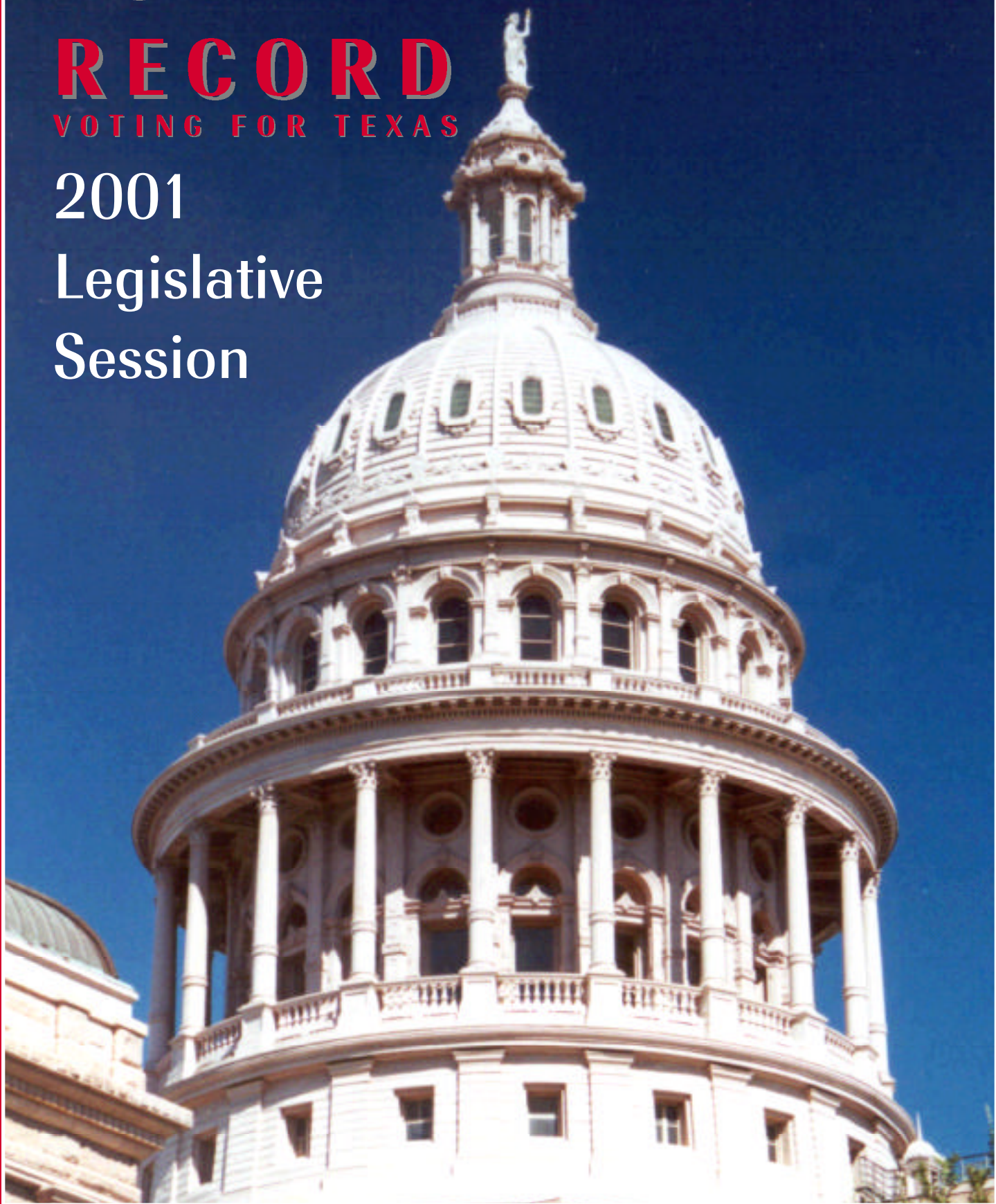


FOR THE RECORD

VOTING FOR TEXAS

2001

Legislative
Session



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS & CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

FOR THE RECORD

77TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Texas employers drive our economy, employ our citizens and help educate our children.

