TACRAO Legislative Issues Committee 2019-2020 Report

TACRAO Legislative Issues Committee Members:

Chris Reed, Chair – Texas A&M University

Sam Carrell, Chair-Elect – University of Texas at Tyler

Jodie Rexroat – Dallas College

Jenielle Strother – Concordia University

Christopher Johnson – Texas State Technical College

Madelyne Tolliver – Victoria College

**State Legislation:**

As this is an even numbered year we are between legislative sessions. Due the COVID-19 pandemic we are also operating without much information on the priorities for the 87th Legislative Session as Capitol Meetings have been closed since April.

We are aware based on the Lieutenant Governor’s Charges issued in October of 2019 and the Speaker of the House Charges in November of 2019 that there were several key foci for legislation regarding higher education after the 86th Session in 2019.

Data Transparency

Facility Needs

Adult Learner Needs

Formula Funding Review

Monitoring of Bill Implementation from 86th Session/60X30TX plan

The pandemic coupled with the legislative redistricting in 2021 makes predicting how these may shift or whether they will even remain priorities.

**Federal Legislation:**

We continue to monitor numerous bills at the federal level but given the current contested elections and our lack of a crystal ball, we as a committee would prefer to abstain from speculation on the future of legislation at the federal level. We anticipate a very interesting year to come.