

---

# **Executive Summary**

## **Effectiveness and Efficiency Reports**

**SUBMITTED TO THE 82ND TEXAS LEGISLATURE**

**JANUARY 2011**

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD STAFF**

**COVER PHOTO COURTESY OF HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHY**

---

---

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## CROSS FUNCTION

### *Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report*

Improve the Administration of the Texas Economic Development Act .....	1
Reduce the Unclaimed Property Dormancy Period for Certain Property Types .....	2
Eliminate Paper Warrants by Using Direct Deposit or Electronic Pay Cards for Certain State Payments .....	3
Implement Strategies to Increase the Transparency of the State Constitutional Debt Limit .....	4
Overview of Local Government Debt Transparency and Cost Effectiveness.....	6
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Federal Funds for the State of Texas .....	7
Health Information Technology Initiatives in Texas.....	8
Use Federal Data to Help Veterans Access Federal Benefits and Save State Funds .....	9
Strengthen the Regulation of Food-Related Industries to Improve Food Safety in Texas .....	10
Consolidate the Texas Regional Poison Control Centers.....	11
Provide For the Cost Effective Storage of State Records and Archives.....	12
Optimize the Use of State Parking Facilities .....	13

### *Other Reports*

Federal Healthcare Reform, Legislative Primer .....	14
---	----

## EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

### *Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report*

Maintain the Pension Solvency of the Employees Retirement System and the Teacher Retirement System .....	15
Reduce the State Contribution for Employee Health Insurance to Preserve Benefits.....	17
Implement a Tobacco User Surcharge on Employees Retirement System Health Premiums.....	18
Implement a Tiered Coinsurance Plan for State Employees.....	19
Establish Pill-Splitting Programs to Reduce Out-of-Pocket Expenses for State Employees.....	20
Require State Retirees to Pay a Greater Share of Their Health Insurance Cost to Preserve Benefits .....	21
Provide Commuter Choice Incentives for State Employees .....	22

## TAX POLICY

### *Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report*

2011 Update on the Streamlined Sales Tax .....	23
Reduce General Revenue Loss from Sales Tax Discounts .....	24
Phase Out Economic Development Tax Refunds .....	25
Tie the August State Sales Tax Holiday to Budget Conditions .....	26
Strengthen Sales Tax Enforcement Related to Customs Brokers and Increase the Charge for Export Stamps .....	28

Repeal Sunday Liquor Sales Restrictions to Generate Additional Revenue.....	29
Eliminate the Hotel Permanent Resident Exception.....	31

## **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### ***Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report***

Reform Healthcare Payment and Delivery Systems to Reduce State Expenditures.....	32
Implementation of an All-Payer Claims Database in Texas.....	33
Reduce Medicaid Costs Through Bundled Payments.....	34
Repeal the Prohibition of Health Maintenance Organizations in Medicaid in South Texas.....	35
Ensure Transparency and Accountability for Proposed Medicaid Dental Managed-Care Services .....	36
Reduce the Need for Emergency Room Utilization in the Medicaid Program .....	37
Implement an Objective Client Assessment Process for Acute Nursing Services in the Texas Medicaid Program.....	38
Increase the Use of Telemonitoring in the Texas Medicaid Program to Improve Patient Outcomes.....	39
2011 Update on a New Substance Abuse Treatment Benefit for Adult Medicaid Clients.....	40
Continue and Expand the Texas Medicaid Women's Health Program to Maximize Federal Funds and State Savings....	41
Implement a Medication Therapy Management Pilot Program in Medicaid.....	42
A Comparison of Behavioral Health Data Across NorthSTAR and Other Selected Service Delivery Areas .....	43
Increase Access to Primary Care Services By Allowing Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to Prescribe.....	44
Increase Information Available About Interest Lists for Long-Term Care Programs .....	45
Strengthen Certified Nurse Aide Training to Improve the Quality of Long-Term Care.....	46
Improve Abuse Reporting of Licensed Professionals .....	47
Regulate Urgent Care Centers in Texas to Standardize Quality of Care .....	48