The Texas Association of Business & Chambers of Commerce (TABCC) has been the voice of business for over 75 years. Throughout Texas – and especially at our state capitol – it is the role of TABCC to support thoughtful, intelligent laws that assist businesses and stimulate the economy. TABCC believes that it is critical that the elected members of the Texas Legislature never forget the role played by Texas business in our economy.

TABCC is a bi-partisan organization that does not endorse specific political parties. We do, however, endorse specific officeholders and candidates who have demonstrated a commitment to our pro-business philosophy. We do that through our political action committee – the Business and Commerce PAC (BACPAC).

As a service for our members, TABCC has prepared this first-of-its kind published voting record. It is designed to inform employers on the activities and performance of their legislators.

We think it is important that our members – Texas employers – know what happened in the 77th Legislative Session.

Keeping score in the legislative arena is never simple – and never perfect. The process seems designed to complicate and confuse issues. In Texas, not all votes are record votes. A vote on an amendment or a procedural motion may sometimes be more critical, and telling, than a vote for final passage.

We have done our best to compile an even-handed scorecard. Every member of the Legislature received a booklet outlining TABCC's priorities at the start of the legislative session. Every record vote in the attached document was either specified in that published report or was consistent with the legislative philosophy of TABCC.

We are grateful to those members of the Texas Legislature who voted with us. We believe those votes on behalf of business benefit every citizen of this state.

And we believe that keeping score is important. While this may be the first scorecard produced by our organization, it won't be the last.



Bill Hammond
TABCC President

HOW TO READ THE VOTES

- + Pro-Business Vote**
- Vote Against Business**
- P Present Not Voting**
- A Absent**
- I Illness (legislators not penalized for absence due to illness)**

Voting For Texas

2001

SENATE

1. Garvee Bonds – SJR 10

This legislation would have allowed Texas to utilize Grant Anticipation Vehicle (GARVEE) Bonds as a financing option to speed up highway construction projects. In 1995, the federal government authorized states to issue GARVEE bonds that are guaranteed by the federal government and backed by the state through the gasoline tax.

The vote occurred on the motion to suspend the regular order of business. A vote for suspension was a vote with TABCC. SJR 10 died in the House Transportation Committee.

2. Chamber Liability – SB 78

This legislation would have provided immunity from lawsuits for individuals who serve on local chambers of commerce. Congress has provided this protection for volunteers of local chambers of commerce, but allows for states to opt out of this protection. SB 78 would have established this protection in Texas law.

The vote occurred on the motion to suspend the regular order of business. A vote for suspension was a vote with TABCC. The motion passed and SB 78 died in the House Civil Practices Committee.

3. New Health Coverage Mandate – SB 806

This legislation would have required an employer to provide the same coverage for children's mental health illnesses as they do for other physical benefits.

Employers are currently experiencing double-digit health care cost increases. Increased government regulation of the health insurance industry, especially new coverage mandates, contributes to premium growth. This increases the cost employers must pay to voluntarily provide health insurance. A 1998 Baylor study found five Texas mandates boosted the cost of health insurance by 17 percent. Texas employers providing health insurance now must comply with 63 mandates.

It is often small employers - those struggling the hardest to maintain health benefits - who are most affected by new mandates. TABCC asked

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	%
Armbrister	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	81
Barrientos	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Bernsen	-	+	A	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	P	-	-	+	+	-	57
Bivins	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	87
Brown	+	+	-	+	P	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	A	+	+	-	85
Cain	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	A	+	+	-	A	+	A	-	62
Carona	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	93
Duncan	+	+	A	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	93
Ellis	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	A	-	47
Fraser	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	94
Gallegos	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	31
Harris	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	87
Haywood	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	A	+	+	+	100
Jackson	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	75
Lindsay	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	75
Lucio	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	50
Madla	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	63
Moncrief	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	56
Nelson	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	81
Ogden	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	69
Ratliff	As Lt. Governor, he did not vote																
Shapiro	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	75
Shapleigh	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Sibley	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	87
Staples	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	94
Truan	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Van de Putte	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Wentworth	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	A	+	-	-	73
West	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	A	-	40
Whitmire	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	56
Zaffirini	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	50

legislators to hold the line on increasing health care costs and allow employers the flexibility to purchase the benefits that best suit the needs of employees.

