



AGENDA

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**June 4, 2025
3:30 PM**

3100 Main Street, 2nd Floor Auditorium, Houston, Texas 77002

**NOTICE OF A MEETING OF THE
External Relations Committee
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

June 4, 2025

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the External Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees of Houston Community College will be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 3:30 PM, or after, and from day today as required, 3100 Main Street, 2nd Floor Auditorium, Houston, Texas 77002. The items listed in this Notice may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Committee Chair and items listed for closed session discussion may be discussed in open session and vice versa as permitted by law. Actions taken at this Meeting do not constitute final Board action and are only Committee recommendations to be considered by the Board at the next Regular Board meeting.

I **Call to Order**

- A. Opportunity for Public Comments

II **Topics For Discussion and/or Action:**

- A. Report on External Relations Activities

III **Adjournment to closed or executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071; 551.072 and 551.074, the Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:**

A. Legal Matters

Consultation with legal counsel concerning pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or matters on which the attorney's duty to the System under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Laws.

B. Personnel Matters

Deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer, employee or board member to hear complaints or changes against an officer, employee or board member unless the officer, employee or board member who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing.

C. Real Estate Matters

Deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property for Agenda items if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the System in negotiations with a third person.

IV. **Additional Closed or Executive Session Authority:**

If, during the course of the meeting covered by this Notice, the Board should determine that a closed or executive meeting or session of the Board should be held

or is required in relation to any items included in this Notice, then such closed or executive meeting or session as authorized by Section 551.001 et seq. of the Texas Government Code (the Open Meetings Act) will be held by the Board at that date, hour and place given in this Notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by the Notice as the Board may conveniently meet in such closed or executive meeting or session concerning:

Section 551.071 - For the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or matters on which the attorney's duty to the System under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Laws.

Section 551.072 - For the purpose of discussing the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person.

Section 551.073 - For the purpose of considering a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the System if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the System in negotiations with a third person.

Section 551.074 - For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer, employee or board member to hear complaints or changes against an officer, employee or board member unless the officer, employee or board member who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing.

Section 551.076 - To consider the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel or devices, or a security audit.

Section 551.082 - For the purpose of considering discipline of a student or to hear a complaint by an employee against another employee if the complaint or charge directly results in a need for a hearing, unless an open hearing is requested in writing by a parent or guardian of the student or by the employee against whom the complaint is brought.

Section 551.084 - For the purpose of excluding a witness or witnesses in an investigation from a hearing during examination of another witness in the investigation. Should any final action, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the Board with regard to any matter considered in such closed or executive meeting or session, then such final action, final decision, or final vote shall be at either:

A. The open meeting covered by this Notice upon the reconvening of the public meeting, or

B. At a subsequent public meeting of the Board upon notice thereof, as the Board shall determine.

V. Reconvene in Open Meeting

VI. Adjournment

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING OR GIVING NOTICE

On this **30th day of May 2025**, this Notice was posted at a place convenient to the public and readily accessible at all times to the general public at the following locations: (1) the HCC Administration Building of the Houston Community College, 3100 Main, First Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 and (2) the Houston Community College's website: www.hccs.edu.

Posted By:

Sharon R. Wright
Director, Board Services

REPORT ITEM

Meeting Date: June 4, 2025

Topics For Discussion and/or Action:

ITEM #	ITEM TITLE	PRESENTER
A.	Report on External Relations Activities	Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher Remmele J. Young, J.D.

DISCUSSION

Provide a preliminary closing report on the 89th regular legislative session.

COMPELLING REASON AND BACKGROUND

This item provides a preliminary closing report on the Texas 89th regular legislative session. Specifically, discussion topics include: (1) appropriations, (2) HCC exceptional item request, (3) key bills, and (4) other relevant policy considerations.

The above-identified matters serve the purpose of apprising the HCC governing board on and about legislative initiatives deemed important to the institution.

