

TML Legislative Update

Small Cities' Clinic
February 12, 2026

Rick Ramirez

JJ Rocha



TML Legislative Team

- **Public Policy & Engagement**
 - JJ Rocha, Director
 - Mike Martin, Legislative Counsel
 - Pierce de Jong, Data Analyst
- **State & Federal Relations**
 - Rick Ramirez, Director

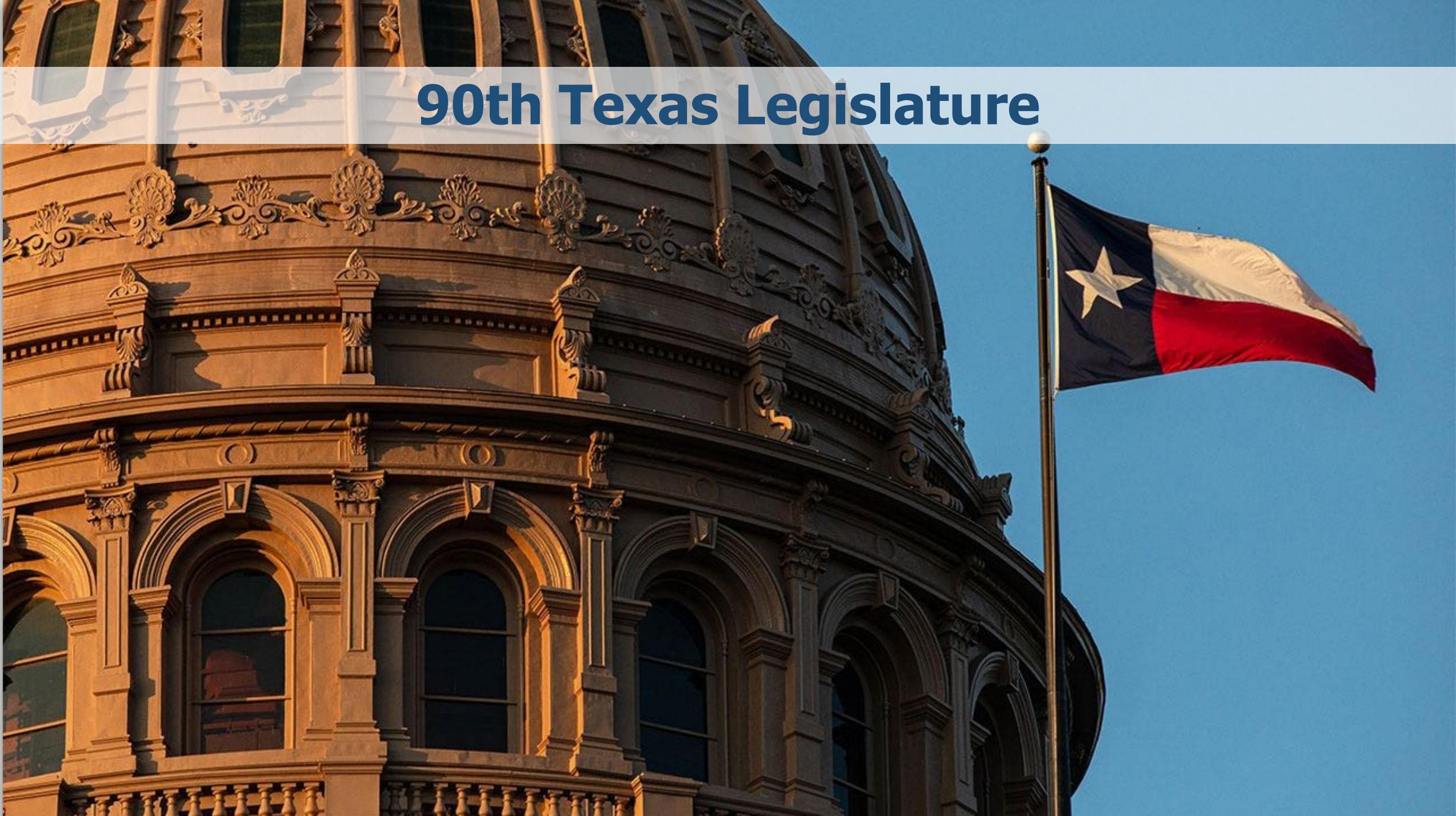


Year	Total Bills Introduced	Total Bills Passed	City-Related Bills Introduced	City-Related Bills Passed
2013	6061	1437	1700+	220+
2015	6476	1329	1600+	220+
2017	6800	1220	2000+	290+
2019	7541	1437	2000+	330+
2021	6927	1073	2000+	240+
2023	8344	1258	1800+	230
2025	9014	1231	2000+	262

TML tracked 2,189 bills (24% of all bills introduced) in 2025



90th Texas Legislature



Senate Interim Charges – Round 1

- State Affairs Committee
 - Preventing Sharia Law
- Finance Committee
 - Further Property Tax Cuts
- Business & Commerce Committee
 - Securing Critical Infrastructure & Supply Chain Integrity
- Health & Human Services Committee
 - Protecting Taxpayer Funds – Preventing Fraud & Abuse
- Education Committee
 - Promoting America & Texas First in Our Schools



Governor & Lt. Governor Tax Plans

- Governor's Tax Plan
 - Eliminate school property taxes (homeowners)
 - Appraisal Caps
 - Expenditure Caps
 - Supermajority Voter Approval
- Lt. Governor's Tax Plan
 - “Operation Double Nickle”
 - Increase homestead exemptions
 - Freeze senior homestead values (earlier age)



90th Texas Legislature: Major Issues

- Expenditure Caps
- Debt Limitations
- Third-Party Review
- ETJ Elimination
- Election Dates
- Community Censorship



TML Legislative Process

- **Municipal Policy Summit**

- Policy briefing in Austin on all municipal issues
- Members appointed by TML President
- Report will go forward to annual business meeting for approval
- Summer 2026

- **TML Business Meeting**

- Delegates will consider resolutions submitted by the membership
- One delegate from each city
- Resolutions are due September 28, 2026
- Resolutions approved by the delegates at the business meeting
- November 12 during TML Annual Conference in San Antonio



Advocacy Efforts

- Get to know your legislators, contact them often
- Stay informed on issues
- Understand the legislative process
- Become a resource for your legislator and TML
- Be able to act quickly during session
 - Phone calls, emails, and/or testifying



Stay Engaged

- *Legislative Update*
- Advocacy Boot Camps
- Legislative Webinars



Questions?

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