The vote occurred on the motion to suspend the regular order of business. A vote against passage of SB 806 was a vote with TABCC. SB 806 died in the House on the House Calendar.

4. Standards For Automatic Admission To College – SB 974

This legislation would have required that eligibility for automatic college admission would only be granted to students who completed, at a minimum, the recommended high school curriculum. Currently, Texas students graduating in the top 10 percent of their graduating class receive automatic admission to a university or public college, regardless of the high school curriculum they choose.

The vote occurred on the motion to suspend the regular order of business. A vote for suspension was a vote with TABCC. SB 974 died in the House Higher Education Committee.

5. High-Cost Loans – SB 1581

Amendment #2

This legislation provides borrowers with resources indicating where additional mortgage loan information can be found. Amendment #2 allowed a lender to make a home loan containing a requirement for mandatory arbitration.

A vote for the adoption of the amendment was a vote with TABCC. The amendment was adopted and SB 1581 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

6. Public School Accountability/ Math Initiative – HB 1144

This legislation creates a master math program allowing school districts to apply for stipends to reward master math teachers on high-need campuses. The bill directs the Commissioner of Education to develop an end-of-course assessment for Algebra I, and requires the Commissioners of Education and Higher Education to

coordinate and standardize records to evaluate a student's performance.

Starting a strong math foundation early in the education of our children will help prepare them for good paying jobs that require a high level of technical understanding which a strong math background can provide.

The vote occurred on 3rd reading and final passage. A vote for 3rd reading and final passage was a vote with TABCC. HB 1144 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

7. Texas Economic Development Act – HB 1200

This legislation creates an innovative property tax incentive designed to encourage business expansion and attract employers to Texas. The measure allows school districts to offer a property tax appraisal cap to major manufacturing facilities looking to locate or expand in their area. The cap is offered solely at the discretion of the local school district and is effective for a period of eight years.

In addition, school districts that decide to offer the appraisal cap are not penalized in their state funding formula.

The vote occurred on 3rd reading and final passage. A vote for 3rd reading and final passage was a vote with TABCC. HB 1200 passed the Legislature and became law without the Governor's signature.

8. Health Care Fraud Act – HB 1562

This legislation allows the Texas Department of Insurance's (TDI) anti-fraud unit to investigate fraud reports, compare double dipping of the system, open communications about possible fraud and to report annually on those fraudulent activities. Because fraud is a \$100 billion a year industry with as much as 10 percent of health care costs being attributed to fraud, this was a significant cost saving measure for employers.

Employers, taxpayers and patients are all hurt by fraud making our entire health system more expensive.

The vote occurred on the motion to suspend the 3-day rule. A vote for suspension was a vote with TABCC. HB 1562 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

SENATE

9. Time Off For Visitations To Childrens' Schools – HB 1761

This legislation would have forced employers to give employees time off to visit with school personnel regarding their child's education. Unlike the federal Family and Medical Leave Act, employers could not refuse to grant a leave, even in cases of business necessity. Some employers simply cannot afford to let employees off during certain hours of the day or before key deadlines. The bill also would have created an additional burden on employers by requiring them to track another category of leave time. Decisions on employee benefits, such as leave time, should be decided between the employer and the employee.

The vote occurred on the motion to suspend the 3-day rule. A vote against suspension was a vote with TABCC. HB 1761 died on the Senate Calendar.

