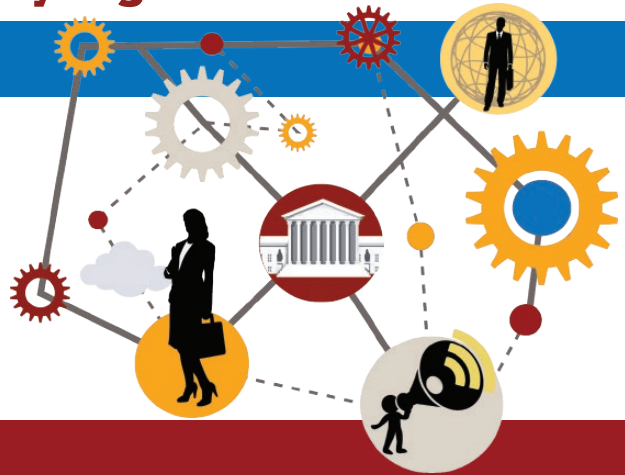


# HOW TEXAS GOVERNMENT WORKS

## Lobbying

### Who Lobbies

- Labor unions
- Professional associations
- Trade associations
- Public interest groups
- Single-issue interest groups
- Different levels of government (intergovernmental lobby) from local to federal



### Types of Lobbying

#### Grassroots lobbying

Groups attempt to influence legislation through public opinion, such as mobilizing group members to contact officials

#### Astroturf lobbying

Elite spending of large sums of money to generate an appearance of public support for their agenda

#### Grasstop lobbying

Attempts to influence legislators through key constituents or friends of the legislators

#### Planting sod

Tactic that transfers grassroots grown in one place to other issues

### Top 5 in Texas

#### Political Contributors\*

Texas Association of Realtors (Austin)	\$4,447,047
National Association of Realtors (Chicago, IL)	\$3,021,398
Associated General Contractors of Texas (Austin)	\$1,616,325
Farris C. & Joann Wilks (Wilks Brothers/Frac Tech Service) (Cisco)	\$1,585,000
Peter & Juliana Holt (Holt Co's/San Antonio Spurs) (Blanco)	\$935,000

#### Ideological and Single-Issue Spenders\*

Texans for Education Reform	\$1,185,000
City of Austin	\$1,170,000
City of Houston	\$985,000
Raise Your Hand for Public Schools	\$880,000
Texas Municipal League	\$785,000

\* Amount Spent

Sources: Texas' Top Contributors: Top Texas Political Contributors in 2015, Texans for Public Justice, <http://info.tpj.org/reports/Top%20Donors%202015.pdf>; Austin's Oldest Profession: Texas' Top Lobby Clients & Those Who Serve Them, Texans for Public Justice, 2013/2014. p. 13, <http://info.tpj.org/reports/pdf/Oldest2013WithCover.pdf>