

2023 Bills Signed by the Governor Affecting University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Bill	Caption/Topic	Author	Description of Bill	Effective Date	Action Needed /Taken	UTRGV Dept/Area/Personnel	Completed Date				
HB 1	General Appropriations Bill.	Bonnen	The bill funds all of state government on a biennial basis, including IHES. NOTES ON CONTINGENCIES: 1. Affordability Funding is contingent on freezing tuition and academic fees at current levels; and 2. Included in the Appropriations Act (HB 1) is a legislative measure known as a Rider which prohibits state funds from being used on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) offices, programs, and practices. The Rider reads as follows: Sec. 59. Prohibition on Unconstitutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Programs or Practices. No funds appropriated by this Act may be expended by an entity listed in this article (including any component, constituent unit, supported program, or grant recipient) for the design, implementation, or administration of diversity, equity, & inclusion practices or programs that do not comply with Sections 3 and 3a, Article I, Texas Constitution. This prohibition includes, without limitation, the hiring and supervision of employees, mandatory or recommended training, or programmed activities.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Interested parties see bill in full at the HB 1 link in the first column and the summary found on the OGR website here... www.utrgv.edu/gcr/_files/documents/pdf/legislative-summary.pdf	Administration and interested parties.					
HB 4	Relating to the regulation of the collection, use, processing, and treatment of consumers' personal data by certain business entities; imposing a civil penalty.	Capriglione G.	.	This Act takes effect July 1, 2024, except Section 541.055(e), Business & Commerce Code, as added by this Act, takes effect January 1, 2025.	Review policies to ensure compliance.	Legal/IT					
HB 8	Relating to public higher education, including the public junior college state finance program.	VanDeaver G.	H.B. 8 amends the Education Code to revise the funding system for public junior college districts through the establishment of the public junior college state finance program and to provide for the establishment of the Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST) program for students to enroll in dual credit courses at no cost to the student.	Selected sections of this Act take effect September 1, 2023; others take effect immediately.	Notify appropriate personnel in financial aid.	Enrollment/Financial Aid					
HB 400	Relating to innovation grant programs to support residency training programs in psychiatric specialty fields and recruitment, training, and retention programs in behavioral health fields.	Klick S.	H.B. 400 amends the Education Code to provide for the establishment of a psychiatric specialty innovation grant program and a behavioral health innovation grant program for the purposes of promoting pediatric or adult psychiatric care and increasing the behavioral health workforce in Texas.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify appropriate personnel - School of Medicine & College of Health Professions.	School of Medicine / Academic Affairs					
HB 567	Relating to discrimination on the basis of hair texture or protective hairstyle associated with race.	Bowers R.	Bill amends current law relating to discrimination on the basis of hair texture or protective hairstyle associated with race.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Update applicable policies and review college, school, and department dress or grooming policies for compliance.	Institutional Equity & Diversity/Academic Affairs					
HB 584	Relating to the development of a state information technology credential offered by public junior colleges or public technical institutes to address shortages in the state information resources workforce.	Capriglione G.	H.B. 584 would direct the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to approve an information technology credential program for state agencies, which includes a one-year apprenticeship. The bill also requires the Department of Information Resources to update its career ladder program to allow this credential and an associate degree to be substituted for a four-year degree and directs the State Auditor to review and revise job descriptions accordingly.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	No action needed, FYI.	Academic Affairs					

HB 621	Relating to creating a temporary certification to teach career and technology education for certain military service members and first responders.	Shaheen M.	H.B. 621 amends the Education Code to provide for the issuance of a temporary teaching certificate to a person who has served in the U.S. armed forces; was honorably discharged, retired, or released from active duty; has served as a first responder; and meets all other eligibility requirements for standard certification.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify appropriate personnel in the College of Education as FYI.	Academic Affairs				
HB 679	Relating to limitations on the use of workers' compensation insurance experience modifier values in soliciting and awarding public construction contracts.	Bell, K.	Prohibits use of experience modifiers in construction offer to contract, contract solicitation, contract, or agreement collateral to or affecting a contract.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Business Affairs, Legal and Facilities to review and implement any needed changes to contracting requirements.	Business Affairs/Operation/Legal				
HB 1184	Relating to access to criminal history record information for use in certain research or statistical projects.	Rose T.	A person, including a research organization or public or private institution of higher education, working on a research or statistical project that is related to the administration of criminal justice and approved by the department and that: is funded in whole or in part by a criminal justice grant or government, shall be granted access to criminal history record information.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Academic Affairs and Research to notify appropriate personnel & researchers.	Academic Affairs/Research				
HB 1361	Relating to the designation of liaison officers to assist certain students at public institutions of higher education who are parents.	Morales Sh.	Each institution of higher education shall designate at least one employee of the institution to act as a liaison officer for current or incoming students at the institution who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of age. The liaison officer shall provide to the students information regarding support services and other resources available to the students at the institution.	Effective immediately.	Student Affairs shall evaluate policy for changes and identify employee to serve as new liaison officer, and update existing websites.	Enrollment/Student Affairs				