10. Polluting Vehicle Retirement Program – HB 2134

This legislation establishes a statewide program to remove old, polluting vehicles off Texas highways and to reimburse the low-income owners of those vehicles. It is the oldest 10% of vehicles that contribute the most to air pollution from mobile sources.

Point sources, like electrical generators and manufacturing facilities, are required to significantly reduce their emissions in nonattainment areas--in some cases by an additional 90 percent over previous reductions. HB 2134 also allows these companies to buy emission credits to help them comply with clean air regulations.

The vote occurred on 3rd reading and final passage. A vote for 3rd reading and final passage was a vote with TABCC. HB 2134 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

11. Permits For Emissions Of Insignificant Air Contaminants – HB 2518**Amendment #1**

This legislation authorizes the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) to establish guidelines that will govern when the application for

an amendment of an air quality permit is subject to public notice. The level of increased emissions being sought will determine whether or not a public notice is issued. This bill gives facilities the opportunity to add *de minimus*, or insignificant, levels of emissions as a result of improvements without an extended public notice process, thus expediting these types of permit amendments. For many companies, like those in the high-tech industry, fast changes in permitting are essential if they are to remain competitive in the global marketplace. At the same time, the public's interest and health are protected by the low level of emission increases, the continued requirements for Best Available Control Technology and thorough technical review. Amendment #1 would have required a public hearing before the granting of a permit.

The vote occurred on the motion to adopt amendment #1. A vote against the motion was a vote with TABCC. The motion failed and HB 2134 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

12. Provider Network For Workers' Compensation System – HB 2600**Amendment #6**

This legislation makes substantial reforms to the workers' compensation system. Workers' compensation medical costs in Texas are among the highest in the nation. HB 2600 addresses medical costs by creating a voluntary network through which injured workers can receive care in exchange for enhanced benefits. Amendment #6 prohibits the creation of a pharmacy network.

A vote against the motion to adopt amendment #6 was a vote with TABCC. The motion passed and HB 2600 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

13. Provider Network For Workers' Compensation System – HB 2600**Amendment #6** (See vote 12 for explanation)

This vote occurred on the motion to table amendment 6 which prohibits the creation of a pharmacy network. A vote for the motion to table was a vote with TABCC. The motion failed and HB 2600 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

14. Provider Network For Workers' Compensation System – HB 2600**Amendment #11** (See vote #12 for explanation)

TABCC opposed amendment #11 which would have extended the period of time for employees to opt out of the network, reducing the effectiveness of the network and limiting the ability to control costs and improve the quality of health care delivered to injured workers.

The vote occurred on the motion to table amendment #11. A vote for the motion to table was a vote with TABCC. The motion passed and HB 2600 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

15. TNRCC Sunset – HB 2912**Amendment #19**

HB 2912 reauthorizes the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), the chief environmental regulatory agency for the state, for another 12 years. TABCC opposed amendment #19 which would have prohibited the agency from considering economic development and jobs as well as the protection of the environment and human health when making decisions on environmental policy and permits.

The Senate vote occurred on the motion to table amendment #19. A vote for the motion to table amendment #19 was a vote with TABCC. The motion was successful, and amendment #19 was not added to HB 2912 which eventually passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

16. TNRCC Sunset – HB 2912**Amendment #26a** (see vote #15 for explanation)

TABCC opposed amendment #26a which would have implemented a harsher and more pervasive program for mandating permits for grandfathered facilities—facilities which were in existence when the Clean Air Act was passed in the 1970s and remain unchanged.

A vote against the motion to adopt amendment #26a was a vote with TABCC. The motion failed and the amendment was not added before the bill passed and was signed by the Governor.

Voting For Texas

2001

HOUSE

1. Regulation of Telemarketing – HB 472

Amendment #1

This legislation creates the Texas Telemarketing Disclosure and Privacy Act setting provisions to protect consumers from fraudulent and/or unwanted calls. Amendment #1 would have protected employers from facing class-action lawsuits for the illegal activities of a telemarketer. Numerous employers are being threatened with class action lawsuits resulting from the illegal activities of a third-party telemarketing firm that was hired to transmit information via facsimile.

