

# 2025 (Draft) Texas Legislative Issues For Defense Communities

Keith Sledd - Chair



# Governor's Committee to Support the Military

- ➤ Chartered by GOV Abbott on September 5, 2019 with first report due on December 1, 2019.
- GCSM Committee consists of 22 members chartered to:
  - ✓ study and make recommendations on how best to maintain and enhance military value at existing military installations in Texas;
  - ✓ study and make recommendations on how best to make Texas a more attractive destination for additional military missions;
  - ✓ collaborate with local governments and chambers of commerce to explore surrounding civilian infrastructure and identify competing and complementary needs between private development, the rights of private landowners, and military necessities;
  - ✓ examine the 2005 criteria used by the Base Realignment and Closure
    Commission and identify strategies to avoid future base closures; and
  - ✓ coordinate with the Texas Military Preparedness Commission and Texas Military Values Task Force.
- ➤ Augmented by the Auxiliary Military Spouse Task Force of up to 7 military spouses tasked to study and report on how best to enhance quality of life for military families in Texas.



# Draft 2025 TX Defense Community Issues

### Education, Health Care, and Quality of Life

- 1. Mitigate City/County Impact of Lost Property Tax Revenue for Disabled Veteran Exemption
- 2. Funding for Military Child Education Coalition
- 3. Tax Exemptions for Military Spouse Businesses
- 4. Concurrent Jurisdiction for Juvenile Crime

## Workforce Development

Encourage Investment in Advanced Manufacturing and Technology Certification/Degree Programs

#### Encroachment and Infrastructure

- 6. Fully Fund the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant
- 7. Prevent Encroachment of Military Installations, Training, Areas & Airspace:
  - □ Foreign Investment/Acquisition of Adjacent Land/Facilities
  - Wind Generation Facilities
  - Development



# Historical GCSM Successes

## Education, Health Care, and Quality of Life

- 1. Licensure/Certification Transfer and Acceptance for Military Spouses and Teachers (2019)
- 2. Early Enrollment in School for Children of Service Members (2019 & 2023)
- 3. Create Texas Education Agency Military Webpage (2019)
- 4. Funding for Military Child Education Coalition (2021)
- 5. Create State Council for Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (2021)
- Defense Manpower Data for Texas School A-F Accountability Ratings (2023)

## Workforce Development

7. Create Online Information Repository for Servicemembers and Family Members (2019)

#### Encroachment and Infrastructure

- 8. Allow TXDOT Interagency Contracts with Military Installations (2021 & 2023)
- 9. Fully Fund the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (2019, 2021, & 2023)
- 10. Prohibits Operation of Non-Military Unmanned Aircraft over Military Installations (2021)
- 11. Add US Army CID and USAF OSI to Texas Criminal Code as recognized LEOs (2021)