

83rd Legislative Session Update

January 14, 2013

83rd Legislative Session

- Leadership
 - Representative Joe Straus re-elected as Speaker of the House
 - Senator Patrick named as Chairman of Senate Education Committee
 - New faces in House and Senate – loss of Eissler, Shapiro, and Hochberg

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Leadership Priorities

- Commitment to budget transparency
- Conservative fiscal policies
- Desire to address growing demands on state's infrastructure
- Strengthen education for Texas' skilled workforce
- Provide tax relief

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Major Education Issues

- Modification of High School Graduation Plans
- Reduction in High-Stakes Testing
- Changes in Accountability System
- School Choice/Vouchers
- School Finance

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Summary of Bills of Interest Filed to Date

- Assessment and accountability programs
- Class-size waivers
- Physical education and health requirements
- Counselor's work time