

W. D. Stevens
Retired President, Exxon Company, U.S.A.
1992 League Chairman

Texas, and indeed America, continues to evolve into the decade of the nineties. As the baby boom generation moves into its most productive years and the baby bust generation moves into the workforce, the needs and values of the American people are changing. The profundity of this change was reflected in the generational transfer of power in the national election. It also can be seen in the challenges facing both government at all levels and the business community.

Because the Texas population, on average, is younger than that of the nation as a whole, it would appear that economic performance here could exceed the national average. The prospects for our state are further enhanced by the growth potential of the North American Free Trade Agreement, should it be ratified. In other words, Texas is poised to shine in the nineties -- if state and local governments make well-informed decisions.

The linkage between Texas' business climate, the quality of its governmental decisions and the economic well-being of all its citizens has never been more direct. Sound government policy is essential in retaining and building the business base needed.

The Texas Research League will continue to serve as an important resource for state government during these pivotal years. The League's reputation for unquestioned integrity and thorough research helps maintain a high level of demand for its product.

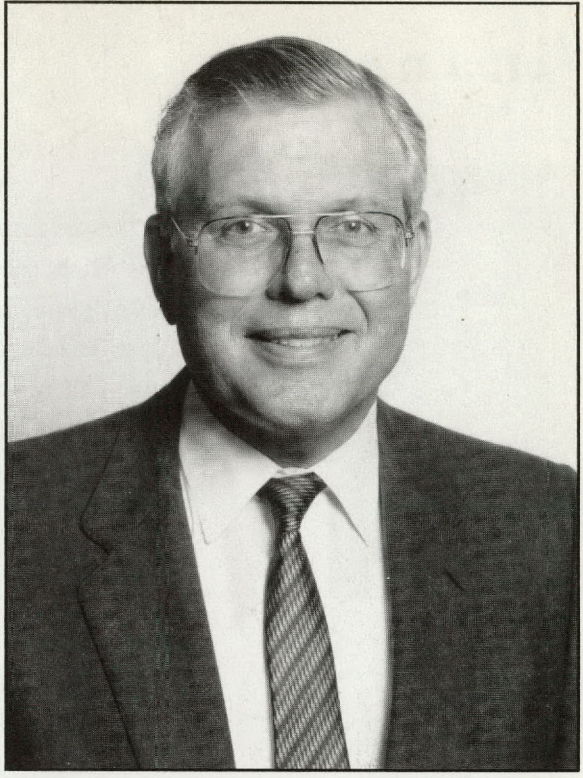
The ongoing work of the League assures the people of Texas that, when these great issues are debated, the information upon which key decisions are based will be the best available. At this critical juncture, Texas can afford no less.

Bill Stevens

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Gary E. Wood
President

This space is generally utilized to provide details on the accomplishments of the Research League and to remind our supporters of the value of our work. This year's message will be a bit different.

The League staff would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our members, for making the past 40 years possible. Without your ongoing willingness to invest in better Texas government, your Research League simply could not exist.

You have provided your hard-earned dollars and your personal time to enable the League to pursue the best solutions to the many problems that have come before us. It is not always easy to see a direct benefit from our work, yet you have stood firm in your belief that a better Texas benefits all Texans.

Your support has been especially appreciated during the last few years of economic difficulty. Many of your businesses have

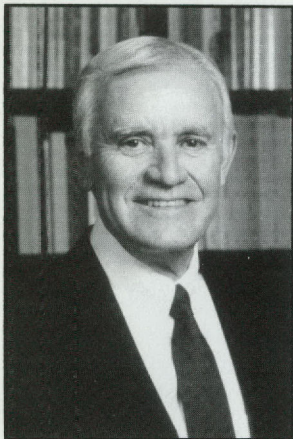
experienced serious contractions, yet you have maintained your commitment to the League. We know how difficult this has been, and we are very grateful.

As we move onward into our second 40 years, we can clearly see that the need for the League's work is growing. Issues of overwhelming importance and difficulty remain to be resolved, and the demand for our services never has been greater.

We must continue to rely upon you to provide the resources necessary for us to meet these challenges. We know that you will be there when we need you.

Once again, all of us on the League staff thank you for the past 40 years and we look forward to a growing and strengthening relationship into the next 40.