HB 1590	Relating to the establishment of the Texas Leadership Scholars Program.	Burns D.	H.B. 1590 amends the Education Code to establish the Texas Leadership Scholars Program to serve as a merit-based scholarship and leadership opportunity program for high-achieving, emerging leaders with financial need administered by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). The bill requires the THECB, using money appropriated or otherwise available for the purpose, to award scholarships and provide academic achievement support and leadership development to eligible students under the program.	Effective immediately.	Notify appropriate personnel in Financial Aid.	Academic Affairs/ Enrollment-Financial Aid				
HB 1595	Relating to the administration and investment of, and distribution and use of money from, certain constitutional and statutory funds to support general academic teaching institutions in achieving national prominence as major research universities and driving the state economy. The bill would also redesignate the National Research University Fund as the Texas University Fund.	Bonnen G.	H.B. 1595 amends the Education Code to set out provisions relating to the administration and investment of, and distribution and use of money from, certain constitutional and statutory funds to support certain higher education functions.	This Act takes effect January 1, 2024, but only if HJR 3 is approved by the voters.	Budget office notified and awaiting direction from UTS board and HJR3 approval in November.	CFO/ Research/Academic Affairs				
HB 1602	Relating to performance criteria for the award of adult education and literacy funds.	Gullen R.	H.B. 1602 seeks to provide target goals to ensure the state successfully increases adult education and literacy rates by requiring the Texas Workforce Commission to establish performance criteria for entities that receive state funds for adult education and literacy and to establish a process for giving priority in awarding funds to entities that consistently meet those criteria.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	No action needed, FYI if we receive those funds.	Academic Affairs				
HB 1755	Relating to the Lone Star Workforce of the Future Fund.	Button A.	H.B. 1755 seeks to help fill the demand for a skilled workforce in Texas and provide Texans with the opportunity to be trained and equipped with the skills necessary to obtain sustaining, full-time employment by establishing the Lone Star Workforce of the Future Fund and a grant program to fund workforce training programs. H.B. 1755 requires TWC to establish and administer a grant program to provide grants from the fund to public junior colleges, public technical institutes, and nonprofit organizations that apply to TWC in the manner prescribed by TWC and that satisfy the applicable eligibility criteria.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	No action needed, FYI to Office of Workforce & Economic Development.	Global Education				
HB 1760	Relating to the prosecution of the offense of possessing a weapon in certain prohibited places associated with schools or postsecondary educational institutions.	Hefner C.	H.B. 1760 seeks to provide that it is an offense to carry a weapon on the premises where an activity sponsored by a school or postsecondary institution is being conducted only if the premises are owned and operated by the school or institution.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Update UTRGV's Weapons on Campus policy and notify appropriate personnel in UTRGV PD.	Policing/Legal				

HB 1825	Relating to the consumption, possession, and sale of alcoholic beverages at certain performing arts facilities owned by certain school districts.	Turner C.	H.B. 1825 amends the Education Code to extend to the board of trustees of a public school district located in a county in which a district-owned performing arts facility is located within two miles of two or more stadiums with a minimum capacity of 40,000 people the authority to adopt a policy allowing the consumption, possession, and sale of an alcoholic beverage at an event held at such a facility if the facility is leased to a nonprofit organization for an event not sponsored or sanctioned by the district.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Administration FYI for local events.	Administration		
HB 2012	Relating to the display of the national motto in public school and institution of higher education classrooms.	Oliverson T.	H.B. 2012 amends the Education Code to establish that a classroom teacher at a public elementary or secondary school or a teacher or professor at a public institution of higher education may not be prohibited from displaying in a classroom a poster or framed copy of the national motto that meets the requirements applicable to the poster or framed copy of the national motto that the school or institution itself must display. The bill applies beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.	Effective immediately.	Academic Affairs notify relevant personnel, update relevant documents and policies. Administration update any relevant policies.	Administration/Legal Affairs/Academic Affairs		
HB 2060	Relating to the creation of the artificial intelligence advisory council.	Capriglione G.	H.B. 2060 amends the Government Code to create the seven-member Artificial Intelligence Advisory Council to study and monitor artificial intelligence systems developed, employed, or procured by executive and judicial branch state agencies. The council is composed of one member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, one member of the senate appointed by the lieutenant governor, the executive director of the Department of Information Resources (DIR) or the executive director's designee, and four public members appointed by the governor as provided by the bill.	Effective immediately.	Research to notify relevant research personnel- and work with UTS Research office. Work with GR to identify possible members of UTRGV research to apply for the governor's appointment asap.	Academic Affairs/Research		
HB 2100	Relating to eligibility requirements for student loan repayment assistance for certain mental health professionals.	Price F.	H.B. 2100 amends the Education Code to extend the eligibility for education loan repayment assistance from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board currently available for certain early-career mental health professionals practicing in a designated mental health professional shortage area to equivalent early-career mental health professionals providing mental health services to patients in a state hospital or to individuals receiving community-based mental health services from a local mental health authority. The bill's provisions apply only to a person who first establishes eligibility for loan repayment assistance on the basis of an application submitted on or after September 1, 2023.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify appropriate personnel in Financial Aid for assessment.	Financial Aid/ Academic Affairs		