A vote against the motion to adopt amendment #1 was a vote with TABCC. The motion was adopted and HB 472 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

2. Minimum Wage – HB 533

This legislation raises the state's minimum wage to the national wage level inflicting undue burdens upon agricultural employers at a time when prices and profits are at an all-time low.

A vote against passage to 3rd reading was a vote with TABCC. HB 533 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

3. Summary Judgments – HB 740

This legislation would have made it more difficult for a trial court to grant a motion for summary judgment and would have increased the likelihood that an appellate court would reverse a summary judgment order on a technical issue. A summary judgment is a procedural device that allows a judge to throw out frivolous claims.

A vote against passage to 3rd reading was a vote with TABCC. HB 740 died in the Senate Business and Commerce Committee.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	%
Alexander	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	A	-	+	A	+	A	-	+	+	+	+	58
Allen	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	91
Averitt	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	91
Bailey	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	29
Berman	+	+	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Bonnen	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	-	95
Bosse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	A	+	-	38
Brimer	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	86
Brown, B	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	95
Brown, F	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91
Burnam	-	-	-	-	-	P	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	33
Callegari	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	95
Capelo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	A	-	33
Carter	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	86
Chavez	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	A	+	-	38
Chisum	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	P	-	+	+	+	A	-	+	+	+	+	70
Christian	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	-	+	+	+	+	95
Clark	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91
Coleman	-	A	-	-	A	-	-	A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	A	-	+	+	+	-	28
Cook	A	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	52
Corte	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	90
Counts	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	50
Crabb	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Craddick	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	95
Crownover	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	95
Danburg	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	A	+	-	28
Davis, J	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	91
Davis, Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Delisi	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Denny	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91
Deshotel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	32
Driver	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Dukes	P	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	38
Dunnam	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	35
Dutton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Edwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Ehrhardt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	36
Eiland	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	A	+	A	-	A	-	-	-	A	+	-	A	+	+	-	28
Elkins	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	95
Ellis	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	55
Farabee	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	50
Farrar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	A	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	29
Flores	-	-	-	-	A	-	A	+	+	-	-	-	A	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	42
Gallego	-	-	-	-	A	-	P	P	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	37
Garcia	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	A	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	A	+	-	35

2001

HOUSE

4. Summary Judgments - HB 740

See vote #3 for explanation.

The vote occurred on the motion to table the bill. A vote for the motion to table was a vote with TABCC. HB 740 died in the Senate Business and Commerce Committee.

5. Employment Discrimination - HB 1082

This legislation would have imposed unnecessary burdens on employers, requiring them to justify and report an employee's salary at the employee's request. Additionally, it was not clear how the required information would reveal alleged discrimination.

A vote against passage to 3rd reading was a vote with TABCC. HB 1082 died in the Senate Business and Commerce Committee.

6. Teacher Mentor Program/Alternative Certification – HB 1143

This legislation would have established recruitment programs to attract new teachers and would have allowed for monetary bonuses for mentoring and professional development programs. HB 1143 also would have mandated that parents receive an annual notice from school districts about the qualifications of teachers. The bill would have provided bonuses for extraordinary teachers and principals who agree to serve at low-performing campuses.

A vote for third reading and final passage was a vote with TABCC. HB 1143 passed the House, but died on the Senate floor.

