TEXAS SCHOOL ALLIANCE:

2027 LEGISLATIVE FOCUS AREAS

Sustainable Public Education Funding

TSA supports a stable and sustainable school finance system that enables public schools to meet student needs, adapt to changing expectations, and fulfill their constitutional responsibilities. Areas of focus include:

- Targeted investments to support recent legislative action impacting special education, early learning programs, teacher preparation, and alternative language programs.
- Technical adjustments that ensure funding mechanisms operate as intended.
- Increased support for programs whose costs exceed funding, including transportation, utilities, and student safety.
- The sustainability of education funding in a time of continued cuts in property taxes.
- Districts' discretion over targeted allotments.

Student Learning and Emerging Technology

TSA anticipates continued legislative discussion regarding classroom instruction and the evolving role of technology and digital platforms, including:

- The appropriate use of technology and artificial intelligence in classrooms.
- The impact of social media on student well-being and campus environments.
- Measurements of academic growth in middle school.

Effective Accountability Measures

TSA supports accountability and intervention systems that are transparent, fair, student-centered, and reflective of communities' needs. Areas of focus include:

- More appropriate recognition of special populations, bilingual students, and students with cognitive disabilities within the accountability framework.
- Expanded options for successful improvement during state intervention.
- Creation of an independent administrative review process, outside TEA, to hear district challenges related to accountability ratings, sanctions, and intervention decisions.

Continued Implementation of 2025 Legislation

TSA anticipates continued discussion and refinement of legislation passed during the 89th Legislature, including:

- Implementation of parental rights provisions under SB 12.
- Reasonable and appropriate application of cell phone restrictions under HB 1481, particularly in extracurricular and advanced academic settings.
- Implementation of the accountability reforms in HB 8, including consideration of additional accountability indicators related to Industry-Based Certifications.
- Clarification and refinement of educator misconduct provisions under HB 571 to reduce confusion, duplication, and unintended consequences.
- Review of outside compensation restrictions under HB 3372 to ensure implementation aligns with legislative intent and avoids unintended impacts on districts and employees.

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