

San Augustine ISD
Walter L. Key
Superintendent
wkey@saisd.us

April 9, 2009

Texas State Senator or Representative

Senator or Representative:

This letter is a formal request for you to sign on in support of SB 982/HB1555 if you have not already. This bill will provide San Augustine ISD (SAISD) with needed funding. Our funding has not been altered for the past 3 years despite rising inflation.

SAISD Board of Trustees declared we were in “financial exigency” due to a low Target Revenue (TR) and other factors in December 2008. Because of this SAISD has undergone a Reduction in Force that has included eliminating music from the Elementary campus as well as other programs. SB 982/HB1555 provides for many needed solutions for SAISD and all Texas schools. It provides for an increase in adequacy and equity that our present financial system does not and cannot provide. At present there are schools that are funded at a TR of over \$12,000 and schools funded at less than \$4,000. Please think of this disparity this way: would you allow your child to make \$4.00 an hour while another child was making \$12.00 an hour for the same job in the same company? I hope not!

This bill provides for both adequacy and equity. Schools must be funded at a level commiserate with our expectations for education. Most educators nationally believe Texas has high expectations for education. I believe we do. I believe most legislators’ believe that to be true. If so legislators must make the commitment to education in funding to continue to provide for our high expectations. The one positive result from HB1 and “holdharmless” funding is it provided a clear picture of how unequal our funding is. Again if one Texas child is educated on less than \$4,000 and another is educated at more than \$12,000 all educators and legislators should have issues. This does not provide for adequacy or equity. The present system of funding schools defies the constitution of the state of Texas. It does not provide for a “*general diffusion of knowledge*” nor is it “*efficient*” as guaranteed in Article 7, section 1. Educators and legislators must aggressively and faithfully pursue the state’s own mission and policy, as proclaimed in Sections 4.001 and 42.001 of the Texas Education Code: “Section 4.001 . . . to ensure that all Texas children have access to a quality education that enables them to achieve their potential and fully participate now and in the future in the social, economic, and educational opportunities of our state and nation. . . . grounded on the conviction that a general diffusion of knowledge is essential for the welfare of this state and for the preservation of the liberties and rights of citizens.” (Note that the second part of this quote paraphrases the Education Article of the Texas Constitution.) “Section 42.001 . . . that the provision of public education is a state responsibility and that a thorough and *efficient* system be provided and *substantially financed through state revenue sources* so that each student enrolled in the public school system shall have

San Augustine ISD

Walter L. Key

Superintendent

wkey@saisd.us

access to programs and services that are appropriate to the student's educational needs and that are *substantially equal* to those available to any similar student, notwithstanding varying local economic factors." If we accept the mandates of our Texas constitution and the Texas Education Code we must support any and all legislation that provides for adequacy and equity.

SB982/HB1555 includes these very important pieces that must be a part of any and all financial bills:

1. Link to Austin ISD wealth level or an appropriate percentile of wealth for the basic allotment, guaranteed level, and equalized wealth level (not what's left over).
2. Improve equity.
3. Reduce and contain recapture.
4. Provide for tax payer equity by reducing property taxes.

SB 982/HB 1555 does all of the above and at this time is the only bill for the financing of Texas children's education that does.

Again I ask for your support for SB 982/HB 1555. If you have joined the growing list of Senators and Representatives that have "signed on" in favor of these bills, ***thank you.*** If not please consider the positive impact these companion bills will have on the state of Texas educational system.

Sincerely,

Walter L. Key

Pat Grusendorf

From: "Travis W Edwards" <edwardst@westsabine.esc7.net>
To: <tars@centex.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 08, 2009 12:35 PM
Subject: HB 1555

I, Travis W. Edwards, Superintendent of West Sabine ISD support HB 1555 and urge the Committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95 percentile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,
Travis W. Edwards
Superintendent
West Sabine ISD
Learning for All... Whatever it Takes!

WISD

Wellington Independent School District

Carl Taylor
Superintendent

806/447-2512 • FAX 806/447-5124
609 15th Street • Wellington, TX 79095

April 8, 2009

Dear Chair and Members of the Texas House Public Education Committee:

I, Carl Taylor, Superintendent of Wellington ISD support HB 1555 and urge the Committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA and EWL) at the 95thtile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,



Carl Taylor
Superintendent
Wellington ISD



Wells Independent School District

P.O. Box 469
Wells, TX 75976

Superintendent: Dale Morton

PH: 936-867-4466
FAX: 936-867-4466

April 13, 2009

Texas House of Representatives
House Committee on Public Education

Honorable Chair and Committee Members:

Thank you for your service to our great state. I am writing in support of HB 1555 and to urge that you also support this bill.

For more than a decade I have been Wells ISD Superintendent of Schools. We have suffered throughout that time because we are a property poor district. HB 1, in 2006, provided some much needed changes in funding in that it created greater equity and built in some important funding mechanisms. Unfortunately, it failed to provide for growth and has been under-funded.

In supporting HB 1555, I find that it strengthens the work begun by the legislature with HB1 (2006). It is the only bill filed that clearly embraces the formula driven system for funding all schools. If we are to have a system of public schools, it seems very logical that we have a system of formulas that provides equitable funding for all students in the state. It is also dynamic and will provide for growth. It is student centered. Finally, it decreases recapture.

