



TSEU/UNIVERSITY CAUCUS LEGISLATIVE GOALS

Fund Our Future: Stop the Cuts, Stop the Layoffs, Invest in Higher Ed

- Restore all funding cut from higher education during the 82nd legislative session. The cuts enacted in 2011 have forced radical increases in tuition and fees charged to students and forced the elimination of thousands of university teaching and staff positions. Every Texan has the right to quality public higher education. Texas can afford it.
- Invest in the future of Texas. Restoring these cuts is not enough. Reverse the decades-long trend of reduced state funding for higher education. Our economic prosperity tomorrow depends on the state's ability to educate Texans today. Provide a quality higher education to every Texan who seeks one.

Stop the privatization of campus services

- Oppose any attempts at state universities to reduce costs by privatizing campus services. Require budget transparency in any and all plans made by state universities to reduce operational costs

Protect TRS pensions and university employee representation on the TRS Board

- Oppose any plans to covert or reduce our current defined benefit retirement system. Fully fund the Teachers Retirement System pension by increasing the state's contribution. Repeal previous pension cuts and fund a cost-of-living for TRS retirees.
- Repeal HB 2120. Reverse the designation of the "open" TRS Board of Trustees seat starting in 2017 and restore it as a seat designated for employees working in institutions of higher education.

Fund an across-the-board pay raise for all state university workers

- Include university workers in any state funded across-the-board pay increase for state employees. Distribute any pay raise as a flat-amount raise to every university worker, including graduate employees and part time employees to keep up with the cost of living.

Increase instructional worker job security and benefits

- Support quality education by strengthening instructional and research worker job security and benefits, including tuition waivers, domestic partner benefits, and health care.

Protect free, quality, publicly funded education

- Oppose corporate online education, the Texas Public Policy Foundation's plan to "deform" public higher education and attacks on tenure. Support academic freedom, critical thinking, and ethnic study centers.