

Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce



2019 Legislative Scorecard



Representative Votes On The Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce 2019 Legislative Priorities

Votes by Representative and Bill
HB - House Bill; SB - Senate Bill

	* GTACC Alignment	HB 3143	HB 2830	HB 985	HB 2784	HB 700	SB 1264	SB 6
Cecil Bell	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Sam Harless	93%	+	+	+	E	+	+	+
Tom Oliverson	86%	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
Valoree Swanson	57%	+	-	+	-	-	+	+
Paul Bettencourt	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

*Percentage Represents Alignment with GTACC Priorities

How to Read the Votes: + Voted in Favor

- Voted Against

E Excused Absence

Economic Development: **HB 3143** – Chapter 312 Tax Abatement

Transportation: **HB 2830** – Design-Build Contracts

General Business: **HB 985** – Public Works Contracts

Education and Workforce: **HB 700** – Skills Development Fund

Education and Workforce: **HB 2784** – Workforce Grant Program

Healthcare: **SB 1264** – Surprise Medical Billing

Water/Infrastructure: **SB 6** – Disaster Response Act

Details regarding each bill can be found on the next page.

Each of the following bills align with the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce 2019 Legislative Priorities. Each was passed and signed by Governor Abbott.

- **Economic Development: *HB 3143 – Chapter 312 Tax Abatement***

This bill extends the Chamber 312 tax abatement program by ten years to September 2029. Tax Code Chapter 312, known as the Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act, allows cities and counties to enter into temporary property tax abatement agreements in exchange for businesses locating facilities in their jurisdiction. HB 3143 also adds more transparency by requiring a more detailed public notice and a 30-day minimum notice before scheduling a public meeting to approve the agreement.

- **Transportation: *HB 2830 – Design-Build Contracts***

The Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce supports the use of design-build procedures wherever they can be shown to reduce total costs and improve efficiency. This bill allows Texas to enter six design-build contracts in a biennium.

- **General Business: *HB 985 – Public Works Contracts***

This bill restrict the use of Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) in awarding public works contracts. It will help the construction industry create a level playing field against unions in the awards of public works contracts.

- **Education and Workforce: *HB 700 – Skills Development Fund***

This bill expands the use of the Skills Development Fund to local workforce development boards and allows existing eligible entities to continue to provide customized skills training solutions to Texas employers across the state.

- **Education and Workforce: *HB 2784 – Workforce Grant Program***

This bill creates the Texas Industrial Workforce Apprenticeship Grant Program to encourage the private sector to develop apprenticeship programs in conjunction with Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

- **Healthcare: *SB 1264 – Surprise Medical Billing***

SB 1264 creates consumer protections against health care billing by prohibiting out-of-network providers balance billing when the consumer had no choice over who provides their care including out-of-network lab work and imaging.

- **Water/Infrastructure: *SB 6 – Disaster Response Act***

This bill provides protocols and standards to the Texas Department of Emergency Management and the Health and Human Services Commission for future storm preparedness.