### ***Other Reports***

Decrease the Number of State Supported Living Centers to Reduce Costs and Improve Care .....	49
Modernize Care Delivery at State Supported Living Centers .....	50
Managing and Funding State Mental Hospitals in Texas, Legislative Primer.....	51

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

### ***Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report***

Establish a Supervised Reentry Program to Reduce Costs and Improve Efficiency.....	52
Reduce Prison Population by Reducing Parole Process Delays.....	54
Eliminate Statutory Barriers to Contain Costs in Correctional Managed HealthCare.....	55
Improve Management and Successful Re-Entry for Adult and Juvenile Registered Sex Offenders.....	56

### ***Other Reports***

Adult and Juvenile Correctional Population Projections, Fiscal Years 2011–2016.....	57
Statewide Criminal Justice Recidivism and Revocation Rates, January 2011 .....	58



Criminal Justice Uniform Cost Report, Fiscal Years 2008–2010.....	59
Texas At-Risk Youth Services Project .....	60
Windham School District Evaluation.....	61
Financing the Judiciary in Texas, Legislative Primer—Third Edition .....	62

## NATURAL RESOURCES

### *Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report*

Improve Reporting For the Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act Program.....	63
Require All Beneficiaries to Help Fund the Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act .....	64
Include a Fuel Inefficiency Surcharge on the Sale of Certain New Vehicles.....	65
Strengthen Cost Recovery for Texas Department of Agriculture Regulatory and Marketing Programs.....	66
Increase Private Contributions for State Parks .....	67
Eliminate the New Technology Research and Development Program .....	68
Overview of Carbon Capture and Storage in Texas.....	69

### *Other Reports*

State Funding for Water Programs, Legislative Primer .....	70
Fiscal Impact of Drought to State Agencies and Institutions of Higher Education During the 2008–09 Biennium .....	71

## TRANSPORTATION

### *Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report*

Maximize the Federal Funds Texas Receives For Transportation .....	72
Restructure the Highway Maintenance Fee to Better Align It with the Cost of Road Maintenance and Repairs .....	74
Improve the Effectiveness of Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Programs in Texas .....	75
Increase the State Traffic Fine to Improve Traffic Safety .....	76
Improve Traffic Safety by Banning the Use of Wireless Communication Devices While Driving.....	77

### *Other Reports*

Texas Highway Funding, Legislative Primer .....	78
---	----

## BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### *Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report*

Overview of the Community Development Block Grant Program in Texas.....	79
---	----

### *Other Reports*

Overview of the Texas Workforce Development System .....	80
--	----

**INSURANCE*****Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report***

Develop and Operate a State Health Insurance Exchange to Comply with Federal Standards.....	81
End the Use of General Revenue Funds to Pay for Insurance Company Examinations.....	82

**HIGHER EDUCATION*****Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report***

Monitor Outcomes and Limit Course Offerings to Ensure Dual Credit Course Quality .....	83
Strengthen Financial Oversight of Community Colleges .....	84
Improve Accountability of Tech Prep Consortia .....	85
Improve the Effectiveness of the Texas Common Course Numbering System.....	86
Non-Tax Revenue Collected from Public Higher Education Students .....	87

***Other Reports***

Predictors of Access and Success at General Academic Institutions .....	88
Financing Higher Education in Texas, Legislative Primer .....	89
Summary of Higher Education Special Items .....	90

**PUBLIC EDUCATION*****Government Effectiveness and Efficiency Report***

Limit Advanced Placement Incentive Program Exam Fee Subsidies and End Campus Awards.....	91
Public School Career and Technical Education Labor Market Relevance and Course Variety .....	93
Overview of the State Infrastructure for School Support Services .....	94
Enhance the Capacity of Professional Service Providers.....	95
Increase Effectiveness of Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs.....	96
Enhance State Programs to Improve Teacher Retention.....	97
Technology Programs and Funding in Texas Public Schools .....	98
School Counselors, Librarians, and Nurses in Texas Public Schools.....	99
Substitute Teachers in Texas Public Schools.....	100

***Other Reports***

Evaluation of the Early Childhood School Readiness Demonstration Projects and the School Readiness Certification System .....	101
Methods for Reducing Costs and Maximizing Revenue in Public School Districts.....	102