

**Rider Comparison Packet**

**Conference Committee on Senate Bill 1**

**2014-15 General Appropriations Bill**

**Article X - The Legislature**

**ARTICLE X - THE LEGISLATURE**  
**102 House of Representatives**  
**DIFFERENCES ONLY**

Senate

House

**8. Study of Public School Finance Weights, Allotments, and Adjustments.**

- a. The Legislative Budget Board shall conduct a study of weights, allotments, and adjustments under the public school finance system, including all current weights, allotments, and adjustments provided under Chapter 42, Education Code, and any additional weights, allotments, and adjustments that the board determines may be appropriate. The study shall determine the effectiveness of the weights, allotments, and adjustments in fulfilling the mission of the public education system as stated in Section 4.001 (a) and the state policy under Section 42.001 of the Education Code. At a minimum, the study shall determine how closely and appropriately each of the following elements reflect and provide financing for costs beyond the control of school districts:
  - (1) the adjustments for costs related to the geographic variation in known resource costs and costs of education, controlling for the impact of unequalized wealth and hold-harmless provisions, and properly reflecting the impact of high concentrations of poverty on the compensation that school districts must pay to attract and retain teachers of comparable or appropriate quality;
  - (2) the adjustments for costs related to the size and diseconomies of scale of districts;
  - (3) the adjustments for costs related to the varying instructional needs and characteristics of students and the extent to which they provide each student with access to programs and services that are appropriate to the student's educational needs;
  - (4) other factors in addition to economic status that correlate to at-risk status and the need for compensatory education, and degree to which these factors correspond to additional educational costs; and
  - (5) the manner in which these adjustments are applied to and impact the overall finance system.

**ARTICLE X - THE LEGISLATURE**  
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(Continued)

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- b. The board may work with the Texas Education Agency and any other state agency in carrying out the board's duties under this rider. Not later than March 1, 2014, the board shall provide a report to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Members of the Legislature that states the findings of the study and includes recommendations for updated weights, allotments, and adjustments and any other statutory changes considered appropriate by the board. In making recommendations, the board shall take into consideration any final court decisions regarding the public school finance system.