LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

THE INSTITUTE OF TEXAN CULTURES



ANNUAL FUNDING REQUEST

\$1,001,572 per year | \$2,003,144 over biennium

NON-FORMULA SUPPORT ITEM REQUEST

SUPPORTING UTSA'S URBAN SERVING MISSION

OVERVIEW

Located in Hemisfair Park in the heart of downtown San Antonio, the Institute of Texan Cultures (ITC) serves as an important contributor to the city's tourism market while living out its mission to give a voice to the rich cultures that make up the fabric of our state. Recent cuts in special item funding have made it challenging for ITC to maintain the level of exhibits, programs and teacher training opportunities befitting of the state's center for multicultural education.

THE CHALLENGE

Salaries for ITC's staff and operations are funded predominantly by state appropriations. Further trimming of special item funding will have a significant impact on ITC's ability to develop new exhibits and perform needed updates to existing ones. More limited staff hours would result in reductions in operating hours and in the number of students and teachers the museum will be able to serve. At a time when issues of diversity, inclusion and race relations are at the forefront of state and national dialogues, the ITC is needed now more than ever.

THE IMPACT

Last year, ITC recorded more than 117,000 visitors and hosted 30 exhibits on a wide variety of topics including Tejano influence in Texas, Refugees, Civil Rights, César E. Chávez, Martin Luther King Jr., San Antonio's Spanish Missions, the largest shale economic boom, cultural identity and World Wars I and II. In addition, it served approximately 47,318 students and teachers through presentations and educator workshops, partnered with three faculty to conduct research, and offered free admission to over 8,000 underserved audiences.

