



TOP THINGS TO KNOW THIS WEEK FOR TEXAS BUSINESSES

SCHOOL FINANCE TALKS ARE IN FULL SWING

The Texas House is currently reviewing HB3, a house bill that would increase the state's share of dollars for public education, pay for full-day prekindergarten and give school districts money to reduce school property taxes.

If passed, the state will increase funding by \$9 billion above the \$2 billion needed to keep up with current enrollment. Although this comes in at almost \$3 billion more than the Senate's proposed finance budget, it is clear that both chambers are committed to making school funding increases a priority.

TAB'S STATEMENT ON HOUSE BILL 3

The Texas Association of Business applauds Chairman Dan Huberty for filing House Bill 3, a thorough school finance bill that reforms the school finance system to optimize student outcomes.

HB 3 smartly reduces property taxes through compression of school district tax rates while increasing the state's share of school funding. HB 3 also makes strategic investments in early childhood education and teacher pay that will enhance student achievement.

HB 3's investments will also help Texas employers by preparing our future workforce. TAB looks forward to working with Chairman Huberty and other key leaders as the bill advances through the legislative process.

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER SECURITY REMAIN TOP WORRIES OF TEXAS VOTERS, UT/TT POLL FINDS

Last week the Texas Tribune partnered with The University of Texas to poll Texas voters regarding the "most important issues facing the country and the state." After the results were compiled, a combined 25% of voters felt border security and immigration is the most important issue facing the country and 36% felt it was the biggest issue affecting Texas.

"It's been a consistent finding that immigration and border security is a top item" on the list of problems facing Texas, said Daron Shaw, a government professor at the University of Texas at Austin and co-director of the poll. "What's interesting and surprising this time is that it's an even bigger issue now — and it's on the national list along with the Texas list."

Find all of the data and read the full story [here](#).

THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT (USMCA) TRADE TALKS CONTINUE

The United States-Mexico-Canada agreement (USMCA) trade talks are one of the top priorities on The President's 2019 Trade Policy Agenda. The outcome of these trade talks will have a large impact on business in Texas and the rest of the nation.

Last week, the National Association of Manufacturers released a new manufacturing [one-pager](#) that underscores the importance of congressional passage of the USMCA to restore certainty, promote U.S. manufacturing growth, compete globally and support millions of well-paying manufacturing jobs.

Follow us on Social Media

Facebook – [@txbiz](#)

Twitter – [@txbiz](#)

LinkedIn - [Texas Association of Business](#)

Website: [txbiz.org](#)