EVERY TEXAN

90th Legislative Session

Policy Roadmap

*for a **Texas** where **everyone thrives***

Social Justice Requires Public Policy

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90TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION
2027

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*for a **Texas** where **everyone thrives***

Since its founding in 1985, **Every Texan** (formerly the Center for Public Policy Priorities) has leveraged public policy to expand opportunity and equity for Texans of all backgrounds. During the 90th Texas Legislature, **we stand ready to build on decades of work advancing policies that strengthen Texans' health, education, food access, and economic security**. It is time to address the needs of everyday Texans who have been neglected for too long.

Schools across Texas are closing while private school vouchers siphon public dollars away from public schools. Federal decisions, including H.R. 1, have made the state's policy choices more consequential than ever. Texas wages stagnate as state health and food programs face uncertainty and deeper funding gaps. Local governments are caught between state mandates, preemptions, and tight spending caps while tax breaks disproportionately benefit the wealthiest Texans. These pressures are felt throughout our state, and they call for **practical, evidence-based solutions.**

Our principles and priorities remain steadfast – when **Texas invests in its people,** the whole state gets the return on that investment.

- It is time to **fully fund public education**, make **healthcare and food** more accessible, and **end unfair tax policies**.
- We need a **budget that is transparent** about how the state spends our money and for whom—and prioritizes **people over corporate tax breaks**.
- Our laws should strengthen **economic security and worker power**, **giving local governments authority** to meet their local needs.
- The whole state will benefit when we **invest in all Texans, including immigrants,** and create opportunities for them to thrive.
- And to truly seize this once-in-a-generation opportunity, we must make every effort to **protect voting rights and our democratic processes.**

This session, **we call on lawmakers to respond to Texans' clear message** and invest in our people to build a stronger future for the entire state. Every Texan stands ready to support you and strengthen public policy so every resident has the opportunity to thrive.

The work to govern for every Texan begins here.



Parisa Fatehi-Weeks
Executive Director

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Health Care

Every Texan Recommends:

- **Expand access to Medicaid** and federal funding to address Texas' worst in the nation access to health insurance.

- **Increase access to comprehensive, qualified health** insurance products and health support policies and programs that reduce care costs.

- **Reject the proliferation of limited benefits**/short term/junk insurance, non-networked plans, and high-deductible health plans.

- **Full funding for HHSC Community Partner Programs (CPPs)** that support health care and food assistance applications and system navigation. This is critical given application backlogs for all benefits programs.

- **Establish a Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Language Access Coordinator** position to provide recommendations and guide implementation of service delivery improvements.

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Food & Hunger

Every Texan Recommends:

- **Protect Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** integrity by maximizing Broad Based Categorial Eligibility (BBCE), which increases efficiency by eliminating unnecessary applications for already-qualified applicants.

- **Drop the Full Family Sanctions (FFS) policy,** which punishes qualified, work-exempt family members if HHSC determines that the head of the household does not meet work requirements.

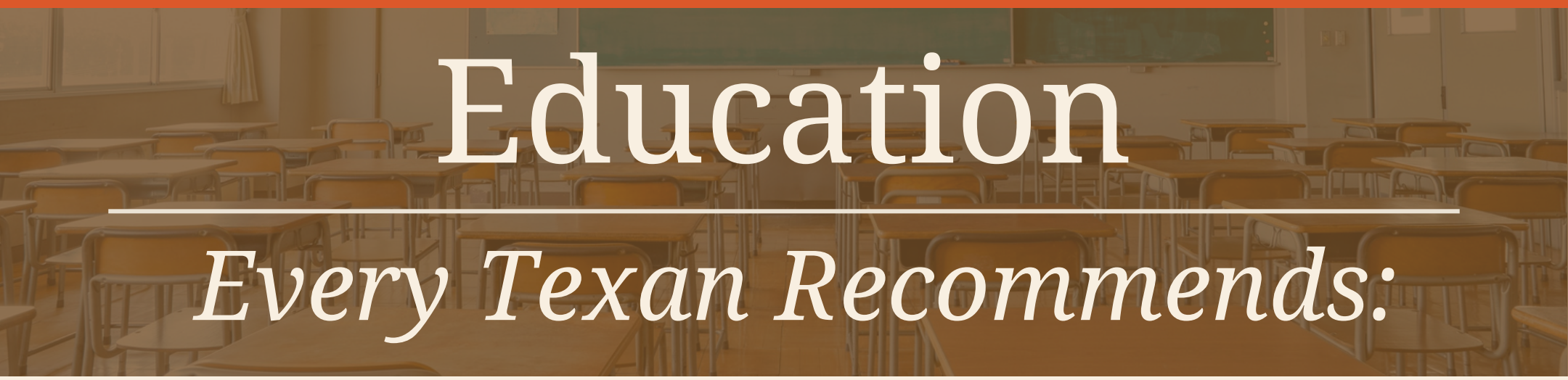
- **Implement Parental Notification/Express Lane Eligibility (ELE),** which requires HHSC to automatically enroll eligible children under 19 in SNAP-eligible households into Medicaid, or to notify parents of eligibility.

- **Opt-in to and fund Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer** (Summer EBT) to help families with kids close the Summer hunger gap.

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Education

Every Texan Recommends:

- **Address the school funding crisis by increasing the basic allotment** for past inflation and indexing it to inflation annually going forward.

- **Fund every student by implementing enrollment-based funding** across the board rather than attendance-based funding.

- **Simplify the school finance system** to ensure decisions on how to operate schools are made locally.

- **Eliminate the private school voucher program** and redirect those funds to public schools.

- **Fully fund current and future outcomes-based needs** for all community colleges.

- **Protect and expand access to higher education** for all qualified Texas residents by restoring the Texas Dream Act and fully funding financial aid programs.

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Budget & Taxes

Every Texan Recommends:

- **Eliminate the sales tax exemptions for data centers** and protect local options to regulate data center construction that threatens natural resources and vulnerable communities.

- **Protect public education, local revenue, and the long-term prosperity of Texas** by opposing the across-the-board elimination of property taxes and implementing targeted tax cuts and income support programs.

- **Use the Economic Stabilization Fund (Rainy Day Fund)** to address one-time needs and critical shortages from federal funding cuts, but not relying on it to make up for chronic underfunding of state services.

- **Identify outdated tax exemptions** and implement revenue alternatives to make our tax system fairer and less regressive.

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Democracy

Every Texan Recommends:

- **Modernize Texas voter registration** by implementing an online registration option to improve efficiency, security, and accessibility for all eligible voters.

- **Oppose complicated and redundant voter registration requirements,** including additional citizenship documentation.

- **Protect county officials** from unfunded state-imposed audits or other election mandates without full state funding; and remove penalties that make it harder to recruit and retain election officials, poll workers, and volunteers.

- **Fund the 2030 Texas Census Outreach plan** and create a Statewide Complete Count Committee to ensure Texans get their fair share of funding, investments, and representation.

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Workers' Rights & Local Control

Every Texan Recommends:

- **Pass the Texas Family Act** to ensure all working Texans have access to paid parental leave.
- **Maintain authority to budget** for revenue required to meet local needs.

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For over 40 years, Every Texan has been driven by a simple but profound belief: our state possesses the resources for everyone to thrive, yet too many neighbors are blocked from the conditions necessary to prosper. Our policy priorities — quality schools, accessible healthcare, and economic security — provide a path to realize a brighter future.

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