





## TRL: A JOINT VENTURE

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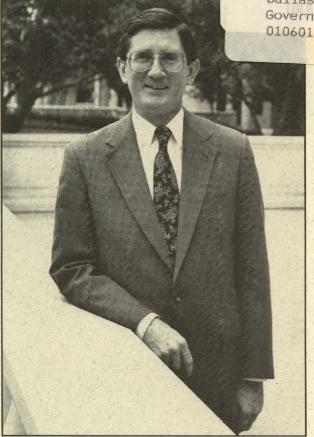
1989

TEXAS RESEARCH

LEAGUE

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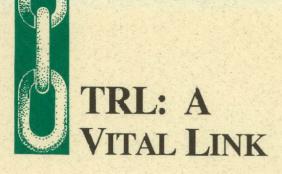
The Texas Research League's vital role is to bring business ideas and concerns to the governmental process -- the all-important linking of the public and private sectors. The League's product -- objective, nonpartisan research that critically examines the effects of public policy decisions on Texas as a whole -- is an integral part of this linkage.

Communication clearly goes in the other direction as well. The League provides its members with information on how public policy decisions affect them as citizens, parents and business people. A look at the League's research highlights for 1989 and its 1990 agenda on pages four through seven gives concrete examples of this role.

It has been an honor to serve as chairman of the Texas Research League for the past two years, and I look forward to my continuing involvement in TRL.

John Utsey 1988-89 League Chairman

John W





Having a "seat at the table" is indeed the role of the Texas Research League when important matters of public policy are decided in Texas. The League often goes further, however, and "sets" the table. Such was the case with the Texas Education Summit Con-

ference hosted by the League in early 1989. This conference, patterned after *FORTUNE* magazine's national model, brought together CEOs, educators, researchers and public policy decision makers. It further served as the link to community efforts, becoming the prototype for conferences sponsored around the state by the Texas State Chamber of Commerce and other groups.

In its student retention project, the League is also forging a link among various groups seeking the common goal of keeping young people in school. The project staff is holding a series of retention coordination meetings, bringing to the same table business people and educators who are working on student retention to ensure cooperation and to avoid duplication of efforts.

Education is just one area of League interest. The League also continues to respond to study requests from state officials, providing nonpartisan, objective research into such diverse areas as judicial structure, the impact of the working uninsured, state fiscal policy and workers' compensation.

Innovative, on-target efforts such as these make me proud to serve as chairman of the Texas Research League.

J. Sam Winters 1990-91 League Chairman



The TRL is more than a vehicle for citizen input into public policy. League members in many cases are an actual link in the public policy decision-making chain. Governor Clements' audit teams are one example. League member com-

panies in 1989 provided 15 team members for agency audits of the Texas Department of Commerce, Texas Department of Human Services, and the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. These private sector employees served alongside public sector team members in the truest sense of public/private partnership.

The League's student retention project, described on page eight, is another example of members responding to the challenges facing Texas. League members also are participating in a survey to identify effective business involvement in upgrading public education. The process will come full circle when Texas businesses use the League's findings as they address the challenge of building a world-class educational system for all Texans.

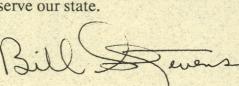
The foregoing examples illustrate that the Texas Research League is more than a source of data; it is truly an active participant in the public life of Texas.

Gary E. Wood League President



## LEAGUE FINANCES

As the year 2000 appears on our horizon, the growing size and diversity of Texas' population and economy challenge us with issues more complex than at any earlier time. Realizing the rich promise of our state will demand serious and thoughtful analysis to guide the development of public policy. The Texas Research League is well prepared to do that hard work. I look forward to building on its strong member support base in 1990 to assure the League's capacity to serve our state.





League Treasurer A.W. Riter, Jr. (1) and League Vice Chairman W. D. Stevens.