FISCAL IMPACT

Under Development

LEGAL REQUIREMENT

None.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

1. Student Success

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Upload Date	Type
ERC Jun04_25	5/23/2025	Presentation

This item is applicable to the following:

Central, Coleman, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest, District, Online



External Relations Committee

June 4, 2025

Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher, Chancellor

Remmele J. Young, J.D., Vice Chancellor



Discussion Topic

89th TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION
& RELATED CONSIDERATIONS

HCC tracked 858 bills.



COMMUNITY COLLEGES APPROPRIATIONS 2026-2027 BIENNIUM



\$2,426,750,196*

General Appropriations



\$2,426,750,196*

General Appropriations

*Formula appropriations include base tier, performance tier, performance tier dynamic adjustment and performance tier settle-up. "Spring update estimates from the THECB anticipate a decrease of approximately \$8.2 million in General Revenue, based on data from colleges and forecasting methodology refinements." Source: Conference Committee Issue Document at pg. 48, April 28, 2025.

Note: CSSB 1 is now the principal budget bill for state appropriations. Accordingly, House and Senate conferees are focusing their attention on this bill.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION



\$89,500,000*

* HB 500 (by Bonnen), relating to supplemental funding to community colleges by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), for the purpose of funding higher than projected growth in fundable outcomes set for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2014.

HCC REGIONAL RESPONSE EMERGENCY TRAINING CENTER 2026-2027 BIENNIUM



\$2,375,000

General Appropriations



\$2,375,000

General Appropriations

Note: In August 2024, HCC timely submitted its Legislative Appropriations Request to the Legislative Budget Board for funding consideration. CSSB 1, which passed both chambers, is now the principal budget bill for state appropriations and it maintains HCC's funding request. This consideration is now subject to deliberation by budget conferees.

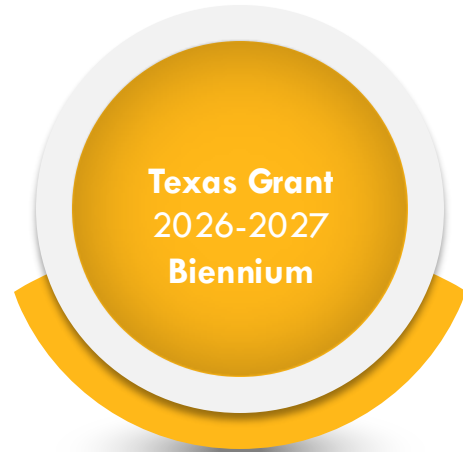
WORKFORCE PROGRAM GROWTH INITIATIVE HCC RIDER REQUEST, AS AMENDED

STRIKE*		SUBSTITUTE*	
\$28,000,000	2026	\$15,000,000	
\$28,000,000	2027	\$15,000,000	
\$56,000,000 (2026-2027)	Total	\$30,000,000 (2026-2027)	

*The House-adopted floor Amendment No. 362 (by Ward Johnson) strikes “\$56,000,000” and substitutes “\$30,000,000.” The latter amount moved to Article XI and is now subject to budget conferees’ deliberations. Slide revised May 8, 2025.

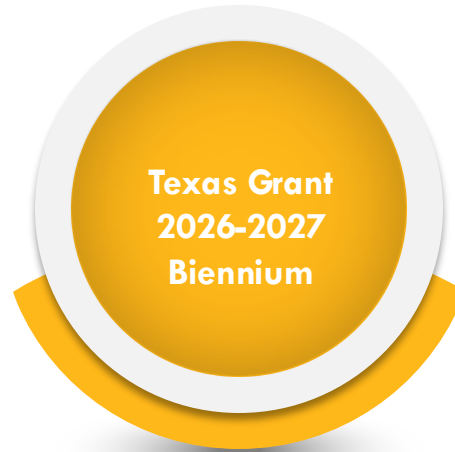
TEXAS GRANTS PROGRAM CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON SB1

(Article III—Higher Education)



\$2,113,337,776

House



\$2,113,337,776

Senate



\$0

Difference

* Texas Grants is a need-based program for Texas resident students pursuing their first degree. Both the House and Senate maintain introduced bills' funding. The House provides \$202.4M in additional funding for Texas Grants for the 2026-2027 biennium.