HB 1555 is a good bill for all of Texas and I encourage your support.

Sincerely,

Dale Morton

PALO PINTO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**P.O. Box 280
Palo Pinto, TX 76484
Telephone (940) 659-2745
Fax (940) 659-2936**

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Eric J. Cederstrom, Superintendent of Palo Pinto Independent School District support HB1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that I have seen that is close to restoring the dynamic, student centered, formula driven system that reduces recapture and improves equity. The key to accomplishing this is to raising all three of our allotments (Basic Allotment, Guaranteed Yield Allotment, and Equalized Wealth Level) to the 95th percentile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD, HB 1555 is the closest to achieving this standard. As a Chapter 41 (recapture) District, relief from recapture would certainly benefit the students of Palo Pinto ISD as wealth on paper does not mean wealth in district coffers.

If you should have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.



**ERIC CEDERSTROM
Superintendent**



BELLEVUE
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

P. O. Box 38 Bellevue, Texas 76228 (940) 928-2104
Dean Gilstrap, Superintendent

Terry Davis, Principal

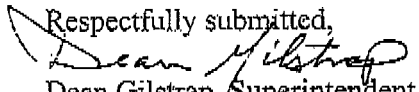
Johney Chandler, Counselor

April 9, 2009

To: Chair and Members of the Texas House Public Education Committee.

I, Dean Gilstrap, Superintendent of Bellevue ISD, whole heartedly support HB 1555 and urge the Committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD. The public students of Texas are worth it. Please support HB 1555 and vote it out of Committee.

Respectfully submitted,


Dean Gilstrap, Superintendent
Bellevue ISD

Educational programs conducted by the Bellevue I. S. D. serve people of all ages, regardless of socio-economic level, race, color, sex, religion, handicap or national origin.



Scurry-Rosser ISD

10705 South State Highway 34

Scurry, TX 75158-3163

Superintendent: 972.452.8823

Business Office: 972.452.8823

Fax: 972.452.8586

April 14, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Chris Couch, superintendent of Scurry-Rosser ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, AND FWI.) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

If, you have already replied, thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Couch". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Chris Couch
Superintendent



Richland Springs I.S.D.

700 W. Coyote Trail • Richland Springs, Texas 76871

April 15, 2009

Dear Legislators;

I support House Bill 1555 and hope that the committee will seriously consider sending it to the floor. Richland Springs, after losing 20% of our students, is depending on legislation like HB 1555 to restore a formula funded system. We must have equity and hopefully recapture will decrease.

The formula that uses Austin ISD as benchmark is the most equitable to us and setting all of our allotments to 95% of their wealth will benefit us.

Please give HB 1555 serous consideration.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Travis Winn".

Travis Winn

Superintendent



FREER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

905 S. Norton, P.O. Box 240 -- Freer, Texas 78357 -- 361/394-6025 Ext. 15
Alberto Gonzales --- Superintendent

April 15, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Alberto Gonzales, Superintendent of Freer ISD, support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alberto Gonzales", written over a horizontal line.

Alberto Gonzales
Superintendent
Freer ISD



MULESHOE HIGH SCHOOL

514 West Avenue G
Muleshoe, TX 79347
806-272-7404 (phone)
806-272-4120 (fax)

Elizabeth Ward
Principal

Vince Erdmann
Assistant Principal

I, Gene Sheets Superintendent of Muleshoe ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor, HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gene Sheets".

Gene Sheets
Superintendent
Muleshoe ISD

"We're Building the Future, One Student at a Time"



Shallowwater Independent School District

1100 Ave. K Shallowater TX, 79363

Mary Hughes
Elementary

Donna Bowles
Intermediate

Phil Warren
Superintendent

Kenny Border
Middle School

Tom Johnson
High School

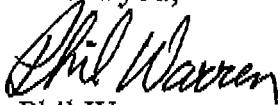
Rhonda Cox
Business Manager

Doris Scoggin
Asst. Superintendent

Stacey Barber
Technology Coordinator

I, Phil Warren Superintendent of Shallowater ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Thank you,



Phil Warren
SISD Superintendent

MAYPEARL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

"A Superior Learning Community"

April 15, 2009

Honorable Jim Pitts
Representative District 10
State of Texas
310 W. Jefferson, Suite 1
Waxahachie, TX 75165

Dear Representative Pitts,

I, Lynn Dehart Superintendent of Maypearl ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Respectfully,



Lynn Dehart
Superintendent, Maypearl ISD

Post Office Box 40* 400 Panther Lane* Maypearl, Texas 76064
972-435-1000*972-435-1001 Fax

MAYPEARL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

"A Superior Learning Community"

April 15, 2009

Honorable Kip Averitt
Senator District 22
State of Texas
400 Austin Avenue, Suite 303
Waco, TX 76701

Dear Senator Averitt,

I, Lynn Dehart Superintendent of Maypearl ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Respectfully,



Lynn Dehart
Superintendent, Maypearl ISD

Post Office Box 40* 400 Panther Lane* Maypearl, Texas 76064
972-435-1000*972-435-1001 Fax



EAST CHAMBERS ISD

Scott Campbell, Superintendent
1955 State Hwy 124
Winnie, Texas 77665

Phone (409) 296-6100

Fax (409) 296-3528



April 14, 2009

I, Scott Campbell, Superintendent of East Chambers ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95 % tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Respectfully,

