

Issue Docket

Conference Committee on Senate Bill 1

2014-15 General Appropriations Bill

Article III - Public Education

**ARTICLE III - AGENCIES OF EDUCATION
ISSUE DOCKET**

Conference Committee on General Appropriations Bill

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
<u>TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY</u>		III-1		III-1		
Schedule of Exempt Positions Commissioner of Education, Group 8	215,000	215,000	186,300	186,300		Senate includes Commissioner of Education salary cap of \$215,000 per fiscal year. House includes Commissioner of Education salary cap of \$186,300 per fiscal year.
Appropriations Made in Riders	\$ 18,000,000	\$ 18,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,000,000	a. Senate includes \$34,000,000 in General Revenue for contingency for Senate Bill 3, funding for Career Explorations in Middle Grades (See also Senate Rider #69, III-19, Rider Packet III-11). b. Senate includes \$2,000,000 in General Revenue funding for contingency for Senate Bill 2, Charter School Authorization (See also Senate Rider #70, III-19, Rider Packet III-11).

Agency/Item	Senate		House		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
A.1.1 FSP - EQUALIZED OPERATIONS and Article IX.17.15. Texas Education Agency: Additional Funding for the Foundation School Program	\$ 18,664,300,000	\$ 19,511,300,000	\$ 19,185,300,000	\$ 20,115,300,000	\$ 1,125,000,000	Senate adds \$1,375.0 million to correspond with a basic allotment of \$4,799 in FY2014 and \$4,874 in FY2015 and continued hold harmless reduction (See also Senate Rider #3, III-5, Rider Packet III-1). House adds \$2,500.0 million (\$1,500 million in TEA Strategy A.1.1, FSP - Equalized Operations and \$1,000 million in Article IX.17.15) to correspond with a basic allotment of \$4,890 in FY2014 and \$4,975 in FY2015 and continued hold harmless reduction (See also House Rider #3, III-5, Rider Packet III-1 and House, Article IX.17.15, IX-69).
A.2.1 STATEWIDE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS	\$ 172,814,958	\$ 172,816,548	\$ 137,464,958	\$ 137,466,548	\$ 70,700,000	a. Senate includes \$50,500,000 in General Revenue for Student Success Initiative (See also Senate Rider #50, III-16, Rider Packet III-7). House includes \$36,500,000 in General Revenue for Student Success Initiative (See also House Rider #49, III-16, Rider Packet III-7).

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
						<p>b. Senate includes \$40,000,000 in General Revenue for Supplemental Funding for Prekindergarten (See also Senate Rider #67, III-19, Rider Packet III-10).</p> <p>c. Senate includes \$13,800,000 in General Revenue for Texas Advanced Placement Initiative (See also Senate Rider #54, III-17, Rider Packet III-8).</p> <p>House includes \$18,800,000 in General Revenue for Texas Advanced Placement Initiative (See also House Rider #52, III-17, Rider Packet III-8).</p> <p>d. Senate includes \$28,000,000 in General Revenue for Project Share (See also Senate Rider #71, III-19, Rider Packet III-12).</p> <p>House includes \$8,000,000 in General Revenue for Project Share (See also House Rider #67, III-19, Rider Packet III-12).</p>

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
A.2.4 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT & SUPPORT PGMS	\$ 153,570,317	\$ 153,570,318	\$ 154,635,726	\$ 154,635,726	\$ 2,130,817	<p>e. Senate includes \$2,000,000 in Interagency Contracts for Early Childhood Professional Development (See also Senate Rider #26, Texas Workforce Commission, VII-38).</p> <p>House includes \$300,000 in Interagency Contracts for Early Childhood Professional Development (See also House Rider #26, Texas Workforce Commission, VII-38).</p> <p>Senate includes \$29,978,223 in General Revenue for Communities in Schools (See also Senate Rider #24, III-10, Rider Packet III-2).</p> <p>House includes \$32,109,040 in General Revenue for Communities in Schools (See also House Rider #23, III-10, Rider Packet III-2).</p>

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
A.2.5 ADULT EDUCATION & FAMILY LITERACY	\$ 68,342,889	\$ 68,342,889	\$ 70,842,889	\$ 70,842,889	\$ 5,000,000	Senate includes \$18,771,400 in General Revenue for Adult Basic Education (See also Senate Rider #35, III-12, Rider Packet III-2). House includes \$23,771,400 in General Revenue for Adult Basic Education (See also House Rider #34, III-12, Rider Packet III-2).
B.1.1 ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM	\$ 82,635,644	\$ 82,635,643	\$ 45,931,837	\$ 45,931,837	\$ 73,407,613	Senate includes \$98,407,613 in General Revenue for assessments. House includes \$25,000,000 in General Revenue for assessments.
B.2.2 HEALTH AND SAFETY	\$ 14,001,583	\$ 13,804,802	\$ 13,351,583	\$ 13,154,802	\$ 1,300,000	Senate includes \$1,300,000 in General Revenue for the Steroid Testing Program (See also Senate Rider #53, III-16, Rider Packet III-8).
B.2.4 WINDHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT	\$ 47,500,000	\$ 47,500,000	\$ 52,500,000	\$ 50,500,000	\$ 8,000,000	Senate includes \$95,000,000 in General Revenue for the Windham School District. House includes \$103,000,000 in General Revenue for the Windham School District.

