

INVEST IN TEXAS CHILDREN

Amidst rising inflation and crippling teacher shortages across the state, our schools are at a breaking point. And despite the largest budget surplus in Texas history, House Republicans have not proposed even a penny in investments in our children, teachers, and retirees in the state budget (House Bill 1).

While Republicans work to break the public education system by pulling money out of classrooms for corporate tax cuts and private school vouchers, House Democrats are proposing a critical \$15 Billion investment to put children before corporate tax cuts and to invest in the future of Texas.

RAISE THE BASIC STUDENT ALLOTMENT TO MATCH INFLATION

House Democrats propose raising the amount the state spends per student to **\$7,500 by 2025 for \$11 Billion**, keeping pace with inflation. This would be a **23% increase in the allotment**—the same as inflation between Fall 2019 and the 2024-25 school year.

Since 2019, the State has not put any new money in schools despite the challenges brought on by COVID and rising inflation.

FUNDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS BY ENROLLMENT

House Democrats propose shifting to funding schools by enrollment, giving schools more financial certainty in allocating resources as well as invest an additional **\$3 Billion into classrooms**.

Instead of using enrollment—the number of actual students served—our state currently determines funding based largely on an archaic attendance system that left nearly 300,000 students unfunded in the 2021-22 school year.

REDUCING TEACHER SHORTAGES & RAISING SALARIES FOR EDUCATORS

House Democrats propose a critical investment in compensation for teachers with a **\$7,000 raise in 2024 and a \$10,000 raise in 2025** to reduce shortages as well as boost retention. Librarians, counselors, and nurses would also be guaranteed raises.

The lack of teachers has resulted in larger class sizes and less individual instruction while also fueling a vicious cycle of teachers leaving the profession.

HONORING OUR COMMITMENT TO RETIRED TEACHERS

House Democrats propose a **\$1 Billion additional investment** in TRS to improve HB 600 and provide a cost-of-living adjustment for retired teachers without raising contribution levels for active teachers. Retirees would receive 6%, 4%, and 2% COLAs depending on their retirement year.

Retirees have not had a COLA in nearly 20 years, a reality worsened by rising inflation. Investing in TRS would also help make the teaching profession more attractive.

INCREASED FUNDING FOR

-  Teacher Pay Raises
-  School Safety
-  Hiring More Counselors
-  Smaller Classes
-  Improving School Facilities

PROPOSED NEW FUNDING PER TEXAS STUDENT

\$50
HOUSE REPUBLICANS

\$1,340
HOUSE DEMOCRATS