## **Comparative Revenues and Expenses**

	1989*	1988	1987
REVENUES			
Contributions	\$895,896.50	\$888,239.25	\$835,755.00
Other	110,027.15	66,141.91	130,228.51
TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,005,923.65	\$954,381.16	\$965,983.51
EXPENSES			
Salaries	\$550,614.08	\$528,375.02	\$526,689.00
Employee Benefits	110,134.94	71,596.91	122,164.07
Research Support Services	20,949.89	31,623.54	39,277.52
Research Publications	37,507.28	24,812.74	28,263.20
Travel Expenses	45,599.69	52,026.56	42,777.71
Headquarters Expenses	139,945.32	124,229.65	97,602.17
Operating Expenses	46,892.44	36,589.34	42,465.17
Organization Expenses	39,305.98	37,313.45	34,063.43
Other			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$990,949.62	\$906,567.21	\$933,302.27
EXCESS OF REVENUES			
OVER EXPENSES	\$14,974.03	\$47,813.95	\$32,681.24

\*Unaudited.

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## 1989

## RESEARCH PRODUCTS



#### Bench Marks 1988-89 School District Budgets in Texas

This popular report -- the 13th edition -- contains 40 items of information about each of Texas' 1,055 local school districts, and is used as a frame of reference by

school officials and local taxpayers to measure local district financial performance.

The Texas Open Meetings Act: A Handbook for Public Officials

First published in 1984, the updated 1989 edition of the handbook is available to state board and commission members as a reference guide to open meeting compliance.





Inventory of Texas Basic Personnel Statutes

Prepared each two years for the governor's office, the *Inventory* is the only available compilation of the various state statutes which govern personnel practices. More than 2,000 copies of this 9th edition were distributed to state agencies.

#### League Study Wins National Award



Texas Rethinks Medicaid, a report prepared by Anne Dunkelberg and

Augustin Redwine, won the Governmental Research Association 1989 award for Most Outstanding Research. Appraisal Practices and Tax Burdens, Texas Local Governments 1987-88



Appraisal Practices provides a variety of property tax information both to taxpayers and to public officials. The 1989 edition was the 8th in the series.

### 1990 Research Committee



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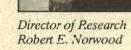


## 1989-1990 RESEARCH PROGRAM

Following developments in the 71st biennial legislative session was a primary concern during the first six months of 1989. The League staff responded to hundreds of information requests both from the private and the public sector, published *Bulletins on Texas State Finance*, and reported on the state budget process.

In April 1989, the Research Committee set the research agenda delineating the staff work program through the end of 1990:





By the end of 1989, staff studies were underway on the agenda topics detailed below.

#### STATE AND LOCAL TAX POLICY



The development of a fair and equitable tax policy that allows government to meet

its obligations without suppressing economic expansion will continue to be debated. The League staff will participate in that discussion by developing a useful comparison of business tax burdens -- one that will provide a more accurate measure of overall burdens as well as the relative impact among business types.



Senior Research Associate John Kennedy

#### **PUBLIC EDUCATION**



The League staff continues to be an active participant in the quest for a public school

finance structure that meets the constitutional efficiency re-

quirement. Some of the ideas developed in a concept paper early in 1989 will be seriously considered in the legislative debate, and the League staff will remain a reliable data source as the discussion continues.



Senior Research Associate Alan Barnes

At the joint request of Senator Kent Caperton (Senate Finance Committee Chair), Senator Carl Parker (Senate Education Committee Chair), and Representative Jim Rudd (House Appropriations Committee Chair), the League will study the impact of expanding two-year (junior-senior) universities to four-year schools.



Research Analyst Janet Beinke

#### THE TEXAS JUDICIARY



Texas has the largest and most complex judicial system of any state, and few

people understand how the system works. In response to a request from Supreme Court Chief Justice Tom Phillips, the League is engaged in a study that will describe the judicial

system and identify alternative approaches for implementing constructive change.





