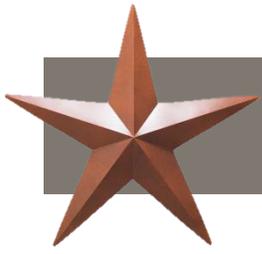




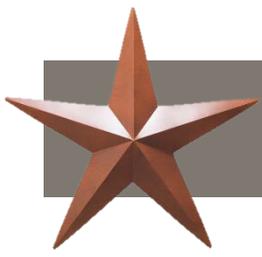
# **86<sup>TH</sup> TEXAS LEGISLATURE PRELIMINARY SUMMARY**

Deece Eckstein  
Julie Wheeler  
Intergovernmental Relations Office  
Travis County, Texas  
May 28, 2019



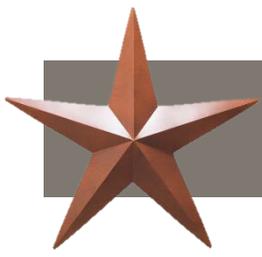
# Overview – IGR/LAWG Statistics

Session	Bills/JRs Filed	IGR Tracked	% Tracked
<b>86<sup>th</sup> (2019)</b>	7,541	2,507	33.24
<b>85<sup>th</sup> (2017)</b>	6,800	2,091	30.75
<b>84<sup>th</sup> (2015)</b>	6,476	2,262	34.93
<b>83<sup>rd</sup> (2013)</b>	6,061	1,484	24.48
<b>82<sup>nd</sup> (2011)</b>	6,003	1,283	21.37
<b>81<sup>st</sup> (2009)</b>	7,609	924	12.14
<b>80<sup>th</sup> (2007)</b>	6,362	128	2.01



## 2020-2021 Budget

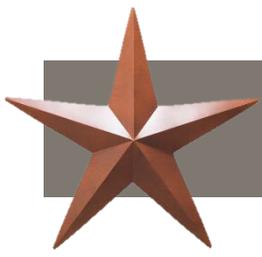
- 2020-2021 Budget: \$250,652.1 million
- 2018-2019 Budget: \$235,770.2 million
- 2016-2017 budget: \$216,398.5 million
- 2014-2015 budget: \$203,300.5 million
  
- *Public education -- \$12,180.3 million increase*
- *Property tax relief -- \$4,980.0 million*



# Revenue Caps

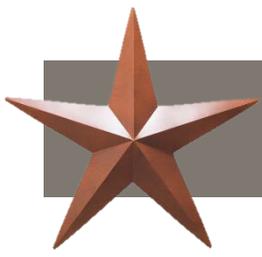
- **Senate Bill 2**

- “Voter-approval” (rollback) tax rate set at 3.5% for most counties and cities; election required to exceed the rate.
- 8% cap for hospital districts, junior college districts, and smaller taxing units (tax rate < 2.5 cents/\$100)
- Counties and cities can “bank” any unused increment for a 3-year period.
- Exempts from the tax rate calculation the amount paid to assigned counsel for indigent *civil and* criminal defense cases.
- Additional transparency measures and reforms to the appraisal system.



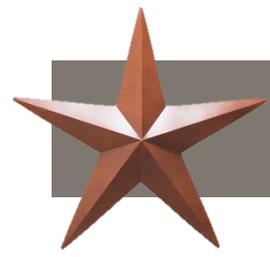
# Revenue Caps

- **Senate Bill 2**
- “Tax Rate Adjustment for Indigent Defense”
- As it left the Senate, SB 2 covered “the amount spent by the county **for the maintenance and operations costs of providing indigent criminal defense required under Chapter 26, Code of Criminal Procedure.**”
- Conference Committee Report: “the amount paid by a county **to provide appointed counsel for indigent individuals in criminal or civil proceedings in accordance with the schedule of fees adopted under Article 26.05, Code of Criminal Procedure.**”



