

A long-standing legacy in shaping Texas fiscal policy

TTARA Morning Mail

Tax reform now moves to the states, and Texas needs to work to remain competitive (TTARA Quoted) (Dallas Morning News © 03/13/2018)

The federal tax overhaul may have been signed into law, but it would be a mistake to assume the great tax fight is now in the rearview mirror. In fact, the federal cuts are turning out to be the start of tax reform, not the end of it. What's happening now is a gaggle of states are revising their tax codes to respond to the federal changes. Why?...

Lack of school finance reform forcing districts to seek higher taxes (San Antonio Express-News © 03/13/2018)

The state has little to show by the way of public school finance reform as we approach the second anniversary of a Texas Supreme Court ruling that found the system deeply flawed but constitutional. Forgive us for being naive, but we expected state leaders to get moving quickly on improving the antiquated public school finance system after the May 2016 ruling. ...

Hegar: Texas' credit rating at risk if liabilities aren't lowered (Austin American Statesman © 03/21/2018)

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar pitched a plan Tuesday to restructure the state's rainy day fund, which Republican lawmakers in the past have been loath to touch in recent years. At \$11 billion, the economic stabilization fund, the formal name for the rainy day fund, is the largest state savings account of its kind in the country, funded largely by oil and gas revenue....

City questions El Paso property valuations (El Paso KTSM (NBC) 9 © 03/21/2018)

(KTSM) - El Paso city leaders tell KTSM they are concerned that property valuations made by the El Paso Central Appraisal District (CAD) are having negative effects on local taxpayers. An analysis presented to City Council on Tuesday showed despite a lot of growth in the West and Far East parts of the city, the CAD only reported a small increase in property valuations for 2017. Something is amis...

Gov. Abbott unveils property tax plan with a 2.5 percent revenue cap (TTARA Quoted) (Austin American Statesman © 01/18/2018)

Gov. Greg Abbott unveiled a property tax reform plan Tuesday that would cap revenue increases for local taxing entities at 2.5 percent a year. It promises to be the centerpiece of his re-election campaign and, if he wins a second term, his top priority in the next session of the Legislature. The plan also would prohibit the Legislature from imposing unfunded mandates on the local jurisdictions th...