7. School Accountability/ Math Initiative

- HB 1144

This legislation creates a master math program that allows school districts to apply for stipends to reward master math teachers on high-need campuses. The bill directs the Commissioner of Education to develop an end-of-course assessment for Algebra I. HB 1144 also requires the Commissioners of Education

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	%
George	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Geren	+	+	+	A	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	A	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	70
Giddings	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	30
Glaze	-	-	-	+	A	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	43
Goodman	-	A	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	70
Goolsby	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	95
Gray	-	-	-	-	-	+	A	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	38
Green	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	95
Grusendorf	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Gutierrez	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	41
Haggerty	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	A	+	76
Hamric	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	86
Hardcastle	-	+	+	-	+	+	A	A	+	A	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	68
Hartnett	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	82
Hawley	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	A	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	A	+	+	+	55
Heflin	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Hilbert	A			+	+														+	+			
Hilderbran	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	82
Hill	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	95
Hinojosa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	32
Hochberg	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	A	A	-	25
Hodge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Homer	+	-	+	-	A	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	67
Hope	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	82
Hopson	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	45
Howard	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Hunter	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91
Hupp	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	100
Isett	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Janek	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	A	+	+	95
Jones, D	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	81
Jones, E	+	-	+	+	+	+	A	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	A	+	89
Jones, J	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Junell	-	-	+	+	A	+	A	A	A	-	-	A	-	+	+	+	A	A	+	+	A	+	64
Keel	+	+	+	+	A	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	81
Keffer	-	-	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	-	A	A	+	+	83
King, P	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	95
King, T	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	64
Kitchen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Kolkhorst	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	91
Krusee	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	95
Kuempel	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91
Laney	As the Speaker of the House, hedid not vote																						

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and Higher Education to coordinate and standardize records to evaluate a student's performance.

A motion was introduced to table the motion not to concur with Senate amendments. A vote for the motion to table was a vote with TABCC. HB 1144 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

8. Texas Economic Development Act - HB 1200

This legislation creates an innovative property tax incentive designed to encourage business expansion and attract employers to Texas. The measure allows school districts to offer a property tax appraisal cap to major manufacturing facilities looking to locate or expand in their area. The cap is offered only at the discretion of the local school district and is effective for a period of eight years.

A sliding scale for minimum investment to qualify (ranging from \$20 to \$100 million and above) makes the incentive applicable to school districts of all sizes. In addition, school districts that decide to offer the appraisal cap are not penalized in their state funding formula.

The vote occurred on the motion to table the substitute motion not to concur with Senate amendments. A vote for the motion was a vote with TABCC. HB 1200 passed the Legislature and became law without the Governor's signature.

9. Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act - HB 1449

This legislation reauthorized local governments to continue using property tax abatements through September 2009. Tax abatements are used to attract new industry and encourage the retention and development of existing businesses. Since the early 1980's, abatements are credited with producing or retaining 275,000 jobs.

The vote occurred on 3rd reading and final passage. A vote for 3rd reading and final passage was a vote with TABCC. HB 1449 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	%
Lewis, G	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	41
Lewis, R	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	62
Longoria	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	32
Luna	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	29
Madden	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	91
Marchant	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Martinez-Fischer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Maxey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
McCall	+	+	+	A	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	86
McClendon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
McReynolds	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	50
Menendez	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	32
Merritt	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	91
Miller	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Moreno, J	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Moreno, P	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	A	-	26
Morrison	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	81
Mowery	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	-	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	90
Naishtat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Najera	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	36
Nixon	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	-	+	A	+	-	+	+	+	-	80
Noriega	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	36
Oliveira	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	A	-	-	-	-	A	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	A	37
Olivo	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	30
Pickett	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	45
Pitts	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	86
Puente	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	32
Ramsay	-	-	+	A	+	+	-	+	A	-	-	+	-	A	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	63
Rangel	-	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	A	-	26
Raymond	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Reyna A	-	-	-	-	-	P	-	P	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	35
Reyna, E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	82
Ritter	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	A	+	-	48
Sadler	-	-	-	-	-	+	A	A	+	A	-	-	-	-	p	+	+	-	A	A	A	A	29
Salinas	-	-	-	-	A	-	A	-	+	-	A	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	32
Seaman	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Shields	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	68
Smith	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	A	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	90
Smithee	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	A	A	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	80
Solis	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	32
Solomons	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	86
Swindford	-	+	p	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	A	-	+	+	+	+	65
Talton	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	100
Telford	-	-	A	-	-	A	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	45
Thompson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27