HB 2177	Relating to establishing a digital course materials pilot program.	Stucky L.	H.B. 2177 amends the Education Code to require the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to establish a pilot program under which the THECB awards grants to participating public junior colleges, public technical institutes, or public state colleges to provide financial assistance to eligible students for the cost of accessing digital course materials, defined by the bill as a digital textbook, supplemental material, or open educational resource. The bill requires the THECB, as soon as practicable after the bill's effective date, to adopt rules necessary to administer the pilot program.	Effective immediately.	Academic Affairs to notify appropriate personnel to identify eligibility for such grants with THECB.	Academic Affairs		
HB 2495	Relating to the requirements to obtain or renew an athletic trainer license.	Price F.	Amends current law relating to the requirements to obtain or renew an athletic trainer license.	Effective immediately.	Notification of appropriate personnel (Athletics).	Athletics		
HB 2512	Relating to the regulation of athletic trainers.	Morrison G.	An applicant for an athletic trainer license must have completed, or have 30 credit hours or less remaining to complete, the athletic training curriculum requirements of a college or university that is accredited by a nationally recognized athletic training accrediting organization and approved by the board.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notification of appropriate personnel (Athletics).	Academic Affairs/Athletics		

HB 2759	Relating to the establishment of the TexMesonet Hydrometeorology Network and creation of the TexMesonet Advisory Committee.	Thompson E.	H.B. 2759 amends the Water Code to include monitoring hydrometeorological conditions among the duties of the executive administrator of the Texas Water Development Board and to require the executive administrator to establish the TexMesonet Hydrometeorology Network for the purpose of providing a statewide resource for hydrometeorological data and summary information benefitting weather forecasting, flood preparedness, drought monitoring, wildfire management, water resources planning, water conservation, agricultural readiness and productivity, industrial readiness, and related business readiness and productivity across Texas.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	No action needed, FYI for Research personnel and College of Sciences.	Research / Academic Affairs		
HB 2804	Relating to use of the name, image, or likeness of a student athlete participating in an intercollegiate athletic program at an institution of higher education.	Kuempel J.	H.B. 2804 amends the Education Code to prohibit a student athlete participating in an intercollegiate athletic program at a general academic teaching institution or a private or independent institution of higher education from using the institution's facility, uniform, registered trademark, copyright-protected product, or official logo, mark, or other indicia in connection with a contract for the use of the student athlete's name, image, or likeness (NIL) unless the student athlete obtains the institution's express permission. The bill conditions an institution's authorization of such use by a student athlete on the institution being compensated for the use in an amount consistent with the market average compensation for the use and the institution requiring the student athlete and the person with which they contract to comply with any requirements established by the institution.	This Act takes effect July 1, 2023.	Athletics review and ensure compliance and updating of relevant policies and documents.	Athletics/Legal		
HB 2920	Relating to the distribution, posting, or provision of information regarding postsecondary education and career opportunities and to the confidentiality of certain information relating to persons provided assistance in accessing postsecondary education.	Paul D.	H.B. 2920 amends the Education Code to require the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), from money appropriated or otherwise available for the purpose, to develop one or more electronic tools or platforms to provide information to assist prospective postsecondary students in assessing the value of a certificate program, associate or baccalaureate degree program, or other credential program offered by an institution of higher education or private or independent institution of higher education by comparing each institution with other institutions. Institution's website and electronic common admission form must have link to electronic tools or platforms developed by coordinating board providing info to prospective students about the value of an institution's program.	Effective immediately.	Update the link on applicable websites. Review common admission forms for compliance.	Academic Affairs/Enrollment/UMC		
HB 2929	Relating to continuing education and training requirements for classroom teachers and public school counselors.	Lozano J.	H.B. 2929 amends the Education Code to require training in specified topics of instruction attended by a classroom teacher in excess of 25 percent of training required of the teacher every five years to be counted toward the teacher's overall training requirements. The bill changes the amount of training in specified topics of instruction that continuing education requirements must require of a school counselor every five years from not more than 25 percent to at least 25 percent.	Effective immediately.	Academic Affairs notification of appropriate personnel in College of Education.	Academic Affairs/ College of Education		
HB 3013	Relating to exempting certain contracts from procurement notice requirements.	Slawson S.	H.B. 3013 amends the Government Code to exempt a contract for services necessary to respond to a natural disaster from certain procurement notice requirements applicable to a procurement in an amount that exceeds \$20 million. The bill applies only to a contract for which a state agency first advertises or otherwise solicits bids, proposals, offers, or qualifications on or after the bill's effective date.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify relevant personnel in Procurement. No further action needed as Bill analysis states that it is intended for General Land office to be able to respond to natural disasters.	Business Affairs		
HB 3033	Relating to the public information law.	Landgraf	Amends/Adds to public information law under Govt. Code Ch. 522.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify relevant personnel within Legal and UMC - update procedures and websites regarding public information requests.	Legal/UMC		
HB 3447	Relating to the establishment and administration of the Texas Space Commission and the Texas Aerospace Research and Space Economy Consortium.	Bonnen G.	H.B. 3447 sets out provisions providing for the creation, management, and administration of the Texas Space Commission, the space exploration and aeronautics research fund, and the Texas Aerospace Research and Space Economy Consortium.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Research to notify relevant research personnel- and work with UTS Research office. Work with GR as needed to establish contacts with commission and system leads.	Research/Academic Affairs		