Finances



Jerry Farrington
Chairman of the Board
and Chief Executive Officer
Texas Utilities Company
1992 League Vice Chairman

As the economies of both Texas and the nation enter a recovery phase, the prospect for League finances will improve. Even though 1992 was a very tough year for many faithful League members, contributions still exceeded those of any previous year. This is a clear acknowledgement of the importance of the League's work to the business leadership of Texas.

We appreciate the dedication and hard work of the Finance and Membership Committee, members of the Board and the Executive Committee for their efforts in helping to meet the League's financial needs for the year. The Texas Research League is making a positive difference in this state, and only through your support can that work continue.



Jeannette Holloway
CPA
Holloway, Martinez,
Lockhart & Co.
1992 League Treasurer

COMPARATIVE REVENUES AND EXPENSES

CASH BASIS--UNAUDITED

	1992	1991	1990
REVENUES			
Contributions	\$1,028,815	\$1,024,123	\$ 958,161
Other	76,201	142,092	151,393
TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,105,016	\$1,166,215	\$1,109,554
EXPENSES			
Salaries	\$ 682,968	\$ 690,497	\$ 652,584
Employee Benefits	151,047	179,251	144,450
Research Support Services	17,069	17,725	18,050
Research Publications	30,907	33,521	32,237
Travel	38,312	37,576	52,957
Headquarters	139,977	120,186	111,133
Operating Expenses	67,169	54,468	50,904
Organization	38,957	66,675	39,797
TOTAL EXPENSES*	\$1,166,406	\$1,199,899	\$1,102,112
EXCESS REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	(\$61,390)	(\$33,684)	\$7,442

*Excludes Capital Expenditures

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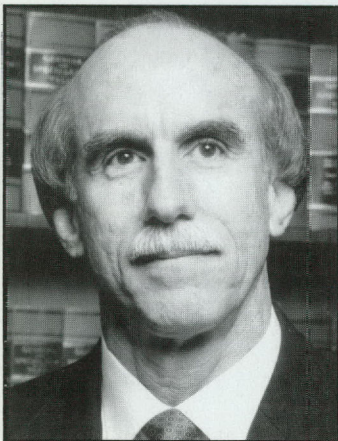
Western Division General Manager, Southwestern Electric Power Company, Longview



Robert Norwood
Director of Research



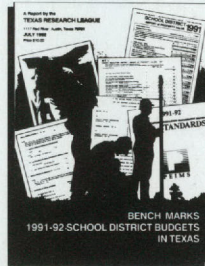
Alan Barnes
Senior Research Associate



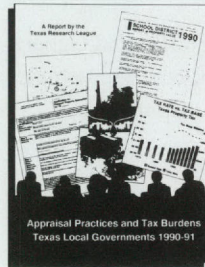
John Kennedy
Senior Research Associate

Research

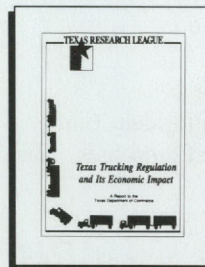
Texas closed 1992 on an upbeat note with the economy gaining strength, but still leaving the state far short of total recovery. And, there remained some thorny problems facing state and local governments: finding a constitutionally valid method to fund public schools, providing an accessible health care program for the working-poor, funding new federally-required mandates. League research was made available to address a number of these issues.



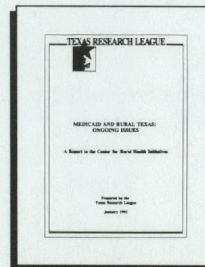
Texas' school districts adopted 1991-92 budgets totaling \$17.2 billion; the additional \$1.8 billion was the largest spending increase in the state's history. Only \$1 of each \$6 went to classroom teachers. These were some of the findings in the 16th **Bench Marks** edition which provided a variety of information about each of Texas' 1,045 school districts.



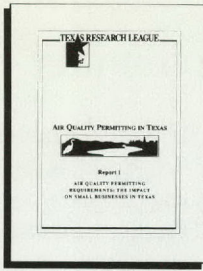
Local governments increased property tax levies by \$647 million in 1990-91, bringing the statewide total to \$12 billion. Tax rates averaged 1.9% of value statewide and exceeded 3% in some places. How property tax burdens compare across the state is the subject of the 11th edition of **Appraisal Practices and Tax Burdens**.



