

Executive Branch and Budgeting

A Review

Functions of Executive Branch

- Administer law
- Elaborate on law
- Clemency Functions
- Political Leadership
- Symbolic and Ceremonial

Types of Agencies

- Administrative
- Service
- Regulatory

Models of Executive Organization

- Integrated model- powers centralized in CEO
 - personnel
 - budget
 - policy
- Un-integrated model- power dispersed among independently elected officials and boards (elected or appointed)

Texas Executive System

- Elected Officials (**Plural Executive**)
 - Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller of Public Accts, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of General Land Office
- Elected Boards –
 - RR Commission- 3 members, elected 6 yr terms
 - State Board of Education- 15 members, 4 yr terms
- Appointed officials- Secy of State, Adjutant General, Cmsr of Insurance, Education, Health, Housing and Community Affairs
- Appointed Boards- (too numerous to list)

Governor

- Qualifications-
 - Age- 30 years or older
 - Residence- at least 5 years
 - US Citizen
- Compensation-
 - Salary -\$115,384 (\$150,000)
 - Housing
 - Transportation

Governor- Powers and Duties

- Executive powers-weak formal powers compared to other urban states
- Legislative powers
 - call special sessions, veto (item veto on appropriations bills only), address legislature, declaration of emergencies
- Clemency- restricted by Board of Pardons & Paroles (no parole power)

Executive Powers of Governor

- Removal- only those appointed by Governor/subject to 2/3 Senate approval
- Budgetary powers-recommend budget, item veto, limited budget execution powers
- Directive powers-extremely limited
- Appointment- requires 2/3 Senate approval
- Exceptional circumstances
 - martial law
 - police power

Other Elected Positions

- Attorney General- civil law only
- Comptroller of Public Accounts-collect taxes, **budget estimates**, control of most state funds
- Commissioner General Land Office- state owned lands, Veteran's Land Fund
- Commissioner of Agriculture- weights and measures, some agricultural regulations, marketing programs for state agricultural products

Appointed Officials

- Secretary of State
- Adjutant General
- Commissioner of Insurance- oversees insurance industry
- Commissioner of Health
- Commissioner of Education
- Director, Housing and Community Affairs

Typical Agency of the Texas Bureaucracy

- Multimember board- appt by Governor
 - membership divided by 3 (unless the legislature changes the size of the Board)
 - 6 year overlapping terms
 - Board members not paid
- Chief Executive Officer appointed by Board
- Board controls budget and policy
- Staff employed by CEO

Oversight

- Sunset Commission
- Executive oversight-
 - Comptroller Performance Reviews
 - Council on Competitive Government
 - Governor's Budget Office
- Legislative oversight
 - Standing Committees
 - Statutory Committees- Leg Budget Board, Leg Audit Cmt
- Media attention

Sunset Advisory Commission

- Duties
 - Appoint staff
 - Review agencies on scheduled basis
- Membership-
 - 4 Senators plus public member appt by Lt. Governor
 - 4 House Members plus public member appt by Speaker
 - Recommend abolition, combination, or re-establishment of state agencies. If agencies are not recreated, they must be abolished or merged.

Major Employment Areas

- Higher Education- appx 35 %
- Social Services-27%
 - Health & Income protection (welfare)
- Business and Transportation- 18 %
- Public Safety and Corrections- 9 %

Personnel Administration

- No state-wide personnel system
- Retirement systems
 - ERS
 - TRS
- Health Select (self-insured, managed by ERS with contract with Blue Cross-Blue Shield)

Functions of Budget

- Planning
- Authorizing
- Accountability

Steps in Budget Cycle

- Planning
- Authorization
- Spending
- Auditing

Agencies Involved in Budget Process

- Legislative Budget Board
- Legislative Audit Committee
- Governor's Budget Office
- Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Spending Agencies

State Spending Major Functions

- Education- 43 %
- Social Services-31%
- Transportation-12 %
- Public Safety and Corrections-7.3 %

Types of Budget Allocations

- Dedicated revenue
 - Lottery,
 - Federal Grants,
 - Fees for licensing functions
- Formula funding- public school education
- General Revenue Spending- all other items

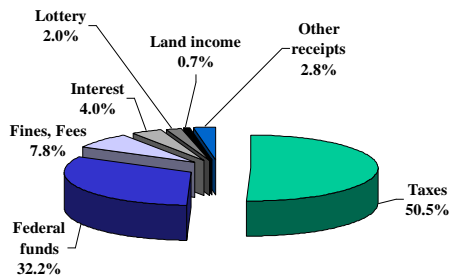
Funding Sources

- Fees-
- Federal Grants (Social Services
Environment/Transportation/Education)
- Dedicated Revenue (Permanent School
Fund/ Lottery/ Highway Fund Excise taxes)
- General Revenue (various sales taxes)

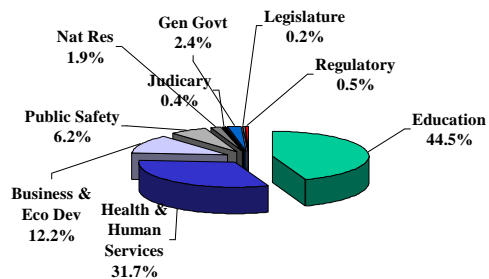
Constitutional Considerations of Taxes in Texas

- Art III, sect 49a- pay as you go
- Art III, sect 51a- limits on welfare spending
- Art VIII, sect 22- limit on growth from revenue not to exceed rate of growth of state's economy
- Art VIII, sect 1- limits types of taxes state may levy

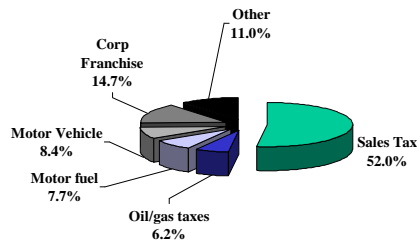
Revenue Sources, 2008-2009



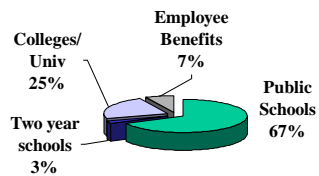
Budget by Function,



Percent of Taxes, 2009



Education Expenditures



State Debt General Obligation Bonds