HB 3553	Relating to increasing the criminal penalty for certain offenses if committed at certain locations.	Thierry	H.B. 3553 seeks to deter human trafficking and exploitation on college campuses and align those offenses with protections of applicable Penal Code provisions established by the 87th Legislature by enhancing the penalty from a second degree felony to a first degree felony for the offense involving trafficking of a person on the premises of or within 1,000 feet of a public, private, or independent institution of higher education.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify Police Department.	Administration/Legal		
HB 3837	Relating to the designation of advanced clean energy projects.	Geren C.	"Advanced clean energy project" means a project involves the use of coal, biomass, petroleum coke, solid waste, natural gas, or fuel cells using hydrogen derived from such fuels, in the generation of electricity, or the creation of liquid fuels outside of the existing fuel production infrastructure while co-generating electricity, whether the project is implemented in connection with the construction of a new facility or in connection with the modification of an existing facility and whether the project involves the entire emissions stream from the facility or only a portion of the emissions stream from the facility.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	No action needed, FYI for Research personnel.	Research FYI		
HB 3993	Relating to the automatic admission of students with a nontraditional secondary education to certain public institutions of higher education. Beginning Fall semester 2024, top 10 percent rule is amended to clarify that class rank should be calculated for a homeschool graduate according to the formula passed by the legislature in 2015.	Paul D.	H.B. 3993 amends the Education Code to provide for an applicant for admission to a general academic teaching institution who completed secondary education in a nonaccredited private school setting, including a home school, to be admitted automatically as follows: requiring the applicant, as a condition of the automatic admission, to fulfill the same requirements as an applicant who graduated from a public or private high school in this state accredited by a generally recognized accrediting organization or from a high school operated by the U.S. Department of Defense; and if the applicant's nontraditional secondary education does not include a high school graduating class ranking, requiring the institution in determining the applicant's eligibility for automatic admission to calculate the applicant's class rank according to the applicant's standardized testing scores.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Enrollment update existing practices and class rank calculations.	Enrollment/Financial Aid/Academic Affairs		
HB 4005	Relating to the establishment of the Texas Competency-Based Education Grant Program for certain students enrolled in competency-based baccalaureate degree programs and to formula funding and dropped and repeated course restrictions for students enrolled in those degree programs at public institutions of higher education.	Raney J.	H.B. 4005 amends the Education Code to establish the Texas Competency-Based Education Grant Program to provide financial assistance to enable eligible students to enroll in competency-based baccalaureate degree programs at eligible institutions, defined as follows: "competency-based baccalaureate degree program" as a baccalaureate degree program under which academic credit is awarded based solely on a student's attainment of competencies, which may include a program that is organized around traditional course-based units, including for online or other distance education, that a student must earn for degree completion; and "eligible institution" as a general academic teaching institution, a private or independent institution of higher education, a public junior college authorized to offer baccalaureate degree programs under applicable state law, or a nonprofit, tax-exempt, regionally accredited college or university operating in accordance with a memorandum of understanding with the state under an executive order issued by the governor and offering competency-based, exclusively online baccalaureate degree programs.	Effective immediately.	Notify appropriate personnel in Financial Aid.	Enrollment-Financial Aid FYI		
HB 4363	Relating to the establishment of the Future Texas Teachers Scholarship Program for certain students at public institutions of higher education.	Kuempel J.	H.B. 4363 amends the Education Code to create the Future Texas Teachers Scholarship Program to recruit, prepare, and retain a talented and diverse workforce of career teachers to be leaders in their field and to provide assistance for tuition, mandatory fees, and other usual and customary costs of attendance at a general academic teaching institution or a private or independent institution of higher education that operates an eligible educator preparation program. The bill requires an educator preparation program to meet the eligibility criteria established by the bill to participate in the scholarship program.	Effective immediately.	Notify appropriate personnel in financial aid and in College of Education.	Enrollment/Financial Aid/ Academic Affairs		

HB 4510	Relating to reporting of certain information by state agencies and counties, including information related to appropriated money, activities of certain consultants, and tax revenue.	Smithee J.	H.B. 4510 requires a university system or an IHE to submit an annual financial report not later than November 20 of each year, except that a state agency, including a university system or an IHE that obtains an audited financial report shall submit the audited annual financial report in place of the annual financial report required not later than December 15 of each year.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2024.	Notify appropriate personnel to prepare to submit documents by 12/15 (if audited) instead of the regular report due Nov. 20.	Business Affairs		
HB 4906	Relating to the installation and use of tracking equipment and access to certain communications by certain peace officers.	Hefner C.	A sworn law enforcement officer, other than security personnel, commissioned under Section 37.081 or Section 51.203, Education Code, is now considered a peace officer, enabling those officers to apply for or be issued a search warrant for the collection of certain electronic evidence.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify Police Department.	Administration/Policing		
HB 4990	Relating to the Texas Pharmaceutical Initiative and a governing board and advisory council for the initiative.	Bonnen G.	The Texas Pharmaceutical Initiative is established to provide cost effective prescription drug access for employees, dependents, and retirees of public higher education systems and institutions, Employees Retirement System of Texas members, Teacher Retirement System of Texas members, persons confined by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice or the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, recipients of medical assistance, enrollees of the child health plan program, and other public, non-profit, and for-profit entities.	Effective immediately.	No action needed, FYI.	Institutional Equity & Diversity		
