



**April 1, 2025**

**To: Senate Committee on Education K-16  
Re: Testimony FOR Senate Bill 1962**

Good morning, Chairman Creighton and Members of the Committee,

My name is Justin Yancy, president of the Texas Business Leadership Council, here to testify in strong support of SB 1962. The TBLC is a statewide network of CEOs and senior executives working to build a more globally competitive Texas.

A key element to being globally competitive is a skilled workforce. An effective education system facilitates a robust talent pipeline that drives a vibrant economy. As such, it is critical for Texas to have a clear and transparent academic accountability system to help us ensure we are providing a strong fundamental education, and therefore opportunities, for all young Texans.

Employers in Texas need a system that both measures academic performance and aligns education with workforce needs. SB 1962 strengthens this alignment by ensuring accountability ratings are issued annually, providing clarity for employers and improving educational outcomes that directly impact Texas' economic future.

Businesses, from small startups to large corporations, depend on an accountability system to help make informed decisions about where to invest, expand, and hire. Without consistent accountability ratings, businesses lose a key tool in evaluating workforce readiness and long-term economic viability in communities across our state.

A-F ratings help employers identify schools that are effectively equipping students with the skills needed for internships, apprenticeships, and career pathways. By weighting CCMR indicators based on their correlation with postsecondary success, SB 1962 incentivizes districts to prioritize college and career readiness programming that equips students to thrive after high school and aligns with the emphasis on credentials of value in our postsecondary system established by HB 8 (88R) last session.

A strong A-F accountability system isn't only about school performance—it's about the future of Texas. It's about ensuring that every student graduates prepared for success. It's about ensuring businesses have the skilled workforce necessary to drive innovation and economic growth. And it's about keeping Texas the best place to do business in the country.

I urge you to support SB 1962 and uphold Texas' commitment to transparency, excellence, and both economic competitiveness and economic security. Thank you for your time, and as always, I thank each of you for the leadership you provide our great state.