Scott Campbell
Superintedent

MAYPEARL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

"A Superior Learning Community"

April 15, 2009

Honorable Diane Patrick
318 West Main Street, Suite 102
Arlington, TX 76010

I, Lynn Dehart Superintendent of Maypearl ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Respectfully,



Lynn Dehart
Superintendent, Maypearl ISD

Post Office Box 40* 400 Panther Lane* Maypearl, Texas 76064
972-435-1000*972-435-1001 Fax



Ron Eilers
Superintendent

FAYETTEVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
" Home of the Lions and Lady Lions "
P.O. Box 129, 618 North Rusk Street
Fayetteville, Texas 78940-0129
979-378-4242
979-378-4246 fax
Fayetteville.isd@fayetteville.txed.com



Lon Eilers
Counselor

To: Chair and Members of the Texas House Public Education Committee
From: Ron Eilers, Superintendent
Re: HB 1555
Date: April 14, 2009

I, Ron Eilers, Superintendent of Fayetteville ISD support HB 1555 and urge the Committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decrease recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA and EWL) at the 95 percentile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

I realize that you have a tough job ahead of you but appreciate your time and consideration in this matter.

" Preparing students to become responsible, productive citizens of the 21st century "

BROCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

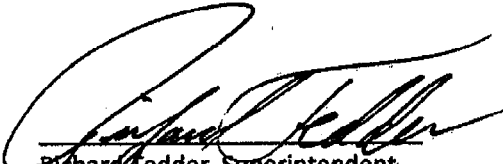
RICHARD TEDDER
SUPERINTENDENT

100 GRINDSTONE ROAD
BROCK, TEXAS 76087
(817) 594-7642 • FAX (817) 599-3246

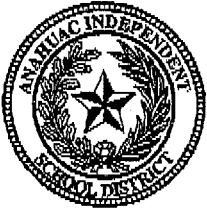
CAROLYN BRANCH
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

April 14, 2009

I, Richard Tedder, Superintendent of Brock ISD, support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.



Richard Tedder, Superintendent
Brock ISD



Anahuac Independent School District

ANAHUAC, TEXAS 77514

April 14, 2009

I, Linda Kay Barnhart, Superintendent of Anahuac ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our student-centered, formula-driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISd.D

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Kay Barnhart".

Linda Kay Barnhart

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Linda Kay Barnhart
P. O. Box 369
(409) 267-3600
Fax: (409) 267-3855
larnhart@anahuac.isd.esc4.net

BUSINESS MANAGER

Dick N. Walker
P. O. Box 638
(409) 267-3600
Fax: (409) 267-3855
walkerd@anahuac.isd.esc4.net

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS

DeAnna Humphrey
P. O. Box 1270
(409) 267-3600
Fax: (409) 267-3473
humphreyd@anahuac.isd.esc4.net

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

Theresa Franklin
P. O. Box 1270
(409) 267-3600
Fax: (409) 267-3473
franklnt@anahuac.isd.esc4.net

**DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTIONAL
TECHNOLOGY AND CURRICULUM**

Richard Barnhart
P. O. Box 1560
(409) 267-3600
Fax: (409) 267-5192
barnhartr@anahuac.isd.esc4.net

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Eric Humphrey
P. O. Box 1560
(409) 267-3600
Fax: (409) 267-5192
humphreye@anahuac.isd.esc4.net

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

LynnDell Turner
P. O. Box 849
(409) 267-3600
Fax: (409) 267-3643
turnerld@anahuac.isd.esc4.net

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Rosie Womack
P. O. Box 399
(409) 267-3600
Fax: (409) 267-6119
womackr@anahuac.isd.esc4.net

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Darrell Barbby
P. O. Box 638
(409) 267-3600
Fax: (409) 267-3855
barbbyd@anahuac.isd.esc4.net

KEMP INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT*"Pride in Excellence"*

905 South Main Street * Kemp, Texas 75143 * 903-498-1314 * Fax 903-498-1315

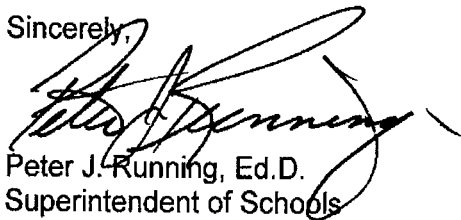
April 14, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this correspondence as my vigorous and firm support of HB 1555. I strongly and respectfully urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that will fully restore a dynamic, student centered formula driven system that will improve equity and decrease recapture by setting all three allotments (BA, GYA and EWL) at the 95 percentile of wealth represented by Austin ISD.