Agency/Item	Senate		House		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
B.3.1 IMPROVING EDUCATOR QUALITY/LDRSP	\$ 281,873,320	\$ 281,873,320	\$ 282,123,320	\$ 282,123,320	\$ 500,000	<p>a. Senate includes \$1,500,000 in General Revenue for professional development for educators serving students with autism (See also Senate Rider #68, III-19, Rider Packet III-10).</p> <p>b. Senate includes \$10,000,000 in General Revenue for Teach for America (See also Senate Rider #49, III-16, Rider Packet III-7).</p> <p>House includes \$12,000,000 in General Revenue for Teach for America (See also Senate Rider #48, III-16, Rider Packet III-7).</p>
B.3.2 AGENCY OPERATIONS	\$ 65,275,238	\$ 65,275,238	\$ 65,260,238	\$ 65,260,238	\$ 30,000	<p>Senate includes \$30,455,818 in General Revenue for Agency Operations.</p> <p>House includes \$30,425,818 in General Revenue for Agency Operations.</p>

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
B.3.5 INFORMATION SYSTEMS - TECHNOLOGY	\$ 35,248,817	\$ 33,291,029	\$ 33,620,864	\$ 32,263,073	\$ 2,655,909	Senate includes \$15,097,442 in All Funds, including \$8,349,723 in General Revenue related funds for the Texas Student Data System capital project.
Funding for Regional Education Service Centers	Rider 38 III-13 Rider Packet, page III-4		Rider 37 III-13 Rider Packet, page III-4			House includes \$12,441,533 in All Funds, including \$7,000,000 in General Revenue related funds for the Texas Student Data System capital project.
	⋮		⋮			House includes a requirement that each Regional Education Service Center shall report to the Commissioner biennially versus annually in the Senate rider.

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
Use of Federal Discretionary and Consolidated Administrative Funds		Rider 41 III-14 Rider Packet, page III-5		Rider 40 III-14 Rider Packet, page III-5		Senate includes authorization to use discretionary and consolidated administrative funds for state assessments; providing classroom support including teacher quality initiatives; professional development related to the TEKS; diagnostics, interventions, and targeted support to students needing supplemental remediation. House includes authorization to use discretionary and consolidated administrative funds for teacher mentoring; recruitment and retention; and the Student Success Initiative.

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
Early Childhood School Readiness Program		Rider 48 III-15 Rider Packet, page III-5		Rider 47 III-15 Rider Packet, page III-5		Senate includes requirement that funds shall be distributed on a competitive basis to preschool programs that implement school readiness integration community collaborations. Senate authorizes the Commissioner of Education to require applicants to participate in the School Readiness Certification System. House includes requirement that funds shall be distributed on a competitive basis to preschool programs improving overall kindergarten readiness.
Student Success Initiative		Rider 50 III-16 Rider Packet, page III-7		Rider 49 III-16 Rider Packet, page III-7		House requires a program funded through the Student Success Initiative shall include outreach to educate a parent or guardian of a student on preparing the student for administration of an assessment instrument, and requires this information to be available in Spanish. House requires the Texas Education Agency to conduct an evaluation of the Student Success Initiative.

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
Steroid Testing		Rider 53 III-16 Rider Packet, page III-8				Senate rider directs \$1.3 million in General Revenue for steroid testing to correspond with funding decision in Strategy B.2.2, Health and Safety.
Texas Advanced Placement Initiative		Rider 54 III-17 Rider Packet, page III-8		Rider 52 III-17 Rider Packet, page III-8		Senate requires TEA to give funding priority in the Texas Advanced Placement Initiative to teachers at public school campuses that do not offer Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate courses. Senate authorizes the TEA to consider school districts and charter schools in the first or second year of operating an Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate program. House requires TEA to allocate no less than the amount expended in the 2010-11 biennium for teacher training in the 2014-15 biennium.