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10. New Coverage Mandate - HB 1491

This legislation would have required an employer to provide the same coverage for children's mental health illnesses as they do for other physical benefits. Employers are currently experiencing double digit health care cost increases. Increased government regulation of the health insurance industry, including new coverage mandates, also contributes to premium growth, thus increasing the cost employers must pay to voluntarily provide health insurance. A Baylor study from 1998 found that five Texas mandates add about 17% to the cost of health insurance. Texas currently has 63 mandates on the books in Texas.

The vote occurred on reconsideration of the vote for passage to 3rd reading. A vote against passage to 3rd reading was a vote with TABCC. HB 1491 died in the Senate Business and Commerce Committee.

11. Time Off For Visitations To Childrens' Schools - HB 1761

This legislation would have forced employers to give an employee time off to visit with school personnel regarding a child's education. Unlike the federal Family and Medical Leave Act, employers could not refuse to grant a leave, even in cases of business necessity. Some employers simply cannot afford to let employees off during certain hours of the day or before key deadlines. The bill also would have created an additional burden on employers by requiring them to track another category of leave time. Decisions on employee benefits, such as leave time, should be decided between the employer and employee.

The vote occurred on the passage to 3rd reading. A vote against passage to 3rd reading was a vote with TABCC. This bill died in the Senate.

12. Computation of Unemployment Tax - HB 2086

This legislation would have increased the per employee taxable wage base used to compute an employer's contribution to the unemployment insurance trust fund from \$9,000 per employee to \$15,000 per employee costing Texas employers up to \$500 million.

The vote occurred on passage to 3rd reading. A vote against passage to 3rd reading was a vote with TABCC. The vote failed and HB 2086 died on the House floor.

13. Regulation of Railroad Crew Size - HB 2606

This legislation would have interfered with basic employer-employee relations by mandating a certain crew size for railroad companies, putting undue burden upon the employer to pay for a certain number of employees even if some are not needed for a specific job.

The vote occurred on 3rd reading and final passage. A vote against 3rd reading and final passage was a vote with TABCC. HB 2606 died in the Senate State Affairs Committee.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	%
Tillery	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	+	-	A	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	A	+	-	32
Truitt	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	82
Turner, B	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	55
Turner, S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	A	+	-	24
Uher	-	-	p	p	A	-	-	+	A	-	-	A	-	+	+	+	P	-	+	+	+	-	44
Uresti	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Villarreal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	27
Walker	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	A	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	71
West	+	+	+	+	A	+	A	A	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	A	A	A	88
Williams	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	-	95
Wilson	A	-	-	-	A	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	40
Wise	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	41
Wohlgemuth	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	95
Wolens	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	A	A	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	45
Woolley	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	95
Yarbrough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	32
Zbrank	-	-	-	-	A	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	33

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14. Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) Sunset – HB 2912

Amendment #18

This legislation reauthorizes the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), the chief environmental regulatory agency for the state, for another 12 years. TABCC opposed amendment #18, which would have created an independent office of public interest counsel like those at the Public Utility Commission (PUC) and the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI). In the case of the Public Utility Commission and Insurance Commission, the public counsels ensure that consumers are protected from unnecessary and inappropriate rates and rate increases.

Except for very limited water rate cases, the activities of the TNRCC are directed towards environmental permitting and the enforcement of environmental regulations, clearly different functions than those at the PUC and TDI.

The vote occurred on the motion to table amendment #18. A vote for the motion to table was a vote with TABCC. The motion was unsuccessful and amendment #18 was added to the bill, but later stripped off in the Senate. As a compromise during conference committee, the Legislature agreed have an interim study on the issue. HB 2912 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

15. Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission Sunset – HB 2912

Amendment #41 (see vote #14 for explanation.)