Thank you for your support of public schools in the common effort to improve the quality of education for the children of Kemp ISD and of the State of Texas.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Running, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Kemp Independent School District

P.O. Box 218, 605 Wildcat Drive, Winona, Texas 75792-0218

WINONA SCHOOLS

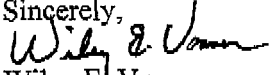


Phone: (903) 939-4001
Fax: (903) 877-9387

April 14, 2009
Texas Association of Rural Schools
Bill Grusendorf – Executive Director
Austin, Texas

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Wiley E. Vonner, Superintendent of Winona ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,

Wiley E. Vonner



NEW WAVERLY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
355 FRONT STREET
NEW WAVERLY, TEXAS 77358
(936) 344-6751 (936) 344-2438 [Fax]
Dr. Clay Webb, Superintendent

I, Dr. Clay Webb, Superintendent of New Waverly ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments(BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,


Dr. Clay Webb
Superintendent

Michele Chitwood
Business Manager

Edith Bahner
Secretary

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"

ALEX REMSCHEL, High School Principal
STEPHEN ASH, Middle School Principal
VICKI SLYE, Elementary Principal
JOE CRAIG, Assistant Superintendent

DAN CASE, Board President
BOBBY D. PONCIK, Vice President
HUBERT "RED" CHANEY, Secretary

Academy Independent School District

KEVIN SPRINKLES, Superintendent

Phone: 254-982-4304 / FAX: 254-982-0023

704 E. Main Street

Little River - Academy, Texas 76554

I, Kevin Sprinkles, superintendent of Academy ISD support HB1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,



Kevin Sprinkles
Superintendent
Academy ISD

Mount Calm Independent School District

"Home of the Panthers"

P.O. Box 105 • 200 N. Coates e. • Mount Calm, Texas 76673

Phone (254) 993-2611 Fax (254) 993-1022

www.mountcalmisd.org

Board of Trustees

Ronnie Tucker
President

April 14, 2009

Lupe Martinez
Vice-President

Michelle Barott
Secretary

I, Barbara Lane, Superintendent of Mount Calm ISD fully support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student-centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Keith
McCaghren

Joe Rittenbaugh

Lyle Harmon

Sincerely,

Rebecca
Gordon

Barbara Lane
Superintendent

Barbara Lane
Superintendent



Bill Grusendorf

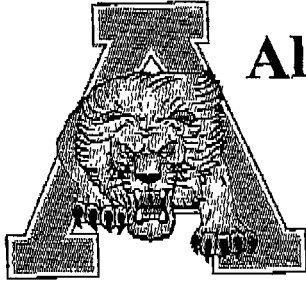
From: "Vita Canales" <mtcanales@ricardoisd.us>
To: <tars@centex.net>
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2009 6:41 PM
Subject: HB 1555

To: Chair and Members of the Texas House Public Education Committee

I, Maria T. Canales, Superintendent of Ricardo ISD support HB 1555 and urge the Committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maria T. Canales



Albany Independent School District

Shane Fields
Superintendent
P.O. Box 188
Albany, Texas 79364
(325) 762-2823
(325) 762-3876 (fax)

To: Chair and Members of the Texas House Public Education Committee

The purpose of this letter is to voice my support of HB 1555. The current system has handcuffed my district for the past two years. We are currently operating on Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) less each year of this past biennium. That is over Ten Percent (10%) of my entire budget. Those dollars are sorely missed in the classroom especially in the area of technology.

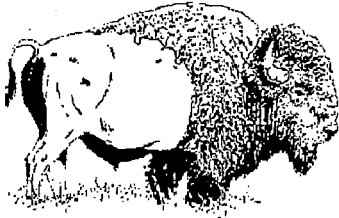
Therefore, I Shane Fields Superintendent of Albany ISD supports HB 1555 and urges the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95percentile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Lastly, I appreciate the time you take to serve this great State we call Texas and the children that I have a privilege of working with.

Sincerely,

Shane Fields

Shane Fields
Albany ISD Superintendent



Buffalo Independent School District

708 Cedar Creek Road

Buffalo, Texas 75831

Phone: (903) 322-3765 Fax: (903) 322-3091

Jack F. Thomason, Superintendent

4/14/09

To whom it may concern:

I, Jack F. Thomason, Superintendent of Buffalo ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA,GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of the wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,

PADUCAH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Drawer P 902 Goodwin St. Paducah, Texas 79248
Central Office (806) 492-3524 Fax (806) 492-2432
Paducah High School (806) 492-2009
Goodwin School (806) 492-3807

I, Troy Parton, Superintendent of Paducah ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95th percentile of wealth represented by Austin ISD.

Sincerely,



Troy Parton, Superintendent

Paducah ISD



Rusk Independent School District

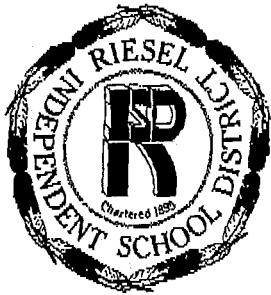
203 East Seventh Street • Rusk, Texas 75785
Phone (903) 683-5592 • Fax (903) 683-2104

Dr. James M. Largent
Superintendent

To: House Education Committee members
From: Dr. James M. Largent
Re: HB 1555

I, Dr. James M. Largent, of Rusk ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it on the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student-centered, formula driven system, and improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95 percentile of wealth represented by Austin ISD.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James M. Largent". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



Riesel Independent School District

Steve Clugston, Superintendent

(254) 896-6411

Stacy Ackley, High School Principal

(254) 896-3171

FAX

(254) 896-2981

Dear Public Education Committee,

My name is Steve Clugston and I am the superintendent of Riesel ISD, which is a small rural district of 550 students divided between two campuses. Riesel ISD is a recognized district, we have 80 employees and we are located just outside Waco, TX. It has come to my attention that HB 1555 will be heard by your committee on Tuesday, April 14th, 2009. I would like to urge you to vote this bill out of committee and allow it to be heard on the house floor. This bill fully restores us to a dynamic, student centered, formula driven system. As well, this bill greatly improves equity in the system which is essential to a fair and balanced funding system.

