

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DATA PRIVACY
HB 4 creates a regulatory framework for the collection and use of consumer data, providing protection for Texans’ personal information and clear and consistent guidelines for businesses.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES
HB 5 creates a new statewide economic development incentive program to attract major business investments across a variety of critical industries in a transparent and accountable manner.

BROADBAND ACCESS
HB 9 creates a broadband infrastructure fund to support a holistic approach to addressing Texas’ connectivity needs and facilitating better access to education, health care, and economic opportunity in communities across the state.

SEMICONDUCTOR RESEARCH AND MANUFACTURING
HB 5174 creates the Texas Semiconductor Innovation Consortium and Texas Semiconductor Innovation Fund to help ensure Texas remains competitive in the critical sector of semiconductor research, design, and manufacturing.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE
SB 28 creates the Texas Water Fund and the New Water Supply for Texas Fund to allow large-scale investments in meeting Texas’ water supply and infrastructure needs, particularly as the state’s population grows.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE FUNDING
HB 8 modernizes and significantly invests in Texas’ community college finance system and emphasizes outcomes-based funding to better reflect the needs and goals of colleges, job seekers, and employers.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL QUALITY
HB 1605 improves access to high-quality instructional materials by enabling the state to develop a free pool of rigorous, grade-appropriate resources, which will help combat teacher burnout and high rates of students learning below grade level.

WORKFORCE TRAINING
HB 1755 creates the Lone Star Workforce of the Future Fund to provide grants to community colleges, technical colleges, and nonprofits for evidence-based workforce training programs, helping bridge credential and living wage gaps.

CHILD CARE ACCESS
SB 1145 enables municipalities to provide property tax exemptions to licensed child care providers to help stem cost increases and decrease the likelihood of closures of a vital resource for working parents.

HEALTH CARE

POSTPARTUM HEALTH CARE
HB 12 expands postpartum Medicaid coverage in Texas to 12 months, in line with best-practice recommendations to support women and children during a vital period and to combat maternal mortality and morbidity disparities.

NURSING EDUCATION SUPPORTS
SB 25 establishes grant programs to support nursing education and training to help address a critical health care labor shortage, including through scholarships and expanded loan repayment assistance.

WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PENALTIES
SB 840, named the Jacqueline “Jackie” Pokuaa and Katie “Annette” Flowers Act for the victims of the 2022 tragedy at Dallas Methodist Medical Center, raises the penalty for assaulting hospital personnel to a third-degree felony.

QUALITY OF LIFE

DISCRIMINATION PROTECTION
HB 567 provides protection from discrimination based on hairstyles associated with race, including by prohibiting schools and employers from enforcing dress codes that discriminate against specific hair textures or protective styles.

REENTRY SUPPORTS
HB 1743 allows inmates to apply for Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program benefits between 45-60 days before leaving prison, addressing a key part of the safety net for Texans reintegrating into their communities.

LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND POLICIES
SB 1445 updates the powers and duties of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, including requiring the adoption of model policies on conduct and hiring and the use of licensing status and service report databases.

Tracking Regional Priorities in Austin

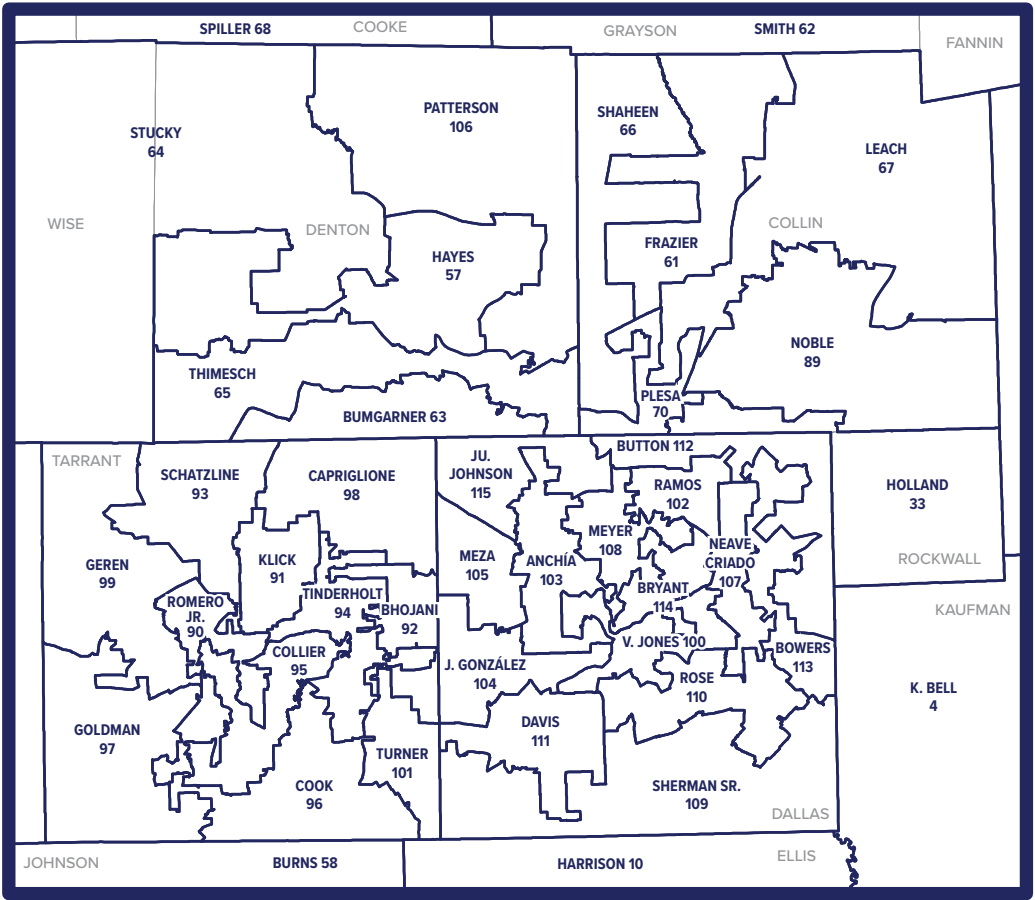
During the regular session of 88th Texas Legislature, the Dallas Regional Chamber (DRC) and Fort Worth Chamber tracked how local legislators voted on issues that impact the region’s pro-business, pro-growth priorities.

