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## TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

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### 85<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

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Below are YCT's "Top Legislative Priorities," which can also be found throughout the document.

#### **FAVOR**

- Repealing tuition "deregulation" of public universities.<sup>1</sup>
- Eliminating all so called "gun-free zones," especially those still in place at public universities.<sup>2</sup>
- Encouraging improvement in our public school system through competition by route of universal school choice or education savings accounts.
- Ending all state government benefits granted to individuals in this country illegally.
- Requiring zero-based budgeting for all government agencies.
- A constitutional amendment requiring that no governing entity raises spending more than the combined growth of population and rate of inflation.
- "Truth in Budgeting." The Legislature should fully balance the biennial budget without the use of deception and/or accounting tricks. We support the Conservative Texas Budget proposed by the Texas Public Policy Foundation.<sup>3</sup>
- Barriers to municipalities and counties from enacting overbearing regulations that encroach on personal liberties, employment, and property rights.
- Elimination of state funding to "sanctuary cities" that defy federal immigration laws.
- Paycheck Protection Act and any legislation that ensures taxpayer money is not used for partisan politics and further empower individual employees as opposed to local government unions.<sup>4</sup>

#### **OPPOSE**

- The creation of any new taxes and fees.
- Medicaid Expansion or any attempt to further socialize the delivery of healthcare and medicine.
- Using race, ethnicity, gender, or sexual preferences as a factor in determining either acceptance or the amount of state scholarship/grant dollars a student will receive.
- Any efforts to institute a statewide smoking ban or texting ban.
- Targeting individuals and organizations for political purposes through campaign finance law or expanding the reach of the Texas Ethics Commission.
- Arbitrary DWI checkpoints, blood draws by non-medical professionals, and "no refusal" policies as well as any reduction in the maximum blood alcohol content rules for DWI.
- Any taxpayer-funded abortion and/or contraception.
- The property and franchise tax.
- Any expansion of regulated gambling.<sup>5</sup>
- The restriction of the time, place and manner of speech and assembly more than absolutely necessary to protect normal academic and institutional activities.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> House Bill 3015 (78R)

<sup>2</sup> Senate Bill 11 (84R)

<sup>3</sup> Conservative Texas Budget. YCT is a coalition member. The 2018-19 Conservative Texas Budget limits growth of all Texas state government spending to the rate of population growth plus inflation for the last two fiscal years. \$147.5B State Funds, \$218.5B All Funds, and 4.5% Increase.

<sup>4</sup> Paycheck Protection Act. Over two million Texans voted in favor of non-binding ballot Proposition 3 in 2016 Republican Primary Election leading to its roughly 83% to 17% passage.

<sup>5</sup> YCT believes that the issue of the expansion of gambling has little to do with liberty and everything to do with increasing the size and scope of government. As such, YCT opposes the regulated practice of gambling in the state of Texas. Regulated gambling would create large, expensive bureaucratic agencies that would grow government exponentially and cost the state billions of dollars.

<sup>6</sup> YCT favors the report entitled Campus Free Speech: A Legislative Proposal solicited by the Goldwater Institute and authored by Stanley Kurtz, James Manley, and Jonathan Butcher.