Left: Research Associate Harold Sanders

Right: Research Analyst Augustin Redwine

#### SOCIAL SERVICES



Large numbers of working Texans have no health in surance coverage. This

is a problem to both the public and private sectors. A study examining current employer costcontainment measures, identifying those that produce results, and exploring possible applications of strategies for covering the working uninsured has been undertaken at Lt. Governor Bill Hobby's request.



Research Analyst Anne Dunkelberg

## LEAGUE PUBLICATIONS: INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

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 timely to await the next ANALYSIS press date.



#### LEAGUE ARCHIVES



The League has been in operation for more than three and one-half decades.

Over that period the staff has made several hundred policy and management studies that clearly have had an impact on how the state does its business. Under the direction of Research Librarian Sarah Burka, an archival report is being prepared to summarize each of the past reports including any recommendations and identifiable results.



Research Librarian Sarah Burka

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY



The Research Committee approved for 1990 a study of governmental functions and

operations in Refugio County. With the League staff playing a coordinating role, local business people and public employees will join together in audit teams to do most of the field research. The final report will be the League's responsibility. Local businesses have agreed to pay all of the League's out-of-pocket expenses for this project.

#### ALVIN A. BURGER MEMORIAL INTERN PROGRAM

The League's intern program is a memorial to its first executive director.

#### 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
- to expand the League's research capability

Foundation support for the 1989 intern program was provided by:

- The Brown Foundation
- Davidson Family Charitable Foundation
- The James R. Dougherty, Jr. Foundation
- Dodge Jones Foundation
- Sid W. Richardson Foundation
- Hatton Sumners Foundation
- The Trull Foundation



Research Interns Clara Rico Adams and Randy Webb

## STUDENT RETENTION PROJECT

Keeping students in school is the focus of a two-year study funded separately from the League's operating budget by business and foundation support totaling more than \$350,000.

## STATEWIDE SUMMIT CONFERENCE

This important League project was kicked off with a conference that brought together more than 100 top business and education leaders to focus on the high school dropout problem. The League meeting, modeled after a similar effort hosted by FOR-TUNE magazine on a national level, has been the catalyst for regional conferences held in most areas of the state.

#### THE LEAGUE PROJECT

The student retention project makes use of the League's strong connections in both the public and private sectors. The study is evaluating

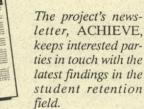


ACHIEVE!

business involvement in the schools to determine what works in dropout prevention. The information developed will be used to provide a much needed focus for business efforts in the public schools.

The project also assesses the student retention efforts of a sample of Texas school districts to measure their response to recent legislative mandates concerning dropout prevention.

Finally, the League's efforts will be a resource for both the business and education communities, providing information and bringing together practitioners from both groups to facilitate increased coordination of dropout prevention efforts.







Student Retention Project Team (I to r): Research Analyst Patricia Hopkins, Research Intem Alexis Senger, Project Director Jeffrey Cole, and Research Intern Rose Ann M.-Rentería



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Wichita Falls

CHARLES N. PROTHRO, Perkins-Prothro Company

DAVID WOLVERTON, Chairman of Board & Chief Executive Officer, Bank One, Texas, N.A.

• Former League Chairman (Life Member) \* Elected Life Member



## 1990 Executive Committee\*



Adams



Farrington



George



Holloway



Johnson



Madden



Marsh



Pieper



Roth



Wright



Zachry

<sup>\*</sup>In addition to the chairman, vice chairman, treasurer, president, and immediate past chairman.

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#### J. S. Farrington

Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, Texas Utilities Company, Dallas

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Holloway, Martinez, Lockhart & Co., Corpus Christi

#### Richard J. V. Johnson

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#### Wales H. Madden, Jr.

Attorney, Amarillo

#### R. B. Marsh

Assistant General Tax Counsel - Legal and Legislation, Chevron Corporation, San Francisco

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