

83rd Legislative Session

More than 100 public education bills were passed during the 83rd Legislative Session. The Texas Education Agency has produced a **briefing book** that describes the impact of the new education laws. The House of Representatives Public Education Committee published an **End of Session Newsletter**.

HB5 Becomes Law and Improves Texas Public Education. TAMSA commends this action and thanks our elected officials for listening to their constituents. Texas students will benefit from less testing and more learning, and educators can provide enriched instruction that gives a deeper level of understanding. This new law also saves Texas millions of dollars by limiting state-mandated standardized tests, and Texas students can choose high school courses that are relevant and engaging. **HB5** limits state-mandated tests to 5 EOCs: English I (R&W combined), English II (R&W combined), Algebra I, Biology, & US History. Two optional EOCs, Algebra II & English III, can be administered at the districts' option.

OTHER BILLS: Governor Perry vetoed HB2836 and HB2824, as well as signed HB866 into law. HB866 reduces state-mandated STAAR tests from 17 to 11 in grades 3-8 for students who perform well on STAAR tests; however, this law did not receive the necessary waiver from NCLB so cannot be enacted.