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
Temporary Transfer from the Foundation School Program to the Instructional Materials Fund			Rider 65 III-19 Rider Packet, page III-9			House authorizes TEA to temporarily transfer funds from the Foundation School Program to the Instructional Materials Fund for cash flow purposes.
Special Education Related Reporting			Rider 66 III-19 Rider Packet, page III-9			House requires TEA to conduct an external review of all accountability, monitoring, and compliance systems related to special education.
Contingency for SB _____.	Rider 66 III-19 Rider Packet, page III-10					Senate reduces funding to Strategy B.1.1, Assessments and Accountability contingent on legislation reducing the number of assessments required under the Education Code.
Supplemental Funding for Prekindergarten	Rider 67 III-19 Rider Packet, page III-10					Senate directs \$40 million in General Revenue for supplemental funding for prekindergarten to correspond with funding decision referenced in Strategy A.2.1, Statewide Educational Programs.

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
Autism Training		Rider 68 III-19 Rider Packet, page III-10				Senate directs \$1.5 million in General Revenue for autism training to correspond with funding decision referenced in Strategy A.2.1, Statewide Educational Programs.
Texas Fitness Now Grant Program Study				Rider 68 III-19 Rider Packet, page III-11		House indicates that it is the intent of the Legislature that TEA shall provide Texas FitnessGram data to a researcher evaluating student health outcomes.
Student Testing Program Outreach				Rider 69 III-19 Rider Packet, page III-11		House requires TEA to provide outreach efforts to educate a parent or guardian of a student on preparing the student for the administration of assessment instruments. House requires this information to be made available in Spanish.

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
Contingency for Senate Bill 3		Rider 69 III-19 Rider Packet, page III-11				Senate directs \$34 million from Foundation School Fund (General Revenue) for career explorations in middle grades, contingent on Senate Bill 3, to correspond with funding decision referenced in Strategy A.1.1, FSP - Equalized Operations.
Contingency for Senate Bill 2		Rider 70 III-19 Rider Packet, page III-11				Senate directs \$2 million in General Revenue for charter school authorization to correspond with funding decision referenced in Strategy A.2.4, School Improvement and Support.
Use of Appropriated Funds for School Vouchers or to Support-Tax Credit Scholarships Prohibited				Rider 70 III-19 Rider Packet, page III-12		House prohibits funds appropriated to TEA from being used to pay for or support school vouchers or scholarships for private primary or secondary education provided by nonprofit entities using donations received from entities that receive tax credits as a result of donations.

Agency/Item	2014 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Senate</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">:</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">:</td> </tr> </table> 2015	<u>Senate</u>	:	:	2014 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>House</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">:</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">:</td> </tr> </table> 2015	<u>House</u>	:	:	Biennial Difference	Explanation
<u>Senate</u>										
:										
:										
<u>House</u>										
:										
:										
	See also Article XI-Senate page XI-3	See also Article XI-House page XI-5								

ARTICLE III - AGENCIES OF EDUCATION
ISSUE DOCKET

Conference Committee on General Appropriations Bill

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
<u>SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED</u>		III-19		III-19		
No Issues.						
			See also Article XI-House Page XI-5			

**ARTICLE III - AGENCIES OF EDUCATION
ISSUE DOCKET**

Conference Committee on General Appropriations Bill

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
<u>SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF</u>		III-23		III-23		
D.1.3 FACILITY CONSTRUCT., REPAIR & REHAB	\$ 707,680	\$ -	\$ 5,214,000	\$ -	\$ 4,506,320	<p>Senate provides \$707,680 in General Revenue for life and safety related repairs in TSD, Strategy D.1.3, Facility Construction, Repair, & Rehabilitation, and identifies \$4,506,320 in Article IX for life and safety related repairs as a priority for funding with method-of-finance to be determined. (See also Article IX.17.09.)</p> <p>House provides \$5,214,000 in General Revenue for campus repairs related to life and safety issues.</p>
			See also Article XI-House Page XI-5			

Agency/Item	2014	<u>Senate</u>	2015	2014	<u>House</u>	2015	Biennial Difference	Explanation
<u>Special Provisions for the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and School for the Deaf</u> No issues.		III-26			III-26			

**ARTICLE III - AGENCIES OF EDUCATION
ISSUE DOCKET**

Conference Committee on General Appropriations Bill

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
<u>TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM</u>		III-27		III-27		The state contribution rate for public and higher education retirement assumes no annual payroll growth for public education and 2.0 percent growth for higher education.
A.1.1 TRS - PUBLIC EDUCATION RETIREMENT	\$ 1,323,211,286	\$ 1,405,336,453	\$ 1,377,961,397	\$ 1,377,961,396	\$ 27,375,054	<p>Senate provides for a state contribution rate of 6.4 percent in fiscal year 2014 and 6.7 percent in fiscal year 2015. (See also Senate Rider #4, III-29, Rider Packet page III-16.)</p> <p>House provides for a state contribution rate of 6.6 percent in each year of the biennium. (See also House #4, III-29, Rider Packet page III-16.)</p>

