



MEDIA ADVISORY
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CONTACT: Mike Joyce
512-481-0525 / mjoyce@txblc.org

TBLC President Justin Yancy Praises SBOE, TEA Recognizing Significant First Step in Providing High Quality Instructional Materials

AUSTIN – Yesterday, the State Board of Education (SBOE) opened public comment on curricula submitted by Texas Education Agency (TEA) and publishers to be considered for the 2025-2026 school year as part of the Instructional Materials Review and Approval (IMRA) Process. In this annual process established by House Bill 1605, SBOE will determine whether the materials submitted are suitable and meet state quality standards based on the evaluation by independent teams of professional reviewers – teachers, parents, and other curriculum experts – as well as input from the public.

“The 88th Legislature made a strategic investment in our public education system with HB 1605 by establishing a process to provide access to high quality instructional materials that will help improve student outcomes and bolster the strong educational foundation needed for a more globally competitive workforce in Texas,” said Texas Business Leadership Council President, Justin Yancy. “The process for reviewing instructional materials took a significant step forward yesterday with the start of the public review period. The IMRA process will ensure that these curricular resources are on grade-level, meet the requirements of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), align with evidence-based instructional strategies, and provide support for teachers to meet the needs of all learners.”

According to the 2023 State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) results for grades 3-8, only 45% of students met grade-level or above in math with 53% meeting grade-level or above in reading-language arts. A major reason that many Texas students perform below grade level is that they are taught with instructional materials that are below grade level. Teachers are tasked with developing their own lesson plans and materials, yet they do not have sufficient bandwidth to do so.

To better support our students and teachers, the 88th Legislature passed HB 1605 which provided \$320 million in new funding to incentivize school districts to adopt instructional materials approved by the SBOE under the IMRA process to first, verify that instructional materials meet rigorous state standards, and second, unburden teachers of extensive, self-cultivated lesson planning.

The law does not mandate adoption of SBOE-approved instructional materials as independent school districts have local discretion to choose materials that align with their local school board decisions on curriculum.

The Texas Business Leadership Council is a network of Texas based CEOs and senior business executives who advance a long-term vision of a prosperous Texas in a globally competitive business environment.

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Bio: [Justin Yancy](#)