Riesel ISD is one of seventeen districts in McLennan County along with a number of charter schools. Under the current finance system Riesel is the lowest funded school in the county even though we entered the system in 2006 with a maximum M&O tax rate of \$1.50. Under HB1 districts are funded by a "target revenue" number that has no correlation to student needs other than utilizing weighted average daily attendance (WADA). The state average for a district's "target revenue" is \$5078 and the average "target revenue" for charter schools is over \$5100. Riesel ISD's "target revenue" is \$4435 per WADA. If you rank all districts in the state of Texas from lowest target revenue to highest, Riesel ISD is 59 from the bottom, out of over 1027 districts. Prior to HB1 our M&O tax rate was \$1.50 for several years and since HB1 our M&O tax rate has been \$1.04. As the chief financial officer for our district, it is a struggle to explain to the community members that even though we have the same tax rate and a similar number of students we are not funded equally with other nearby schools.

I hope that you will reflect on this request and realize that Riesel ISD is not alone in our plight, but joined by many districts with a "low target revenue." We feel that it is essential for this year's legislature to take some type of action on the states education finance system and the steps begin by voting HB 1555 to the floor. The idea of trying to make it another two years until the next legislature meets is a scary thought. I know for our district that we cannot make it that long without diminishing the services we provide to our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Clugston', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Steve Clugston
Superintendent
Riesel ISD.



Joaquin Independent School District
11109 US Highway 84 East, Joaquin, Texas 75954
Telephone (936) 269-3128 Fax (936) 269-3615
Web Page www.joaquinisd.net
Phil Worsham, Superintendent
Email pworsham@joaquinisd.net



April 13, 2009

The Honorable Rob Eissler, Chairman
House Public Education Committee

I, Phil Worsham, Superintendent of Joaquin ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Phil Worsham, Superintendent
Joaquin Independent School District

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF RURAL SCHOOLS
BILL GRUSENDORF-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 AUSTIN: FAX: 512-467-0449
LEGISLATIVE EMERGENCY!!!
 April 13, 2009

Please Route to your Superintendent ASAP!!

I sent out 668 letters announcing that HB 1555 by Diane Patrick will be heard in Committee Tuesday afternoon, April 14 (tomorrow). Thus far I have only received 64 responses. I need at least 500 if we are going to be successful in restoring our system of school finance and moving forward. I am sending the sample letter again, below. PLEASE put your response on your school letter head and fax it to me in

AUSTIN
 FAX NUMBER 512-467-0449

Pat will be at that number to receive your faxes and if you have a question call 1-800-235-1279.

Sample letter on your School Letterhead:

I, _____ Superintendent of _____ ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

If, you have already replied, thank you!

Jimmy Parker - TAHOKA

Herb Youngblood - Abernathy

Toby Miller - Southland

All 3 of us will be there in person tomorrow!

**VAN ALSTYNE
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Dr. Alan Seay, Superintendent
Mr. Rick DeMasters, Assistant Superintendent*

P.O. Box 518
Van Alstyne, TX 75495

Phone: (903) 482-8802
Fax: (903) 482-6086

Date: April 13, 2009

To: House of Representatives Public Education Committee

From: Alan Seay, Superintendent



Re: Support for HB 1555

I, Alan Seay, Superintendent of Van Alstyne ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered formula driven system, and it improves equity and reduces the number of school district subject to recapture. In addition, HB 1555 includes mechanisms to allow school districts to lower the local property tax as state revenue increases.

VAN ALSTYNE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PO BOX 518
203 S. COLLEGE
VAN ALSTYNE, TEXAS 75495
903/482-8802
FAX: 903/482-6086
www.vanalstyneisd.org



DATE: 4-13-09

NAME OF PERSON RECEIVING FAX: Pat

FAX NUMBER: 512-467-0449

NAME OF PERSON SENDING FAX: Alan Seay - ALAN SEAY - Supt

OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER PAGE: 2

MESSAGE: Pat - I am planning to attend the
committee meeting tomorrow. I am sending this letter
just in case I can't be there personally.

The information contained in this fax is confidential and is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It is confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this transmitted is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and take the necessary steps to maintain the privacy of this information.



HEMPSTEAD

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

P. O. Box 1007 • 524 Austin Street • Hempstead, TX 77445

Phone: 979.826.5502 Fax: 979.826.5565

Gene A. Glover, Superintendent

Andrea Campos, Secretary

April 14, 2009

To whom it may concern:

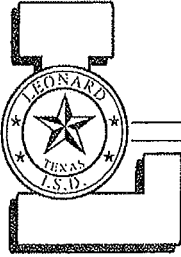
I, Gene Glover, Superintendent of Hempstead ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gene A. Glover".

Gene A. Glover
Superintendent of Schools Hempstead ISD

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS THROUGH "TEAMWORK"

It is the policy of the Hempstead Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, marital or veteran status, handicap or disability in its environment practices as required by Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1975, as amended. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992.



