



TCDRS 2017 Legislation Summary

During the 85th Legislative Session, two bills impacting TCDRS — SB 500 and HB 89 — were passed. After the regular session ended on May 29, Gov. Greg Abbott called for a special session to begin on July 18, but no items affecting state pension systems were passed.

Summaries of bills monitored during the regular session are listed below.

Bills that passed during the regular session

Senate Bill 500

Sponsor: Sen. Van Taylor

TCDRS impact: Direct – SB 500 was one of several bills included in a package of ethics-related bills. It stipulates that TCDRS members who hold elected office and who are convicted of certain felonies while in office and related to their official duties would be ineligible to receive an annuity from TCDRS.

The bill was passed by the Legislature on May 22 and signed by the Governor on June 6. It goes into effect immediately.

The legislation directs TCDRS to adopt administrative rules as necessary to implement the law's provisions.

House Bill 89

Sponsor: Rep. Phil King

TCDRS impact: Direct – HB 89 prohibits Texas public pension plans from investing in companies that boycott Israel. The Texas Comptroller will maintain a list of such companies. TCDRS will file an annual report with state leadership regarding the prohibition.

The bill was passed by the Legislature on April 27 and signed by the Governor on May 2. It went into effect on Sept. 1, 2017.