Texas' intrastate trucking regulations, regarded by some as the most stringent among all states, might be costing shippers, as a group, roughly between \$120 million and \$230 million annually. Many shippers would pay lower rates with deregulation, but others would see costs rise. This was a finding in **Texas Trucking Regulation and Its Economic Impact**, a report to the Texas Department of Commerce.



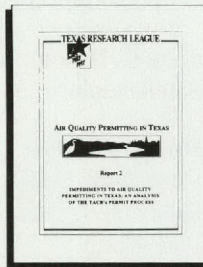
Texas Medicaid recipients are slightly more concentrated in rural areas largely because rural Texans have lower incomes and more poverty than their urban counterparts. Using the state Medicaid program to support rural health care services more effectively was the subject of a report to the Center for Rural Health Initiatives -- **Medicaid and Rural Texas: Ongoing Issues**.



As many as 23,000 small Texas businesses could be affected by requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act which extended emission controls to a variety of establishments previously not covered. These issues, plus some of Texas' efforts to provide assistance, were the subject of **Air Quality Permitting Requirements: The Impact on Small Businesses in Texas**, the first of two reports to the Lt. Governor.



Harold Sanders
Research Associate



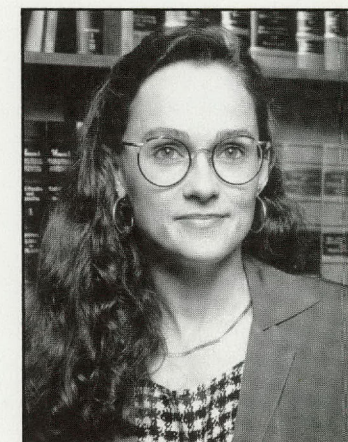
A broader constituency and more effective communication were identified as major improvements needed by the Texas Air Control Board as it expands its permitting role in response to the Federal Clean Air Act. The agency also needs to develop workload criteria as a part of evaluating the need for additional personnel. These were among the recommendations developed in **Impediments to Air Quality Permitting in Texas: An Analysis of the TACB's Permit Process**, the second report to the Lt. Governor.



Janet Beinke
Research Analyst



Developing backlogs in Texas State Board of Medical Examiners licensure by reciprocity led the Board to ask the League for a study of that process. **The Operations of the Reciprocity Section of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners** identified a need for the Board to review some outmoded licensure requirements.



Anne Dunkelberg
Research Analyst



Budget in Brief, a new League publication, analyzed the state budget in bite-sized pieces to help readers understand where their tax dollars are spent. The 14 **Briefs** devoted to 1992-1993 appropriations looked at current budget amounts, showed historic expenditure trends and discussed factors which drive the state budget.

Organized research projects consume the vast majority of League staff time. But, there are other League contributions which benefit the state.

League President Gary Wood served as a member of the Advisory Panel to the Joint Legislative Committee on Cost Adjustments for Public Education.

Senior Research Associate John Kennedy serves as an employer representative on the Texas Employment Commission's Advisory Council.

Research Analyst Anne Dunkelberg, at the request of the Lt. Governor, provided staff work for the Texas Health Policy Task Force.

The League surveyed the business community to gather data needed for development of the "Smart Jobs" proposal by the Texas Employment Commission and the Texas Department of Commerce.



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Librarian

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Alvin A. Burger Memorial Intern Program

The League's intern program, a memorial to its first executive director, has three goals:

- to give practical research experience to participating students,
- to give the League staff an opportunity to work with an elite group of potential League or government employees, and
- to expand the League's research capability.

The League's 1992 intern program was financed through the generous support of the following:

Alice Kleberg Reynolds Meyer Foundation, San Antonio

Communities Foundation of Texas, Dallas

Davidson Family Foundation, Midland

Effie & Wofford Cain Foundation, Austin

Estill Foundation, Corpus Christi

Fasken Foundation, Midland

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Dulcinea Arredondo



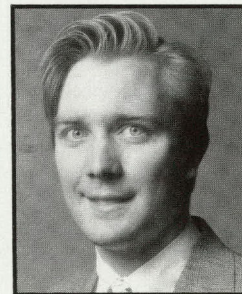
Jessica Freeman



Sara Rusk McGonagle



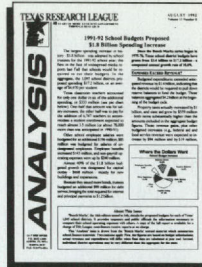
Holly Taylor



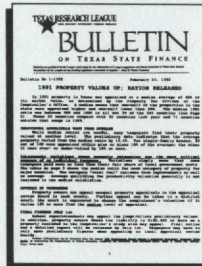
Joseph P. Wurster

Publications

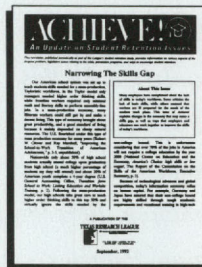
Analysis, the League's monthly publication, serves both as a newsletter for League supporters and as an outlet for distributing the results of staff research.



Bulletins provide brief updates on a variety of topics to keep readers informed on matters too time sensitive to await the next Analysis press date.



ACHIEVE! is published periodically and provides information on various aspects of student retention programs.



The Governmental Research Association

Association

GRA

1992 Award

FOR

Most Distinguished Research

WON BY

Texas Research League

FOR ITS REPORT

"PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER:
TEXAS BUSINESS AND DROPOUT PREVENTION"
BY JEFFREY R. COLE, PROJECT DIRECTOR

AUGUST 5, 1992

William R. ...

J. ...

TRL Wins Top Award

The League won the highest award given by the Government Research Association at the GRA's annual meeting held in August. *The Most Distinguished Research* award was won by "Putting the Pieces Together: Texas Business and Dropout Prevention".

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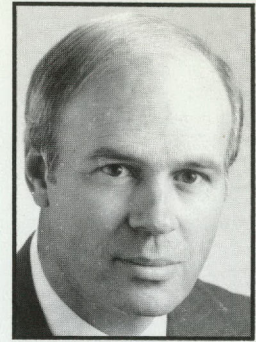
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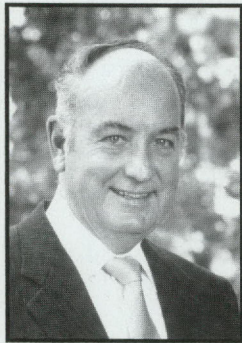
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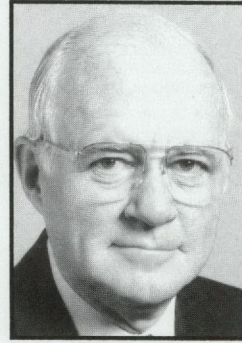
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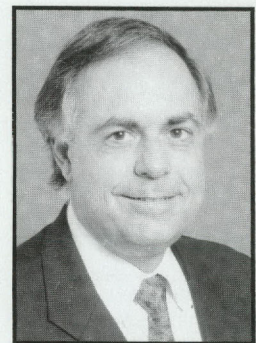
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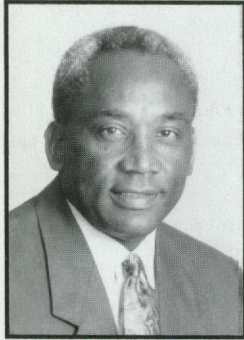
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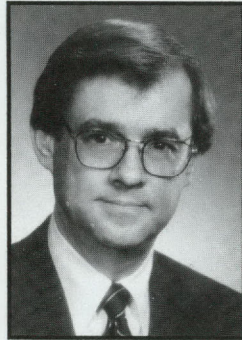
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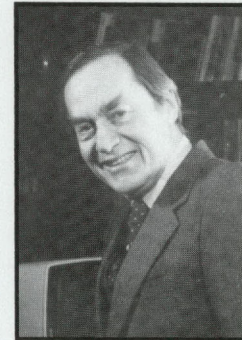
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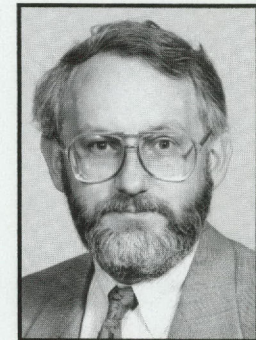
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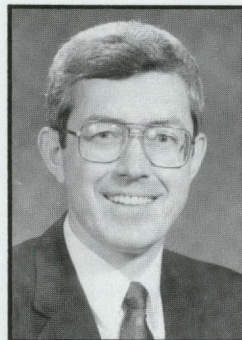
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Dropout program report

The Texas Research League has recently completed a two and one-half year study on dropout programs across the state. The report is to help business leaders in identifying ways to assist in keeping children in school.

