



The Hutto Community Legislative Agenda

83rd Texas Legislative Session

Make Education A Priority

- Allow the fast growth schools the ability to exceed the 50 cent test on I&S debt service taxes or at least apply an inflationary increase.
- Let fast growth school districts keep the funds from a property value increase for one year (return the one-year funding lag).
- Allow schools to develop and teach curriculum to prepare students for their futures by curbing the over reliance on standardized testing.
- **Accountability:** Districts should be measured by an accountability system that neither includes a high volume of testing nor determines a student's course grade. The system should turnaround data quickly and eliminate excessive retesting in specific areas.
- **Funding:** The public education system should be adequately funded to provide the best resources for all students and allow districts to meet the requirements placed on them by the legislature. Future funding should include:
 1. Regular Program Adjustment Factor (RPAF)
 2. Instructional Materials and Technology allotments
 3. Student Success Initiative
 4. New Facilities allotment
 5. Virtual Schools and EDA/IFA funding
 6. Percentage funding for Special Populations
- **Instructional related issues:** Districts should be allowed to institute a calendar that best meets instructional needs. In addition, the legislature should support the expansion of CTE-based fourth year math and science options and the expansion of graduation pathways.
- **Monetary related issues:** Due to budgetary and academic issues, the state should oppose the introduction of vouchers as an alternative to public education. A voucher system would increase, not decrease the state's financial responsibility.

Local Control For Local Government

- Maintain existing local control over tax rates and finances.
- Maintain the current constitutional provision limiting increases in appraised values.
- Protect local taxpayers from bearing the burden of paying for state mandates.
- Maintain the ability of local officials to protect the interests of property owners, neighborhoods, and the public in decisions regarding the permitted uses of property.
- Allow Emergency Service Districts the authority to ask for public vote on increasing tax rate cap when necessary.
- Maintain financial solvency of public employee retirement systems.

Keep Families Safe and Healthy

- Advocate for family violence prevention and enforcement.
- Advocate for Texas Parks and Wildlife to maintain grant funding capacity for municipal and county park creation.
- Ensure utility service providers are able to meet fire flows and provide adequate service within city limits.
- Enable cities to demolish unsafe structures.
- Maintain or increase funding for mental health initiatives.

Expanding Business Growth

- Support funding of state and federal money for transportation and other infrastructure improvements.
- Maintain the local control over economic development sales tax funds for the use of local primary job creation.

Create a Quality Workforce


- Support workforce and skills alignment through the reform of the Skills Development fund, and define clear pathways between high school career and technical education for community college career and technical programs.
- Measure and fund success by affirming community college state funding commitments to core college operations, contact hours, student success points, and restoring health insurance state funding.
- Support college readiness by funding the *Dana Center* in developing and implementing the "New Mathways" project and additional Starlink funding for Student Success professional development.
- Encourage transfer and articulation through statewide-adopted common core curricula that leads to an associate degree and support an incentive system for the completion of the associates degree that rewards students, community colleges, and universities.




Debbie Holland, Mayor
City of Hutto




Doug Gaul, President
Hutto ISD Board of Trustees



Mario Perez, Chairman of the Board of Trustees
Hutto Economic Development Corporation



Dr. Robbin Ray, Director of Center Development
East Williamson County Higher Education Center



Glenn Trubee, President
Williamson County ESD # 3 Board of Commissioners