HB 5174	Relating to the establishment and administration of the Texas Semiconductor Innovation Consortium.	Bonnen G.	H.B. 5174 will help ensure that Texas remains competitive in this space by assembling a consortium of experts to make a strategic long-term plan for research, design, and manufacturing of semiconductors and creating the Texas Semiconductor Innovation Fund, to which future legislatures can appropriate state revenues to further the goals established by the consortium. This will provide state entities and public institutions of higher education with matching funds to bring additional opportunities, including those under the federal CHIPS and Science Act. It will also provide funding to attract further economic development in semiconductor design and manufacturing.	Effective immediately.	Research office to notify relevant personnel, establish contacts within Texas Governor's office, and UT Austin to further collaborate. Notify relevant researchers.	Research/Academic Affairs		
HJR 3	Proposing a constitutional amendment relating to the Texas University Fund, which provides funding to certain institutions of higher education to achieve national prominence as major research universities and drive the state economy.	Bonnen G.	Enabling legislation to HB 1595.	11/7 Election	No action needed, FYI.	Research/Business Affairs		
SB 10	Relating to certain benefits paid by the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.	Huffman J.	S.B. 10 amends the Government Code to provide for certain benefit enhancements for eligible annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS), to make adjustments regarding state and active member contributions to TRS, and to require the state to make certain actuarially required payments. The bill establishes that TRS is actuarially sound for purposes of providing the benefits enhancements pursuant to the Texas Constitution if, based on the most recent actuarial valuation of TRS, the amount of contributions and actuarially determined payments to TRS are sufficient to cover the normal cost of TRS and to amortize the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of TRS within 30 years.	This Act takes effect immediately, except Section 1 takes effect January 1, 2024, but only if HJR 2 is approved by the voters.	IE&D Review any changes needed.	Institutional Equity & Diversity		
SB 14	Relating to prohibitions on the provision to certain children of procedures and treatments for gender transitioning, gender reassignment, or gender dysphoria and on the use of public money or public assistance to provide those procedures and treatments.	Campbell D.	Prohibits a child health plan from providing coverage for services prohibited by Section 161.702 that are intended to transition a child's biological sex as determined by the child's sex organs, chromosomes, and endogenous profiles.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	IE&D/Legal review relevant policies for compliance.	Institutional Equity & Diversity/Legal		

SB 15	Relating to requiring public institution of higher education students who compete in intercollegiate athletic competitions to compete based on biological sex.	Middleton M.	Prohibits an intercollegiate athletic team sponsored or authorized by an institution of higher education, except as provided by Subsection (c), from allowing a student to compete on the team in an intercollegiate athletic competition sponsored or authorized by the institution that is designated for the biological sex opposite to the student's biological sex as correctly stated on, the student's official birth certificate, as described by Subsection (d); or if the student's official birth certificate described by Subdivision (1) is unobtainable, another government record that accurately states the student's biological sex.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Legal & Athletics review relevant policies for compliance.	Athletics/Legal		
SB 17	Relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives at public institutions of higher education.	Creighton B.	SB 17 prohibits the establishment or creation of a DEI office, with the exception that the governing board of the university system may approve DEI programs if they are required by state or federal law, if determined to be necessary to receive federal, state or private grants, or are required by an institution's accrediting agency.	Effective January 1, 2024.	IE&D/Legal review relevant policies for compliance. IE&D/Legal Inventory all DEI initiatives and review for compliance. IE&D/Legal working with UT System on draft board policy and direction.	Institutional Equity & Diversity/Legal/Academic Affairs		
SB 18	Relating to the tenure and employment of faculty members at certain public institutions of higher education.	Creighton B.	S.B. 18 amends the Education Code to authorize only a public institution of higher education's governing board, on the recommendation of the institution's chief executive officer and the university system's chancellor, if applicable, to grant tenure. It also adds specific provisions for tenure termination.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	New UTS Board policy drafted and with campus Academic Affairs & Legal for review. Update campus policies & faculty handbook.	Academic Affairs/ Legal		
SB 25	Relating to support for nursing-related postsecondary education, including scholarships to nursing students, loan repayment assistance to nurses and nursing faculty, and grants to nursing education programs.	Kolkhorst L.	S.B. 25 is part of a comprehensive package to dramatically increase funding and resources to nursing education and training programs, including those addressed in S.B. 25. S.B. 25 amends the Education Code to allow part-time nursing faculty to be eligible for loan repayment assistance. It also removes the repayment from a cap of \$7,000 annually to a figure to be determined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). The Texas House amended the bill to also include H.B. 901 and H.B. 3930.	Effective immediately.	Academic Affairs to update relevant personnel in School of Nursing & Financial Aid.	Academic Affairs/School of Nursing/ Enrollment-Financial Aid		
SB 29	Relating to prohibited governmental entity implementation or enforcement of a vaccine mandate, mask requirement, or private business or school closure to prevent the spread of COVID-19.	Birdwell B.	Prohibits a governmental entity from implementing, ordering, or otherwise imposing a mandate requiring a person to wear a face mask or other face covering to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Has exceptions for Student Health Clinic.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Update appropriate personnel and revise any applicable guidelines or policies.	Legal/Administration/Student Affairs/Institutional Equity & Diversity		
SB 37	Relating to the criminal offense of hazing.	Zaffirini J.	Provides that a person commits an offense if the person has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident involving a student in an educational institution, or has firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report that knowledge to one of certain persons, including a peace officer or a law enforcement agency. Deletes existing text requiring that a hazing report be in writing.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Legal/Student Affairs update policies and related documents.	Student Affairs/Legal/Administration-Policing.		