The result is this Legislative Index, designed to help our members and the North Texas business community understand how our elected officials represented our region’s interests in Austin. The index shows the votes of 45 legislators in the Texas House and Senate on 15 bills.

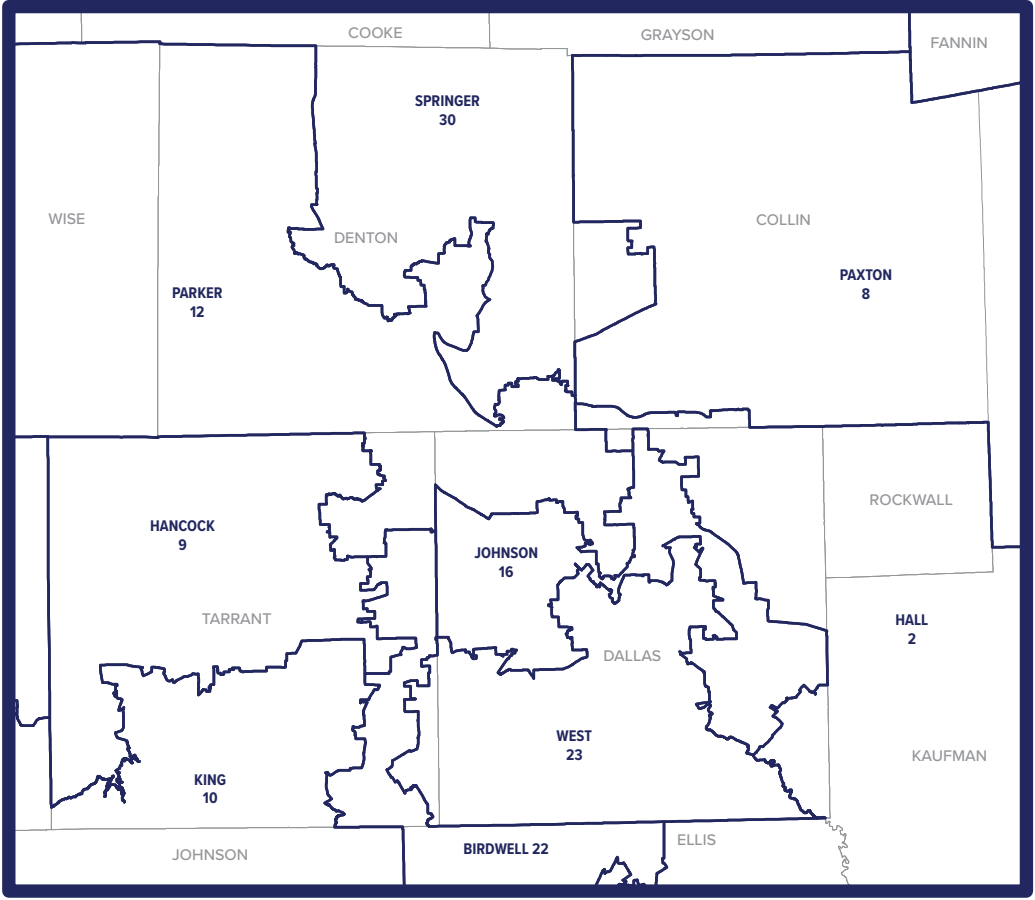
Although the DRC and Fort Worth Chamber supported many pieces of legislation and opposed others, these 15 bills were chosen for their relevance to critical issues for our region and state — namely, preserving Texans’ economic success, investing in Texas’ workforce, supporting a healthy talent pool, and promoting a high quality of life for all.

Texas and the Dallas Region made important progress on these issues during the legislative session that will contribute to our future resilience, competitiveness, and attractiveness as the best place in the United States to live, work, and do business.

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



TEXAS SENATE



LEGISLATIVE INDEX

88TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION








*as of June 12, 2023



**NATIONAL
CHAMBER
OF THE YEAR**



-  VOTED WITH DRC/FWC POSITION
-  VOTED AGAINST DRC/FWC POSITION
-  PRESENT, NOT VOTING
-  ABSENT
-  EXCUSED

SENATE

SUPPORT

SUPPORT

SUPPORT

SUPPORT

WEST (23)

* All recorded votes are the final vote in each chamber before enrollment and reflect vote statement corrections made in the House journal