TEXAS TRANSFER GRANTS PROGRAM CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON SB1

(Article III—Higher Education)



\$24,853,698

House



\$49,671,396

Senate



\$24,817,698

Difference

* The Texas Transfer Grants program is a need-based program that helps students who have earned an associate degree transfer to a four-year university in Texas. The House transfers \$12.4M in FY27 to Texas Grants to treat students who received TEOG awards as Texas Grant renewal students.

TEXAS EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY GRANT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON SB1

(Article III—Higher Education)



\$222,000,890

House



\$222,000,890

Senate



\$0

Difference

* Texas Education Opportunity Grant program provides aid to students with financial need and enrolled at either public junior colleges, state colleges, or technical institutes. The House provides an additional \$93.5M for the TEOG program.

KEY BILL TRACKING

[HB 1](#) (Bonnen)

General Appropriations Bill

Identifies state appropriations for all state agencies and other entities, including higher education institutions, for the 2026-2027 biennium.

Status:

In lieu HB 1, SB 1 advances as principal budget bill.
February 25, 2025.*

[SB 1](#) (Huffman)

General Appropriations Bill

Identifies state appropriations for all state agencies and other entities, including higher education institutions, for the 2026-2027 biennium.

Status:

Conference committee set.
April 24, 2025.*

* Key bill tracking status is current as of May 23, 2025.

KEY BILL TRACKING

[HB 500](#) (Bonnen)

Relating to making supplemental appropriations and reductions in appropriations and giving direction and adjustment authority regarding appropriations

Status:

Passed House; referred to Senate Committee on Senate Finance.
May 23, 2025.*

N/A

See status below.

Status:

There is no companion bill to HB 500.

* Key bill tracking status is current as of May 23, 2025.

KEY BILL TRACKING

[HB 2856](#) (Howard)

Relating to a study concerning feasibility of implementing a statewide system for coordinating clinical training placements.

Status:

Passed House; voted favorably from Senate Education K-16; recommended for Local/Uncontested Calendar.
May 16, 2025.*

[SB 1908](#) (Zaffirini)

Relating to a study concerning feasibility of implementing a statewide system for coordinating clinical training placements.

Status:

Committee action pending Senate Education K-16.
April 29, 2025.*

* Key bill tracking status is current as of May 23, 2025.

KEY BILL TRACKING

[HB 3923](#) (Bell)

Relating to state employment opportunities for individuals who do not hold a bachelor's degree.

Status:

Passed House; pending action Committee on Senate Business and Commerce.
May 23, 2025.*

[SB 1041](#) (Parker)

Relating to state employment opportunities for individuals who do not hold a bachelor's degree.

Status:

Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business & Commerce.
February 24, 2025.*

* Key bill tracking status is current as of May 23, 2025.

KEY BILL TRACKING

[HB 2110](#) (VanDeaver)

Relating to public higher education – students in grades 9 – 12 eligible to enroll at no cost in dual credit courses..., governing board shall exempt payment of tuition and required fees for dual credit courses.

Status:

Passed House; Senate concurred with House amendments; sent to the Governor.
May 15, 2025.*

[SB 1786](#) (Creighton)

Relating to public higher education – students in grades 9 – 12 eligible to enroll at no cost in dual credit courses..., governing board shall exempt payment of tuition and required fees for dual credit courses.

Status:

Senate concurred with House amendments; sent to the Governor.
May 15, 2025.*

* Key bill tracking status is current as of May 23, 2025.

KEY BILL TRACKING

[HB 5303](#) (Troxclair)

Relating to the vote required by the governing body of a taxing unit to adopt an ad valorem tax rate that exceeds the voter-approval tax rate or authorize the issuance of tax bonds

Status:

Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means.
April 7, 2025.*

[SB 2529](#) (Bettencourt)

Relating to the vote required by the governing body of a taxing unit to adopt an ad valorem tax rate that exceeds the voter-approval tax rate or authorize the issuance of tax bonds.

Status:

Passed Senate; reported favorably from House Ways and Means; meeting set at 9 am.
May 22, 2025.*

* Key bill tracking status is current as of May 23, 2025.

