davis (R-Houston)
 - Allows for limited authorization from THECB in nursing, applied technology, applied science, early childhood education, and dental hygiene (TJC only)
 - \$6B in tax valuation, positive financial health required

Policy Victories

- SB 719: Reporting Requirements for Community Colleges
 - Requires THECB to collect data on participation of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities enrolled in a workforce education programs
 - Amended to include a pilot program to study campus level reporting of finances
 - Overrides reporting rider (old Rider 23, new Rider 22)
- No Major Dual Credit Bills Passed
- Creation of a new college by an ISD failed to pass

Policy Setbacks

- HB 2194: Adding a trustee to the Weatherford College board from outside the taxing district.
 - State mandated a trustee appointment for second consecutive session
 - Precedent set for representation from maintenance tax county
- No significant credit transfer legislation
 - Workgroup created in the Senate, bills by Sen. West failed to reach Governor

Other Significant Legislation

- SB 4: "Sanctuary Cities" Bill
 - Campus police may not "adopt, enforce, or endorse a policy under which the entity or department prohibits or materially limits the enforcement of immigration laws."
 - A campus police department may not prohibit or limit a commissioned peace officer from inquiring into the immigration status of a person under lawful detention or arrest.
 - Discrimination prohibited; complaint process and equitable relief process established. Civil penalties created for violations.
 - Potential removal from office if person holding "elective or appointive office of a political subdivision" violates provisions of the new law.

Other Significant Legislation

- HB 2223: Co-Requisite Developmental Education
 - Requires adoption of co-requisite model for developmental education.
 - Incremental implementation required, leading to 75% of developmental education students enrolled in co-requisite model:
 - 2018-19: at least 25%
 - 2019-20: at least 50%
 - 2020-21: at least 75%
 - Formula funding for developmental education reduced from 27 to 18 credits per student. (27 if coursework is English for non-English speakers)
 - Rulemaking process underway at THECB

Looking Ahead to Special Session

- Special Session to begin July 18, 2017
- Preview of Special Session Tomorrow