



WHO WE ARE

The U.S. Green Building Council Texas is a community-benefit nonprofit (501c3) committed to ensuring a better built environment for current and future generations of Texans.

Mission: Our mission is to transform the way buildings, homes and communities are designed, built, maintained, and operated in Texas through outreach, education, advocacy and partnerships, enabling an environmentally and socially responsible, healthy, and prosperous environment that improves the quality of life in Texas.

HB 351 - Talarico

Relating to air filtration efficiency and outdoor air ventilation standards at public school and childcare facilities.

- Requires public schools and childcare facilities to meet air filtration efficiency and outdoor air ventilation standards in accordance with the National Air Filtration Association, ASHRAE 62.1-2019 Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality, and / or more recently adopted best practices that the HB 351 commission determines best protects public health.
- Each facility will test their HVAC systems once a year and replace them as necessary to be in accordance with the air filtration efficiency standards.
- Public Disclosure: Requires each public school and childcare facility to share test results with TCEQ and the public and to notify parents, teachers, and employees of the facilities of the availability of the information.

Why we are supporting HB 0351:

- Indoor Air Quality is perhaps the most important criteria for an occupant's health
- We have an opportunity to impact the prolonged health of young Texans in a positive manner
- We also have an opportunity to increase learning retention and productivity worth billions of dollars annually.



Executive Summary

House Bill 351 creates a transparency and accountability mechanism within all Texas Public Schools, and Childcare facilities to ensure our children are afforded the basic minimum standard air filtration and outdoor air ventilation.

HB 351 is asking legislators to acknowledge that Texas schools and childcare facilities provide sanctuary for our future's most valuable resource, our children.

This bill directly benefits the welfare of over six million Texas students, teachers, administrators, parent volunteers, maintenance staff and caregivers. Good indoor air quality is not dependent on how new or old the facility is, or if it is located in a distant rural or heavily populated urban setting. Indoor Air Quality is a benchmark that demonstrates how equitable the environment is for our children to learn and grow.

HB 351 creates an annual benefit to our Texas communities of over two and a half billion (yes "Billion" with a "B") dollars through:

- Lower Healthcare Costs
- Higher Test Scores
- Lower Absenteeism
- Improved Productivity
- Higher Retention
- Energy Efficiency,
- Reduced community burden from Air Pollution and Greenhouse Gases.

Achievement of ongoing annual benefits will be attained through improved training and maintenance programs.

Note: At their request, Private schools have been removed from any obligation to HB 351.



Major highlights of HB 351:

1. Transparency:

- a. The Commission shall adopt rules established by well recognized National Best Standards of Care used extensively by Designers and Operators of schools.
- b. Testing, repair, modification, and replacement of HVAC.
 - i. Each public school and childcare facility will periodically test each HVAC system and repair, modify, or replace systems or components that prevent compliance with commission minimum standards.
 - ii. Testing will be performed annually as a minimum.

2. Accountability:

- a. Testing results.
 - i. Test results and a description of any actions needed or taken to modify or replace systems will be made public through annual posting to applicable school and childcare websites.
 - ii. Each Public and school and childcare facility will identify a point of contact (POC) directly responsible for each facility's adherence to commission minimum standards. The name and contact of each facility's POC is to be made public on facility websites.
- b. Biennial report
 - i. December 1 or each even-numbered year.
 - ii. Agency will prepare and submit a full summary report detailing the status of all Texas Public and Private schools and Childcare facilities to the Governor, Lt. Governor, and each member of the Legislature.



Learn how COVID-19 federal relief funding can be used to repair and improve school buildings

[Covid Relief Funding](#)

The [Center for Green Schools](#) and its partners at [UndauntedK12](#) are releasing guidance for schools, "[Five Guiding Principles: How Schools Can Use American Rescue Plan Funding to Ensure Healthy, Resilient Facilities for Students and Reduce Energy Costs and Emissions](#)," regarding how COVID-19 relief funding can be used to repair and improve school buildings.

[Five Guiding Principles](#)

In recent COVID-19 relief funding, the Federal government has approved \$176 billion for K-12 schools. The funding headed to schools represents an enormous opportunity to address and support student needs during the ongoing pandemic and to address persistent inequities. What's more, the one-time nature of these funds makes them an excellent fit for durable investments in facilities that will provide long-term health benefits and financial savings.



House Committee on Energy Resources (C250)

Legislature: 87(R) - 2021

Phone: (512) 463-0774

Appointment Date: 1/14/2021

Room: EXT E2.162

Position	Member
Chair:	Rep. Craig Goldman
Vice Chair:	Rep. Abel Herrero
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	Rep. Tom Craddick
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