

# CONCERNED ABOUT PROPERTY TAXES?

## Increase state support to public schools.

The Texas Legislature has been continually threatening to interfere with local communities by limiting the ability of local governments to raise the revenue they need to deliver public safety, health care, parks, libraries and other services their communities want. Senate Bill 1 during the 2017 special legislative session was part of a broader scheme of some state lawmakers to interfere in local decisions that would hamstring the ability of Texas' cities to address the changing needs of their residents.

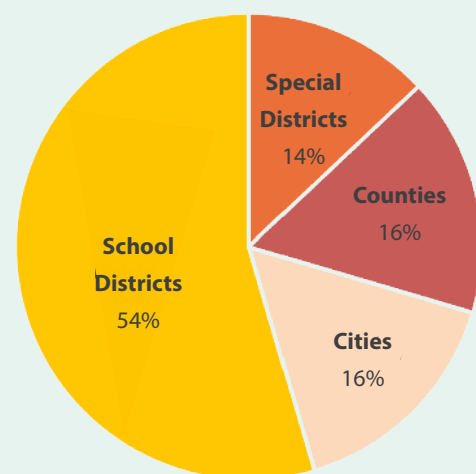
Lawmakers have made clear they will try again during the 2019 legislative session to limit cities and counties from raising the revenue they need. If Texas lawmakers are really concerned about property taxes, then they should increase state investment in public education.

### Lower property taxes by boosting state funding for our public schools

A much better way for the state to reduce property taxes is through increased state aid to public education. This way, school districts are not forced to raise taxes to cover inflation, maintain or reduce class sizes, or attract and retain the best teachers.

Recent bills proposed to lower property taxes have sought to restrict local governments from raising revenue needed for other services like public safety, courts, and health care. Rather than doing something that restricts these services in local communities, **lawmakers can provide more support to our state's public schools.**

### Most Property Taxes are for Public Schools



Source: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, 2017 Property Tax Levies.

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