SB 55	Relating to a study and report by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board regarding best practices for assisting students with autism spectrum disorder.	Zaffirini J.	S.B. 55 would direct the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to conduct a study that would identify and track the number of students with ASD who complete high school and the number of said students who enroll and are graduated from college, as well as identify and examine best practices from other states regarding how to support students with autism spectrum disorder.	Effective immediately.	Student Affairs/Enrollment notify appropriate personnel of upcoming study.	Student Affairs/Academic Affairs/Enrollment		
SB 159	Relating to eligibility requirements for a certified public accountant certificate and to take the uniform CPA examination.	Perry C.	S.B. 159 amends the Occupations Code to decrease from 150 to 120 the minimum number of semester hours or quarter-hour equivalents in courses recognized by the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy (TSBPA) that an applicant for the uniform CPA examination who satisfies other existing education requirements must complete to be eligible to take the examination.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Academic Affairs to notify appropriate personnel in college of business.	Academic Affairs. College of Business		
SB 222	Relating to paid leave by certain state employees for the birth or adoption of a child.	Nichols R.	S.B. 222 establishes, for the first time, a paid parental leave benefit for State of Texas employees. Specifically, S.B. 222 provides that employees are entitled to paid leave following the birth of a child, the adoption of a child, birth of a child via gestational surrogate, or birth of a child by the employee's spouse. - Only applies to ERS employees - but could be expanded later to TRS.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	No action needed, FYI for Institutional Equity & Diversity.	Institutional Equity & Diversity		

SB 271	Relating to state agency and local government security incident procedures.	Johnson N.	Requires a state agency or local government that owns, licenses, or maintains computerized data that includes sensitive personal information, confidential information, or information the disclosure of which is regulated by law, in the event of a security incident, rather than breach or suspected breach of system security or an unauthorized exposure of that information to report to DIR in the same manner as state agencies.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify the Chief Information Officer and the Chief Information Security Officer for compliance with DIR.	CIO/CISO		
SB 294	Relating to the use of epinephrine auto-injectors and medication designated for treatment of respiratory distress on public and private school campuses.	Johnson N.	S.B. 294 allows school personnel and school volunteers who are authorized and trained to administer medication for respiratory distress.	Effective immediately.	Student Affairs work with Student Health Services and School of Medicine.	Student Affairs/SOM		
SB 336	Relating to compliance programs at public institutions of higher education.	Zaffirini J.	S.B. 336 aims to ensure that the identity of all persons acting on behalf of higher education institutions are kept confidential by a college or university compliance program. Would redefine "compliance program" to include agents, contractors, subcontractors, or other persons acting on behalf of institutions of higher education.	Effective immediately.	Review Compliance practices for compliance. Review and Update statements on compliance websites for necessary revisions.	Legal/Administration/CFO-Business Affairs		
SB 371	Relating to the Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program.	Eckhardt S.	Requires one year of ROTC training for each year that the student receives a scholarship under the Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program (TASS), reduced from a requirement of four years of ROTC training. The bill also requires the Co. Bd. to post and provide to each recipient certain information about each military branch's requirements or recommendations for ROTC training.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify appropriate personnel in Financial Aid & Student Affairs.	Academic Affairs/Enrollment-Financial Aid/Student Affairs		
SB 412	Relating to protections for pregnant and parenting students enrolled in public institutions of higher education.	Paxton A.	The bill prohibits discrimination based on pregnancy or parenting status, requires proper accommodations as well as leave of absences. Codifies existing federal law regarding anti-discrimination and accommodations and expands some protections to pregnant and parenting students.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	IE&D/Legal/Academic Affairs review current policy for additions. Policy on pregnancy and parenting discrimination must be posted on website by Jan. 15, 2024, and made available annually to employees. -Policy must include contact information to request accommodations or statutory protections.	Academic Affairs/ Legal/Student Affairs/Institutional Equity & Diversity/UMC		
SB 423	Relating to the use of unmanned aircraft by the Texas military forces.	Paxton A.	S.B. 423 is a narrowly tailored bill allowing the Texas military forces the authority to use unmanned aircraft as part of their mission ready packages and to train for those mission ready packages.	Effective immediately.	Research office to notify relevant personnel in research.	Research FYI		
SB 427	Relating to requiring certain institutions of higher education to enter into an agreement to offer undergraduate courses in Texas History.	Kolkhorst L.	S.B. 427 requires any college or university receiving state support or state aid from public funds to provide access to a Texas history course. If the college or university does not offer at least three semester credit hours or the equivalent in Texas history to their undergraduate students, they are required to enter into an agreement with another institution to provide their students access to such a Texas history course.	Effective immediately.	Review course offerings for compliance.	Academic Affairs		
SB 459	Relating to early registration for parenting students at public institutions of higher education.	Paxton A.	If an institution of higher education provides early registration for courses or programs at the institution for any group of students, the institution shall provide early registration for those courses or programs for parenting students in the same manner.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Update existing policies for early registration if applicable.	Academic Affairs/Enrollment		
