



Texas Conference of the American Association of University Professors
News Release

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Today, the Texas House passed a House version of Senate Bill 18. The legislation imposes unprecedented changes to the system through which faculty achieve tenure in community colleges and public universities as well as to the processes for dismissal of tenured faculty. Although the Texas AAUP Conference opposed the bill and would have liked to have seen it defeated, the House bill is much preferable to the Senate version, which bans the future offering of tenure altogether and would have disastrous consequences for colleges, universities, and the State of Texas.

We thank Rep. Sheryl Cole for introducing, and Chair John Kuempel for accepting, an important amendment that addresses one of the serious issues identified by the Texas AAUP Conference. We thank other Representatives who introduced unsuccessful amendments that would have brought tenure protections somewhat closer to the national AAUP standards adopted by more than 1300 U.S. colleges and universities. We also thank the many faculty, students, former students, and community members who testified on the bill and otherwise supported our efforts to retain tenure in the State of Texas.

The House version of SB 18 still codifies a weak tenure system that lacks the due process provisions recommended by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), but we urge the Senate to accept it nevertheless. It is crucial to retain a tenure system in public colleges and universities in Texas. The future of higher education in the state of Texas depends on it.

Please see "[Texas Anti-Tenure Senate Bill 18 Update & Actions You Can Take](#)".