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Conservative Policy Research Foundation Announces Task Forces & Legislative Co-Chairmen

Research begins immediately; recommendations to be issued to the 83rd Legislature

AUSTIN, TX - Although the start of the next session of the Texas Legislature is more than a year away, the Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute (TCCRI) today unveiled its interim Task Forces, as well as the state legislators who will lead the Task Forces as they engage in policy research.

Issue-specific Task Forces are the primary policy research function of TCCRI, which is a leading state-based policy research foundation based in Austin, Texas. Like the organization's Board of Directors, TCCRI Task Forces bring lawmakers together with issue experts and private sector leaders to develop policy recommendations.

State Senator Tommy Williams, a TCCRI Board Member and co-chairman of the TCCRI State Budget Task Force, stated: "TCCRI Task Forces play a critical role in helping conservative legislators develop solutions to the chief challenges the state will face when the next Legislature convenes. TCCRI helps keep conservatives informed, prepared, and armed with specific goals that will allow us to advance and defend conservative principles."

In addition to the State Budget Task Force, which will focus on reforms and reductions that will keep the state fiscally and economically sound, TCCRI will convene six other Task Forces:

- Public Sector Reform
- State Taxation & Revenue
- Public Education & School Finance
- Self Governance
- Free Enterprise & State Regulation
- Local Government

The enclosed document lists the names of all Task Force co-chairmen. More information on the Task Forces is available at txccri.org/lift_texas.html.

State Representative Linda Harper-Brown, a TCCRI Board Member who is co-chairing the Free Enterprise Task Force, remarked: "Conservative principles have served the State of Texas well over the past decade, but lawmakers must remain vigilant in preparing to rise to the challenges we will face next session. The 2011-2012 slate of TCCRI Task Forces will provide us with a broad roadmap of conservative policies that will help keep Texas the nation's economic powerhouse and the best place to live, work, and raise a family."

State Representative Tim Kleinschmidt, co-chairman of the Self Governance Task Force, added: "With a strong set of interim Task Forces, and with key conservative legislators lined up to lead its Task Forces, TCCRI is poised to continue to have a positive impact on the State Legislature, and on the entire State of Texas. I look forward to working closely with my fellow legislators and other private sector leaders through the TCCRI Task Forces."

Senator Williams concluded: "The next legislative session is more than a year away, but our work begins immediately to ensure that we are prepared to thoughtfully answer the major policy questions we will face next session."

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For more information on TCCRI & its Task Forces, please visit txccri.org