The League's full report, "Putting the Pieces Together: Texas Business and Dropout Prevention", is available.

State prison spending up 43% since '80, report says

The 1990-91 school trust-fund budgeted 30 percent more for operating high schools than for elementary schools. Statewide an average of \$3,280 per student was budgeted for high schools, \$2,645 for

Statewide school '91-'92 largest increase those funded

The largest spending increase in history — \$1.8 billion — was adopted by school trustees in Texas for the 1991-92 school year.

Trucking too costly

In its own defense, Texas Research League concluded that the state's trucking industry is the largest budgeting commission in the state.

School tax issues

Gov. Ann Richards has come up with a Texas business-ed by layoffs and

Business property owners

Gov. Ann Richards has come up with a Texas business-ed by layoffs and

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By Diana R. Fuentes
Express-News Austin Bureau

AUSTIN — State spending on adult corrections has increased

By BILL KIDD
AUSTIN — Half a century ago, General Educational Development Test — was begun as a way to determine the educational level of students who hadn't completed high school age.

By BOB BANTA
Cox News Service

Just Rambling
With Stephen Henry

Jim Douglass is associated with Tech Ex-Student Association making the rounds in communities

over to the House of Representatives where each state is entitled to ONE vote. The first candidate to reach 26 votes is president. The vice president would be elected by the U.S. Senate, which each Senator is entitled to one vote. Thus, it is possible that the president and vice president would come from different political parties.

urban areas in Texas have an adequate supply of both physicians and hospitals. However, the same report shows that, generally, comparable services don't exist in rural Texas. As of August, 1991, 192 of Texas' 205 Rural counties were designated by the federal government as medically underserved, having a shortage of health profes-

from most other GED takers can on one or more of the GED battles awarded their

TYLER — The University of Texas campus here wants to expand from a two-year to a four-year school, and the debate in the Piney Woods has been as shrill as a lumberjack's cry of "Timber!"

Some East Texans say it would be an educational and economic boon in educational and sophomore to add freshman and sophomore classes to UT-Tyler, which now has only juniors and seniors.

But opponents say the proposed expansion is a power play by the University of Texas System and will hurt junior colleges of their

mentary while \$565.63 per student was budgeted for the central office.

The figures come from a new report **Tidemarks 1990-91 School District Budgets in Texas**, a publication of the Texas Research League.

Pregnancy or marriage was cited by 6 percent in 1980, but 20 percent in 1989 — a change TRL calls "alarming."

else for Hamm said. "By the year 2005, the 150,000 additional students heading for college. Where will they go? UT-Austin has already put stringent caps on its enrollment. The University of Houston and Texas A&M are thinking about doing that, too."

James Vaughn is a materials science professor at the University of Texas at Dallas.

resident of

TO MAKE MATTERS EVEN WORSE According to a new report from Texas Comptroller John Sharp, it may take the next three decades in both rural and urban areas. The projections in the report, **FORCES OF CHANGE**, are that the number of Texans aged

bill if proposed revisions to the state's court system are adopted by Texas voters, some counties — including Erath County — could face economic disaster through the loss of generated revenues to the

American Council on Education's Office of Educational Credit and Credentials found 90 percent of companies which responded placed a major or moderate emphasis on educational advancement. And 98 percent said they extended the same advancement opportunities to people as they do to school graduates.

we knock \$30 million off the Texas Research League's estimates."

year-old waitress. "It makes me feel million (see page 6A) the additional amount was paid a student date a student reach almost 78,000 more in 1990-91.

Other school commission budgeted \$85 million for these funds

precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Bill Zachary says the changes in bankruptcy Erath County. "After expenses, this generated \$60,000 last year for the county," Zachary said.

BY PEGGY McCRACKEN
Staff Writer
An 800 percent increase in cost for adult corrections is due in part to the failure of the juvenile justice system to deter young people from

increase those funded in the aggregate low-ball revenue to anticipate the budget, of a fiscal crisis of property tax 1990-91 by \$1.8 billion

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Other school commission budgeted \$85 million for these funds

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There has been a battle for the soul of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department ever since then-Gov. John Connally rammed through its creation in 1963. At Connally's behest, the Game and Fish Commission

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