Leonard Independent School District

#1 Tiger Alley
Leonard, Texas 75452

Larry LaFavers, Superintendent

(ph) 903-587-2318
(fax) 903-587-2845

April 14, 2009

I, Larry LaFavers, Superintendent of the Leonard Independent School District support HB1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry LaFavers".

Larry LaFavers


P.O. Box 709 4th & Denver
Texhoma, TX 73949-0709
Office (806) 827-7400
Fax (806) 827-7657
mel.yates@texhomaisd.net

Texhoma I.S.D.

April 14, 2009

I, Mel Yates Superintendent of Texhoma ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,


Mel Yates, Superintendent
Texhoma, Texas ISD

.....

Karnes City Independent School District

FRANCES PENLAND – SUPERINTENDENT

314 North Highway 123

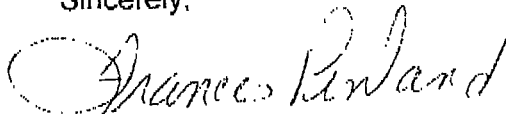
Karnes City, Texas 78118-1900

(830) 780-2321 – Fax (830) 780-3823

April 14, 2009

I, Frances Penland, Superintendent of Karnes City ISD, support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student, centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,

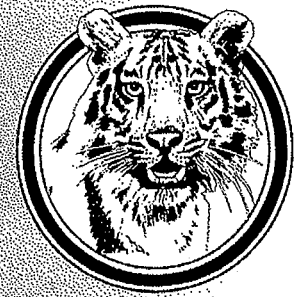


Frances Penland
Superintendent
Karnes City ISD

"AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

Gunter Independent School District

*P.O. Box 109
Gunter, Texas 75058*



Administration Office

*Kevin Worthy,
Superintendent
kworthy@gunterisd.org
213 N. 8th Street
Ph 903/433-4750
Fax 903/433-1053*

April 14, 2009

Re: HB 1555

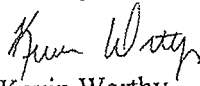
Gunter High School
*Kelly Teems, Principal
kteems@gunterisd.org*

*Dara Arrington,
Curriculum Director
darrington@gunterisd.org
1102 N. 8th Street
Ph 903/433-1542
Fax 903/433-1492*

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Kevin Worthy Superintendent of Gunter ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Gunter Middle School
*Pat Autry, Principal
pautry@gunterisd.org
410 Tiger Lane
Ph 903/433-1545
Fax 903/433-9306*

Thank you,

Kevin Worthy
Gunter ISD, Superintendent

Gunter Primary School
*Cheyrl Cohagan, Principal
ccohagan@gunterisd.org
200 W. Elm
Ph 903/433-5315
Fax 903/433-1184*

****Education****
*The key to unlocking
human potential.*

WORTHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

P. O. DRAWER 247
WORTHAM, TEXAS 76693
PHONE 254-765-3095 FAX 254-765-3473

Texas State Legislature

April 14, 2009

Dear Representative:

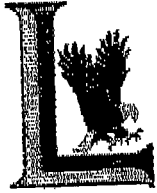
My name is Albert L. Armer and as superintendent of a small rural school, and 20 year veteran educator, I understand the necessity and complexity of fair and equitable funding for all of the children of Texas.

HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that will restore a dynamic, student centered system of educational funding. It creates a formula driven system which will improve equity and decrease recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GLA, EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Please do not allow the courts to dictate this important constitutional issue, funding for education.

Respectfully,


Albert L. Armer



Lexington Independent School District

8731 N HWY 77
Lexington, Texas 78947
(979) 773 - 2254
FAX (979) 773 - 4455
www.lexington.isd.tenet.edu

April 14, 2009

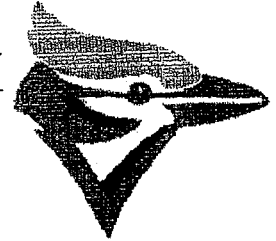
I, Charles Holt, Superintendent of Lexington ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by Austin ISD.

Respectfully,

Charles Holt

Superintendent of Schools

**SNOOK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
HOME OF CHAMPIONS**



April 14, 2009

To: House Education Committee

RE: Public School Finance

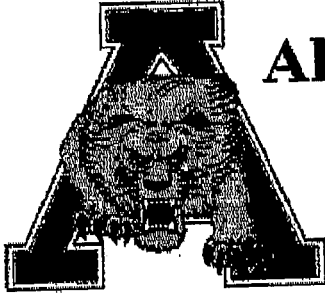
As Superintendent of the Snook Independent School District, I whole-heartedly support and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Larry Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

R. Larry Williams
Superintendent
Snook ISD

R. Larry Williams, Superintendent
WilliamsL@snookisd.com
Office: 979-272-8307
Fax: 979-272-5041
Snook ISD
P.O. Box 87 - 10110 FM 2155
Snook, Texas 77878-0087



Albany Independent School District

Shane Fields
Superintendent
P.O. Box 188
Albany, Texas 79364
(325) 762-2823
(325) 762-3876 (fax)

To: Chair and Members of the Texas House Public Education Committee

The purpose of this letter is to voice my support of HB 1555. The current system has handcuffed my district for the past two years. We are currently operating on Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) less each year of this past biennium. That is over Ten Percent (10%) of my entire budget. Those dollars are sorely missed in the classroom especially in the area of technology.