SB 532	Relating to providing mental health services information to certain higher education students and to the repayment of certain higher education loans.	West R.	Information to entering students must include a campus map identifying location of mental health services and information on how to access such services. Any tour of campus during orientation must identify at least one location described above. LOAN REPAYMENT - Requires a mental health professional, except as provided by Subsection (b), to be eligible to receive repayment assistance under Subchapter K (Repayment of Certain Mental Health Professional Education Loans), to meet certain requirements, including having completed one, two, or three years of practice in a mental health professional shortage area designated by the Department of State Health Services.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Student Affairs/UMC update mental health information provided to students.	Enrollment/Student Affairs/UMC		

SB 629	Relating to the maintenance, administration, and disposal of opioid antagonists on public and private school campuses and to the permissible uses of money appropriated to a state agency from the opioid abatement account.	Menendez J.	Requires the commissioner of state health services (commissioner) to establish an advisory committee to examine and review the administration of epinephrine auto-injectors to a person experiencing an anaphylactic reaction, and opioid antagonists to a person experiencing an apparent opioid-related drug overdose, on a campus of a school district, an open-enrollment charter school, a private school, or institution of higher education. It also permits school personnel and school volunteers to administer opioid antagonists if they are trained to do so, both on and off-campus.	Effective immediately.	Notify appropriate personnel in Student Health and School of Medicine.	Student Affairs/SOM		
SB 871	Relating to the review by the Sunset Advisory Commission of the sale of personal data by state agencies.	Nichols R.	S.B. 821 would require the Sunset Advisory Commission to evaluate whether a state agency sells personal data, to whom it is sold, the purpose for which it is sold, the dollar amount the agency receives for the sale, and the statute that authorizes the agency to sell the data. The Sunset Advisory Commission would then recommend prohibiting the practice unless the commission identifies a compelling state interest justifying the sale.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	No action needed, FYI for Legal and Business Affairs.	Business Affairs/Legal		
SB 867	Related to the recipients of opioid antagonists under the opioid antagonist program.	West R.	S.B. 867 adds institutions of higher education (as defined in Section 481.134, Health and Safety Code) to the list of institutions and individuals likely to be in a position to respond to an opioid overdose, and thus allowed to be provided opioid antagonists by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission as part of the opioid antagonist program. It makes certain that institutions of higher education are properly enshrined in this statute for the purpose of ensuring those institutions may receive distributions of opioid antagonists.	Effective immediately.	Student Affairs work with Student Health Services.	Student Affairs/Administration		
SB 999	Relating to the requirement that providers of active shooter training at public schools and institutions of higher education obtain a certificate issued by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.	West R.	S.B. 999, after substituted, will require all companies that are providing active shooter training to students or employees at a public school or institution of higher education to both use certified instructors and possess a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) certification at the company level.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify appropriate personnel in Police/Administration.	Administration/Policing		
SB 1238	Relating to broadband development.	Nichols R.	Authorizes the Comptroller of Public Accounts of the State of Texas (comptroller) by rule to require Internet service to be capable of matching the federal standards, rather than capable of providing download or upload speeds that match the federal threshold, in order to qualify under Chapter 490I (Broadband Development Office) as "broadband service" if the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopts standards, rather than upload or download threshold speeds, for advanced telecommunications capability under 47. U.S.C. Section 1302 that are different from those specified by Subsection (a).	Effective immediately.	No action needed, FYI for CIO.	IT/Administration		
SB 1343	Relating to the composition of the Texas Board of Nursing and procedures applicable to complaints against advanced practice registered nurses.	LaMantia M.	S.B. 1343 adds a second advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) member and an additional public board member to Texas Board of Nursing (BON) to reflect the growing APRN population in Texas. S.B. 1343 also ensures peer review for APRNs by requiring BON to appoint APRNs to act as expert reviewers in complaints and investigations relating to standard of care violations by APRNs.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify appropriate personnel in School of Nursing.	Academic Affairs/School of Nursing		
SB 1429	Relating to the use of standardized examinations by a school of nursing or educational program.	Hinojosa C.	S.B. 1429 would authorize BON to adopt rules to prohibit the use of vendor-created standardized examinations as a graduation requirement or to deny students an affidavit of graduation. The bill codifies the same recommended uses for the exams outlined in Board Education Guideline 3.7.4.a.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Academic Affairs to notify appropriate personnel in School of Nursing.	Academic Affairs/School of Nursing		
SB 1517	Relating to prohibiting certain academic boycotts of foreign countries by public institutions of higher education.	King P.	S.B. 1517 would require an institution of higher education to adopt rules to prohibit academic boycotts. The bill would, however, allow for academic boycotts if the target of the boycott is a state sponsor of terrorism, as defined by the United States Department of State.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Academic Affairs and Office of Research Administration, notify relevant personnel, update relevant documents and policies.	Academic Affairs/Legal		

SB 1518	Relating to the establishment of a terrorist offender registry and to the supervision of those terrorist offenders; creating criminal offenses related to terrorism.	King P.	S.B. 1518 creates a new category for terroristic offenses. The new state terrorism offenses will carry appropriate penalties against terrorists who knowingly act or provide material support to terrorist organizations. Commission of an enumerated offense carries a mandatory enhancement of one penalty level and a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years for felonies and 180 days for misdemeanors. S.B. 1518 also creates the nation's only Terrorist Offender Registry, to identify those who have proven to be threats to public and national safety.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify appropriate personnel for notification in Police Department, Legal, and Human Resources.	Policing/Legal/Student Affairs/Enrollment		