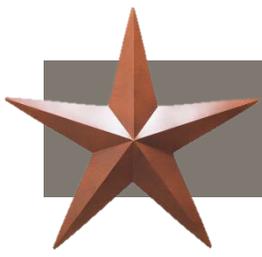
# Revenue Caps

- **Senate Bill 2**
  - “Tax Rate Adjustment for Indigent Defense”
  - Profound effects on Travis County
  - Does not cover costs for a public defender’s office
    - Juvenile Public Defenders Office
    - Mental Health Public Defenders Office
    - Office of Child Representation
    - Office of Parental Representation
  - Does not cover organizational/overhead costs of CAPDS



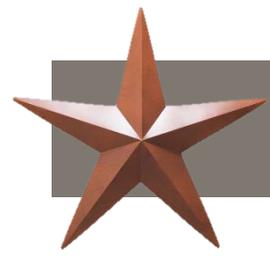
# Legislative Priorities – Tier 1

- 12 Priorities: 2 “meta-priorities,” 10 others
- “Meta-Priorities”
  - Revenue Caps – Senate Bill 2
  - Unfunded Mandate Constitutional Amendment
    - SJR 10 (Buckingham)
    - HJR 30 (Burns)
    - *Nothing happened*



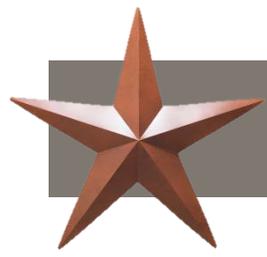
# Legislative Priorities – Tier 1

- Other Priorities – **PASSED**:
  - Sobering Center clean-up
  - Judicial redaction of personal information
  - Longevity pay for court at law judges
  - Extend the records maintenance fees
  - Uncollectible debt
  - New civil district court



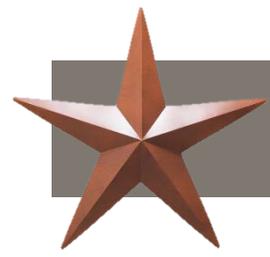
# Legislative Priorities – Tier 1

- Other Priorities – **FAILED**:
  - Flexibility on homestead exemption
  - Reimbursement for STAR Flight expenses
  - Return LIRAP/LIP money to counties
  - Park police authority to issue citations



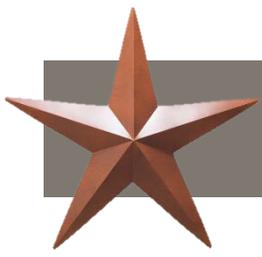
## Policy Positions – Tier 2

- Total Number of Tracked Bills: 2,507
- Total Number of Bills Heard in Cmte. 1,727
- Total Number **SUPPORTED** 342
- Total Number **OPPOSED** 157



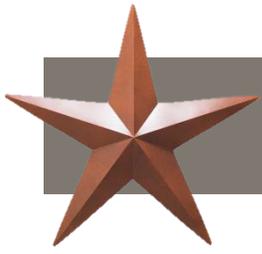
## Positions on Other Proposals – Tier 3

- Southwestern Travis County Groundwater Conservation District – [SB 669](#) (Buckingham) – *Effective immediately*
- Central Health LPPF – [SB 1350](#) (Watson) – *Sent to the Governor*
- PACE administration – [SB 1281](#) (Birdwell) – *left pending in Hse Energy Resources 5/14* **DEAD**
- Online auctioneers bill – [HB 2650](#) (Goodwin) – *Sent to the Governor*



## Next Steps

- Governor veto deadline: June 16
- IGR continuing to analyze passed bills
  - Working with CUC, TAC, CJCAT to identify, analyze
  - Working with PBO, Auditor, departments to quantify
- More detailed analysis of legislation as relevant to Travis County coming from IGR on June 27
- More detailed compendia of legislation coming later this summer from CUC, TAC, CJCAT



- Questions or Comments?