

CHRIS TURNER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 101

2019 LEGISLATIVE & LOCAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DURING THE 86TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION, CHRIS TURNER WAS:

- Elected to serve a 2nd term as Chair of the House Democratic Caucus

APPOINTED TO LEAD KEY COMMITTEES:

- Chair, House Committee on Higher Education
- Vice Chair, House Committee on Redistricting
- And serve on the House Committee on Insurance

STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS TURNER PASSED **17 PIECES OF LEGISLATION** DURING THE 86TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION. HERE'S A SNAPSHOT OF A FEW OF THE KEY MEASURES PASSED:



HB 448: KEEP KIDS SAFE

Will ensure that children remain rear-facing in car seats until at least age 2. Texas will become the 16th state to bring its car seat law in line with American Academy of Pediatrics' recommendations. The bill was ultimately vetoed by the governor, a move that received a great deal of criticism and resulted in increased media attention about the importance of rear-facing children in cars.



HB 3007/HB 3011: ENHANCE TRANSPARENCY FOR SCHOOLS

Both will increase access to the data used to determine school district A-F ratings. Arlington ISD brought the issue to our attention when they determined the district was not receiving credit for students who had successfully transitioned to college and were not given access to all of the data used to determine the district's A-F rating.



HB 3041: IMPROVE HEALTH CARE FOR PATIENTS & DOCTORS

Will help patients with chronic conditions by allowing their medical provider to request an early renewal of an insurer's preauthorization of medication or treatment. This will help ensure there is no lapse in treatment.



SB 25: TRANSFER COLLEGE CREDITS

Will go far in helping students and families save time and money by helping ensure that college credits taken at the junior college level transfer to four-year universities. Representative Turner, who chairs the House Higher Education Committee, and Senator Royce West worked together to write and pass this landmark legislation.



HB 449: PROTECT COLLEGE STUDENTS

Will require a transcript notation for students who are ineligible to re-enroll in an institution because of a serious disciplinary code of conduct violation, including sexual assault, arson and terroristic threats.



HB 3042: INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

Will create the Texas WORKS internship program, a centralized system for off-campus work study opportunities. This initiative has been funded in the state budget in past years, but centralization of available job opportunities was needed in order for the program to succeed. **This measure was amended to HB 3808.**



HB 2718: PROVIDE FOR RENOVATIONS & EXPANSION OF UTA STUDENT UNION

Will allow students to hold an election to approve additional funding for the expansion and renovation of the the UTA student union building, which was built over 65 years ago. The current facility does not meet the needs of the current student population.

OTHER MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE 86TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION & IN THE COMMUNITY IN 2019



FOUGHT FOR TEACHER & STAFF PAY RAISES

Chris brokered the deal to end the stalemate on Texas' major school finance legislation by crafting a statewide teacher & staff pay raise plan that was ultimately supported by both the House and Senate.



SECURED FUNDING FOR INTERNET ACCESS IN EAST ARLINGTON

Chris secured a \$750,000 State Library & Archives Commission grant for the East Arlington Recreation Center & Library that will provide funding for charging stations, a laptop dispenser for residents, internet hotspots for rental, and will give residents the ability to interact with a robotic agriculture system to learn about gardening.



STOPPED HARMFUL MEASURES TO MAKE VOTING HARDER

Chris led the effort that halted consideration of SB 9, a harmful measure that would have made it more difficult for Texans to vote.



PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE IN PROTECTING GRAND PRAIRIE & ARLINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Worked with city leaders and his House colleagues to update state statute that would ultimately guarantee that critical economic development convention center hotel projects could continue in Arlington & Grand Prairie. These projects will positively impact our local economy.



WORKED FOR FUNDING FOR NEW UT ARLINGTON SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK/SMART HOSPITAL

Led an effort to get funding for a new building to house UTA's School of Social Work & the College of Nursing's Smart Hospital. The UT System Board of Regents recently approved \$60 million for the project, which is expected to be completed in 2022.