SB 1565	Relating to requiring the establishment of policy frameworks for research security at public institutions of higher education.	Hughes B.	S.B. 1565 lays the groundwork for creating a secure and collaborative environment among our higher education institutions. It will require the governing body of each higher education institution to establish a policy framework that addresses research security. The policy framework must: 1. Address compliance with ethical, legal, regulatory, and contractual requirements. 2. Promote an organizational culture of compliance in relation to federal requirements and federal funding. 3. Designate a research security officer responsible for the handling of classified material.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	UTS Board will establish policy that addresses research security. Academic Affairs and Research work with UTS to convey concerns. Research should begin to identify possible research security officer candidates to comply with future framework.	Academic Affairs/Research		
SB 1639	Relating to prohibitions in connection with ticket sales on an Internet website; providing a civil penalty.	Zaffirini J.	S.B. 1639 amends the Business & Commerce Code to prohibit a person from using or creating a bot to do the following: • Purchase tickets in excess of posted limits for an online ticket sale; • Use multiple Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, multiple purchaser accounts, or multiple email addresses to purchase tickets in excess of posted limits for an online ticket sale; • Circumvent or disable an electronic queue, waiting period, presale code, or other sales volume limitation system associated with an online ticket sale; or • Circumvent or disable a security measure, access control system, or other control or measure that is used to facilitate authorized entry to an event.	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	Notify appropriate personnel at PAC and Campus Auxiliary Services as an FYI.	Administration		
SB 1887	Relating to the requirements for the early college education program and the transfer of course credit among public institutions of higher education.	West R.	S.B. 1887 would require early college high schools to enroll students in either an applied associate degree program or an academic associate degree program with an embedded field of study to ensure that students complete a degree that will either be directly applicable to the workforce or will transfer and count toward a bachelor's degree. Creates the "Texas Direct" associate degree which would be notated on a community college student's transcript that he or she has completed a field of study and either the core curriculum or 42 hours of lower division courses transferable to one or more general academic teaching institutions.	Effective immediately.	Enrollment update existing practices and ensure compliance.	Academic Affairs/Enrollment		
SB 1893	Relating to prohibiting the use of certain social media applications and services on devices owned or leased by governmental entities.	Birdwell B.	Requires a governmental entity, subject to Section 620.004, to adopt a policy prohibiting the installation or use of a covered application on any device owned or leased by the governmental entity and requiring the removal of covered applications from those devices.	Effective immediately.	Current policies that are approved by DPS will be revised in and distributed by DIR/DPS. Unlike the executive order, SB 1893 does NOT provide for exceptions. IT/Information Security work with DIR to express concerns and assist with rulemaking. FYI - On December 7, 2022, Governor Abbott directed state agency leaders to immediately ban its officers and employees from downloading or using TikTok on any government-issued devices, including cell phones, laptops, tablets, desktop computers, and other devices capable of internet connectivity. Each state agency has been directed to implement its own policy governing the use of TikTok on personal devices.	IT/Administration/Information Security		

SB 2196	Relating to the identification and mapping of aggregate production operations by The University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology.	Hancock K.	<p>S.B. 2196 requires the Bureau of Economic Geology at The University of Texas (bureau) to conduct a study to identify locations that are suitable for aggregate production Administration, existing land uses, and potential action by political subdivisions that may result in a location becoming incompatible for use as an aggregate production operation. The bureau must map these locations and retain the information within a database to be accessed by political subdivisions and submit a report to the legislature.</p>	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	No action needed, FYI for Research personnel.	Research		
SB 2294	Relating to the Texas First Early High School Completion Program and the Texas First Scholarship Program.	Creighton B.	<p>Requires a school district or open-enrollment charter school to allow a student to graduate and receive a high school diploma, rather than authorize a school district or open-enrollment charter school to issue a high school diploma to a student, under the Texas First Early High School Completion Program (program) if, using the standards established under Subsection (c) (relating to requiring the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board by rule to establish standards for use in the program regarding certain criteria), the student demonstrates mastery of and early readiness for college in each of the subject areas described by that subsection and in a language other than English, notwithstanding any other local or state requirements.</p>	This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.	No action needed, FYI for Enrollment.	Enrollment-Financial Aid		
SB 2538	Relating to limitations on the automatic admission of undergraduate students to general academic teaching institutions.	Creighton B.	<p>Education Code sec. 51.803 requires each general academic teaching institution to admit an applicant for admission to the institution as an undergraduate student if the applicant graduated in the top 10 percent of the student's graduating class. The Bill allows UT Austin to keep the 75% cap in place but a small provision in state law exists lifting the 75% cap if a court rules the university must stop considering race in admissions. *On June 29, 2023, the Supreme Court ruled significantly limiting use of race as a factor in the admission process. SB 2358 repeals Section 51.803 (k). (A general academic teaching institution may not offer admission under Subsection (a-1) for an academic year after the 2017-2018 academic year if, on the date of the institution's general deadline for applications for admission of first-time undergraduate students for that academic year:</p> <p>(1) a final court order applicable to the institution prohibits the institution from considering an applicant's race or ethnicity as a factor in the institution's decisions relating to first-time undergraduate admissions; or</p> <p>(2) the institution's governing board by rule, policy, or other manner has provided that an applicant's race or ethnicity may not be considered as a factor in the institution's decisions relating to first-time undergraduate admissions for that academic year.)</p>	Effective immediately.	No action needed, FYI for Academic Affairs.	Academic Affairs/Enrollment		