TABCC supported amendment #41 which would have allowed the phase in of the mandate for the permitting of grandfathered facilities— facilities which were in existence when the Clean Air Act was passed in the 1970s and remain unchanged.

The vote occurred on the motion to table amendment #41. A vote against the motion was a vote with TABCC. The motion failed, and amendment #41 was added to HB 2912 which eventually passed and was signed into law by the Governor.

16. Medicaid Reimbursements – HB 3038

This legislation helps consumers who qualify for Medicaid and have access to an employer-sponsored health plan, utilize Medicaid dollars to help purchase the private plan.

Medicaid is the most expensive health care delivery system in the nation. Seeking cost-effective and innovative solutions, such as this legislation, will help Texas with the ever-increasing cost of Medicaid.

Texas businesses know the high price of health care and we fear that Medicaid, if expenses are not reigned in, may force huge tax increases.

The vote occurred on 3rd reading and final passage. A vote for 3rd reading and final passage was a vote with TABCC. HB 3038 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

17. Texas Department of Economic Development Sunset – HB 3452

This legislation would have continued the Texas Department of Economic Development (TDED) while changing specific functions of the agency.

The vote occurred on 3rd reading and final passage. A vote for 3rd reading and to final passage was a vote with TABCC. The Texas House failed to agree with Senate amendments and HB 3452 died. SB 309, which adjusts the Sunset dates of several agencies, extended the life of TDED for two more years at which time it will be reviewed again.

18. Delaying 3rd Grade Reading Test to End Social Promotion – HB 3631

This legislation would have delayed the implementation of the 3rd grade reading test for one year. Good reading skills enhance proficiency in other subjects, and the practice of social promotion only leads to anxiety for students who have fallen behind in their grasp of subject matter.

The vote occurred on the passage to 3rd reading. A vote against passage to 3rd reading was a vote with TABCC. HB 3631 died in the Senate Education Committee.

19. Savings Program For Higher Education – SB 555

This legislation allows for parents and guardians to create a college savings plan by investing in mutual fund portfolios, fixed annuities, variable annuities and variable life insurance policies. This flexibility has the potential to bring higher returns than are available through the Texas Tomorrow Fund.

The vote occurred on 3rd reading and final passage. A vote for 3rd reading and final passage was a vote with TABCC. SB 555 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

20. Privacy of Consumer Information – SB 712

This legislation requires insurers and other entities regulated by the Texas Department of Insurance to comply with the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA) and requires the Commissioner of Insurance to adopt rules consistent with the federal requirements, based on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) privacy model for GLBA.

In 1999, Congress enacted the GLBA, in part to require state insurance authorities to adopt requirements on privacy and disclosure of nonpublic personal financial information applicable to the insurance industry. Since states have to adopt privacy requirements for insurance companies, the NAIC developed and adopted a model privacy regulation in an effort to aid states in adopting consistent privacy requirements for insurance companies.

The vote occurred on 3rd reading and final passage. A vote for 3rd reading and final passage was a vote with TABCC. SB 712 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

21. Education Excellence/ Grant II Program – SB 1596

This legislation creates the Toward Excellence, Access and Success (TEXAS) Grant II program to provide grants for eligible students to attend technical and public junior colleges in the state. This will provide educational access to more minority students, who now make up 75 percent of the freshman enrollment at community and technical colleges.

The vote occurred on the motion to adopt the conference committee report. A vote for the motion was a vote with TABCC. SB 1596 passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

22. Litigation Management Guidelines – SB 1654

This legislation would have limited the ability of an insurance company to control costs and ensure the quality of legal services by prohibiting the use of litigation management guidelines. Litigation management guidelines are an effective tool used by insurance companies to control the cost of lawsuits filed against their policyholders.

The vote occurred on passage to 3rd reading. A vote against passage to 3rd reading was a vote with TABCC. SB 1654 passed the Legislature, but was then vetoed by the Governor.