## HEB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE POSITION STATEMENTS FOR THE 82<sup>nd</sup> STATE LEGISLATURE Adopted by the Board of Directors November 17, 2010

The Hurst Euless Bedford Chamber of Commerce recognizes what a challenge the upcoming legislative session is going to be in light of the economy and the decline in revenues. While cuts in some programs and services will be necessary in the short run, we urge you to protect and maintain existing levels of support for those that affect the State's **economic growth potential**. Using a portion of the State's **"rainy day" fund** should be considered since those monies were set aside to be used under trying times like today.

- Maintain the State contribution per student for education with no additional program mandates
- Delay implementation of the end of course accountability systems until 2012
- Continue funding for the development of additional Tier One universities
- Maintain the Texas Enterprise Fund and the Skills Development Fund
- Continue appropriations for the Texas Mobility Fund
- Authorize Transportation Reinvestment Zones so local governments can go to voters to generate funding for rail or roads
- End diversions of highway fund money
- Renew the State's ability to enter into comprehensive development agreements
- Index the motor fuels tax to the consumer price index
- Maintain funding for CHIPS and Medicaid
- Do not impose mandates on local governments to carry out programs traditionally funded by the State