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
A.1.2 TRS - HIGHER EDUCATION RETIREMENT	\$ 242,869,437	\$ 268,250,367	\$ 256,603,736	\$ 260,861,466	\$ 6,345,398	Senate provides for a state contribution rate of 6.4 percent in fiscal year 2014 and 6.7 percent in fiscal year 2015. Specific to public community colleges, Senate provides General Revenue to fund 50 percent of the state contribution for public community college employees. (See also Senate Riders #4 and #12, III-29, Rider Packet page III-16).
State Contribution to Teacher Retirement Program.	Rider 4 III-29 Rider Packet, page III-16		Rider 4 III-29 Rider Packet, page III-16			House provides for a state contribution rate of 6.6 percent in each year of the biennium. House limits the state contribution for retirement for public community college employees to the state contribution rate applied to each public community college's unrestricted General Revenue (UGR) appropriation. (See also House Riders #4 and #12, III-29, Rider Packet page III-16.)
						Rider reflects the state contribution rate adopted for public education and higher education retirement.

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
Limitation on Retirement Contributions to Public Community/Junior Colleges.		Rider 12 III-29 Rider Packet, page III-16		Rider 12 III-29 Rider Packet, page III-16		Senate includes rider to reflect policy decision to fund 50 percent of the state contribution for retirement for employees of public community colleges from General Revenue, contingent on legislation codifying this cost-sharing percentage. House includes rider limiting the state contributions for retirement on behalf of the public community college employees to the state contribution rate applied to each public community college's unrestricted General Revenue (UGR) appropriation (6.6 percent for each year of the 2014-15 biennium).
Enterprise Application Modernization FTE Exemption.				Rider 14 III-30 Rider Packet, page III-16		House includes rider indicating that funds appropriated for the TRS Enterprise Application Modernization (TEAM) capital budget may be used for salaries and wages of TEAM-related FTEs. The rider also exempts TEAM-related FTEs from the calculation of total agency FTEs for reporting purposes related to the FTE cap.

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
Settle-Up Dollars Directed to TRS-Care.				Rider 15 III-30 Rider Packet, page III-17		House adds a rider directing that funds appropriated in excess of the state's actual statutory obligations for contributions to retirement and retiree-insurance be re-appropriated to the retiree health insurance trust fund.

**ARTICLE III - AGENCIES OF EDUCATION
ISSUE DOCKET**

Conference Committee on General Appropriations Bill

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
<u>OPTIONAL RETIREMENT PROGRAM</u>		III-30		III-30		The state contribution rate for public and higher education retirement assumes no annual payroll growth for public education and 2.0 percent growth for higher education.
A.1.1 OPTIONAL RETIREMENT PROGRAM	\$ 126,841,684	\$ 128,617,342	\$ 127,898,687	\$ 130,102,333	\$ 2,541,994	Senate provides for a state contribution rate of 6.4 percent in each fiscal year of the 2014-15 biennium. Senate provides General Revenue funding for 50 percent of the state contribution for public community college employees. (See also Senate Riders #2 and #5, III-30 and III-31, Rider Packet page III-18).

Agency/Item	Senate		House		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
State Contributions to Optional Retirement Program.						House provides for a state contribution rate of 6.6 percent in each fiscal year of the 2014-15 biennium. House limits the state contribution for retirement for public community college employees to the state contribution rate applied to each public community college's unrestricted General Revenue (UGR) appropriation. (See also House Riders #2 and #5, III-31, Rider Packet page III-18).
						Rider reflects the state contribution rate adopted for higher education retirement.
Use of Local Funds for Supplementing the General Revenue Appropriation to the Optional Retirement Program.						Rider provides the maximum percentage of payroll rate that universities may supplement GR with local funds. Since the local supplement cannot result in a contribution rate exceeding 8.5 percent, the difference is attributable to the difference between adopted contribution rates for each chamber.

Agency/Item	<u>Senate</u>		<u>House</u>		Biennial Difference	Explanation
	2014	2015	2014	2015		
Limitation on Retirement Contributions to Public Community/Junior Colleges.		Rider 5 III-30 Rider Packet, page III-18		Rider 5 III-31 Rider Packet, page III-18		<p>Senate includes rider to reflect policy decision to fund 50 percent of the state contribution for retirement for employees of public community colleges from General Revenue, contingent on legislation codifying this cost-sharing percentage.</p> <p>House includes rider limiting the state contributions for retirement on behalf of the public community college employees to the state contribution rate applied to each public community college's unrestricted General Revenue (UGR) appropriation (6.6 percent for each year of the 2014-15 biennium).</p>