KEY BILL TRACKING

[HB 4499](#) (Shaheen)

Relating to the governance of public institutions of higher education, including review of curriculum and certain degree and certificate programs, the powers and duties of a faculty council or senate.

Status:

Introduced and referred to committee on House Higher Education.
April 3, 2025*

[SB 37](#) (Creighton)

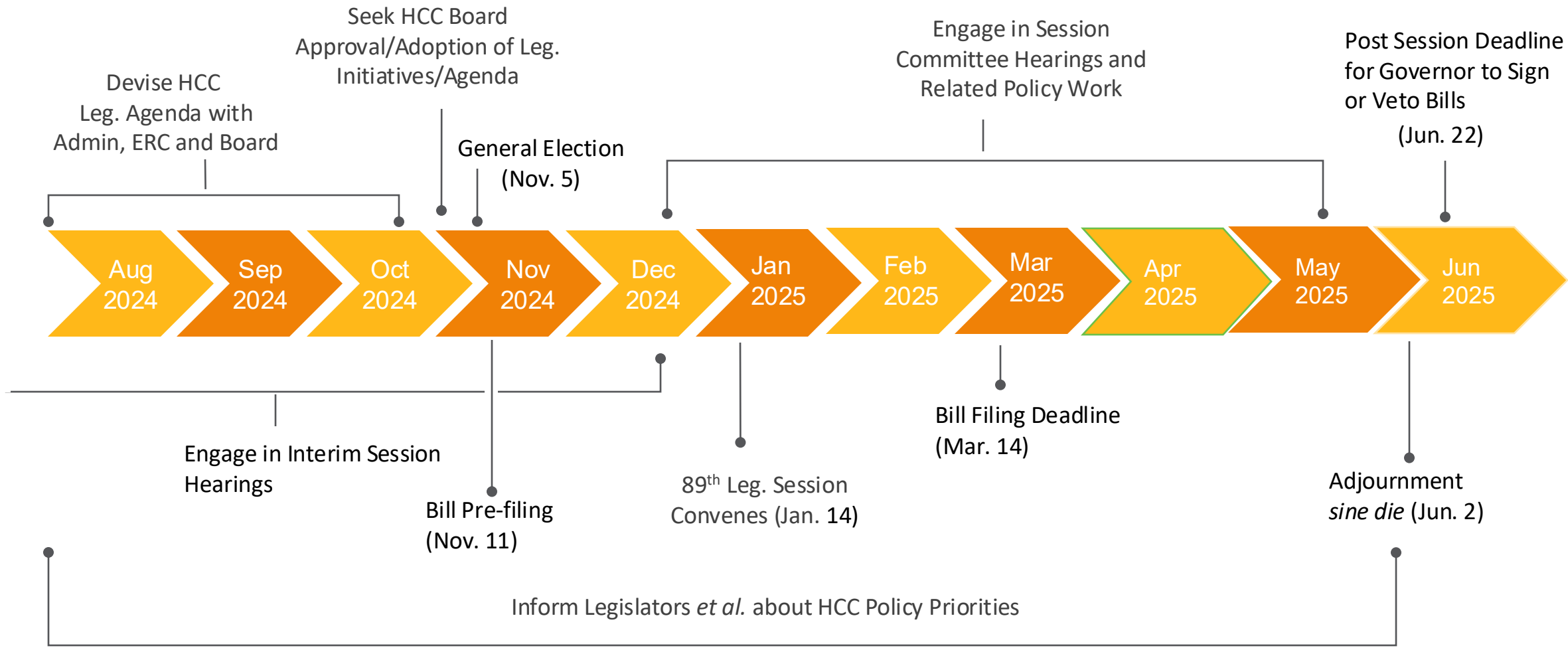
Relating to the governance of public institutions of higher education, including review of curriculum and certain degree and certificate programs, the powers and duties of a faculty council or senate.

Status:

Passed Senate; voted favorably as substituted House Higher Education; set on House Calendar May 24, 2025.*

* Key bill tracking status is current as of May 23, 2025.

HCC Legislative Timeline



Questions / Discussion



Thank you