Therefore, I Shane Fields Superintendent of Albany ISD supports HB 1555 and urges the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95percentile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Lastly, I appreciate the time you take to serve this great State we call Texas and the children that I have a privilege of working with.

Sincerely,

Shane Fields

Shane Fields
Albany ISD Superintendent



Tenaha Independent School District
P.O. Box 318 #1 Tiger Drive
Tenaha, Texas 75974
PH: 936-248-5000 FAX: 936-248-3902

April 13, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Don Fallin, Superintendent of Tenaha ISD support HB1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student-centered, formula driven system. It improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth as represented by the Austin ISD.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Fallin', written in a cursive style.

Don Fallin
Superintendent of Schools
Tenaha ISD



LEAKEY ISD

Soaring to Success



Mr. Fred McNeil
Superintendent

April 13, 2009

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Please be advised that I, Fred R. McNeil, Superintendent of Leakey Independent School District wholeheartedly support HB 1555 and furthermore urge the committee to vote it to the floor! HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Your support of HB 1555 would be greatly appreciated by the folks in Real County and Leakey Texas.

Sincerely,

Fred R. McNeil
Superintendent
Leakey ISD

This school district and its Career and Technology Education Program does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, age or national origin in its educational programs, activities, or employment as required by Title IX, Section 504 and Title VI.
Este distrito escolar y su Programa Educativo de Carrera y Tecnologia no discriminan en base a sexo, discapacidad, raza, color, edad u origen nacional en sus programas educativos, actividades, o empleo como lo requiere el Titulo IX, Seccion 504, y Titulo VI.

P.O. Box 1129
429 North Highway 83
Leakey, TX 78873
Phone: 830.232.5595
Fax: 830.232.5535
E-mail: fmcniel@leakeyisd.net



WESTHOFF WESTHOFF

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Post Office Box 38 • Westhoff, Texas 77994 • (830) 236-5519 • Fax (830) 236-5583

April 14, 2009

Dear Committee Members

I Donnie Garrison, Superintendent of Westhoff ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Respectfully,
Donnie Garrison

Where Kids Come First!

PRESIDIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Presidio Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, national origin, disability or age in its programs and activities.

April 14, 2009

Dennis McEntire
Superintendent

Carlos E. Nieto, MPH
Board President

Carmen Elguezabal
Vice President

Abelardo Franco
Secretary

Ruben Armendariz, Jr.
Member

Tony Villarreal, Jr.
Member

Aureliano Ramirez
Member

Alfred Muniz
Member

I, Dennis McEntire Superintendent of Presidio ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Dennis McEntire
District Superintendent

P.O. Box 1401
Presidio, Texas 79845

100 Market Street
Presidio, Texas 79845

(432) 229-3275

Fax (432) 229-4228

River Road ISD
Central Administration Office
9500 US 287 North
Amarillo, TX 79108
(806)381-7800 FAX (806)381-1357

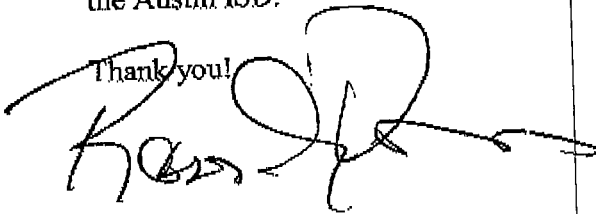
Randy Owen, Superintendent

Gaye Gage, Assistant Superintendent

April 14, 2009

I, Randy Owen, Superintendent of River Road ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Thank you!




Channing Public Schools

Channing, Texas

P. O. Drawer A

806-235-3432

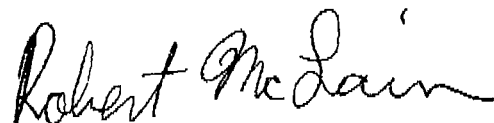
Channing, Texas 79018

806-235-2609 Fax

To Whom It May Concern:

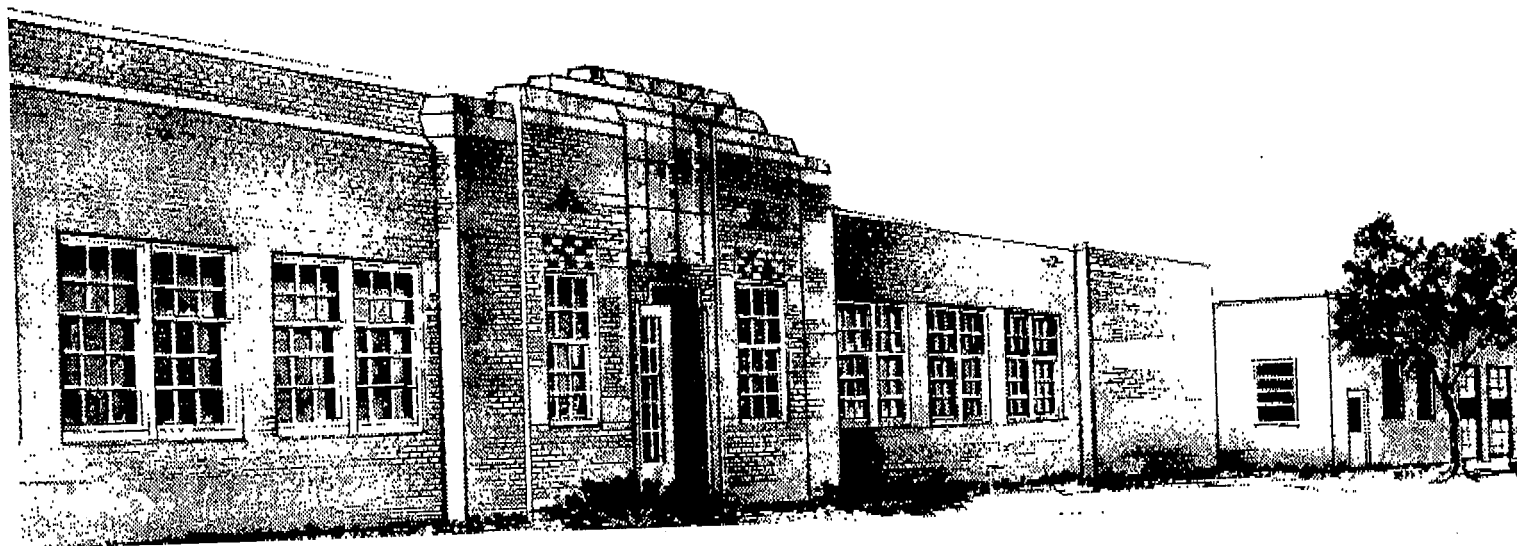
I, Robert McLain Superintendent of Channing Independent School District support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95th percentile of wealth represented by the Austin Independent School District.

Sincerely,



Robert McLain

Superintendent



MOULTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
P. O. DRAWER C * 500 NORTH PECAN STREET
MOULTON, TEXAS 77975

Dr. George Hext
High School Principal
(361) 596-4691

Dr. Michael Novotny
Superintendent
(361) 596-4609
(361) 596-7578 Fax

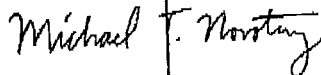
Nathan Brown
Elementary Principal
(361) 596-4605

April 14, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of the allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95%tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,



Michael Novotny
Superintendent

Yorktown Independent School District



Deborah E. Kneese
Superintendent
P. O. Box 487
331 W. Main
PHONE (361)564-2252, ext. 101
FAX (361)564-2254
E-Mail: dkneese@yisd.org

April 14, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Deborah E. Kneese, Superintendent of Yorktown ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity for schools and decreases recapture by setting all of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95th percentile of wealth represented by Austin Independent School District.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah E. Kneese". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Deborah E. Kneese
Superintendent

Bill Grusendorf

From: "James M. Palmer" <jpalmer@burtonisd.net>
To: <asmith@flatonia.txed.net>; <bill.kelly@mcdadeisd.net>; "Donnie Reagan"
<Donnie.reagan@dimebox.txed.net>; <klgroholski@calvertisd.com>;
<kdutton@buckholtsisd.net>; <lrobinson@milanoisd.net>; <mainsworth@richardsisd.net>;
<mkuhrt@giddings.txed.net>; <mcargill@bryanisd.org>; <mmayfield@bartlett.txed.net>;
<ron.eilers@fayetteville.txed.net>; <ron_goehring@hotmail.com>; <gilbertr@northzulchisd.net>
Cc: <lois.kolkhorst@house.state.tx.us>; <tars@centex.net>
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2009 12:00 PM
Attach: Letter to support HB 1555.docx
Subject: HB 1555 on school finance

Greetings to you all,

Jim Palmer, Burton ISD Superintendent here. I am a representative of Texas Association of Rural Schools. Our membership has been very effective in representing the interests of Rural Schools in the areas of school finance, Chapter 41, technology and other funding issues.

There is a bill being considered in Austin that would restore school finance to a formula driven system. The bill is HB 1555, but it is stuck in committee. It improves equity and decreases recapture. It is based on setting all three allotments (BA, GYA and EWL) at the 95 percentile of wealth represented by Austin ISD. This would eliminate our current system based on Targets. As you well know, that system has no adjustment for the rising costs of fuel, electricity and other fixed costs. HB 1555 would restore our previous system of formulas, with an upward adjustment in the percentile we had previously.

I have attached a sample letter asking the Texas Association of Rural Schools to support HB 1555. I encourage you to get a sheet of letterhead and delete my name and school at the start and in the closing, add your name and school and fax it to 512-467-0449. That is the Texas Association of Rural Schools office. They will take all the letters to Austin. IF you have any questions you may call me at 979-289-3131 or call the Texas Association of Rural Schools Executive Director, Bill Grusendorf at 512-467-0449.

Jim Palmer
Burton ISD Superintendent
Texas Association of Rural Schools, Regional Director

ORANGE GROVE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Trustees

President Steve Seidel
Vice-President Roel Alaniz
Secretary Ruben Chapa

Superintendent - Earl Luce

P.O. Box 534

Orange Grove, Texas 78372

(361) 384-2495 (361) 384-2148 (Fax)

Member

Member

Member

Member

Dorian David

Kathy Rusk

Martin Gwosdz

Will Klatt

I, Earl Luce, Superintendent of Orange Grove ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Earl Luce

Harmony Independent School District

Jed Whitaker, Superintendent


*9788 State Highway 154 West
Big Sandy, TX 75755
www.harmonyeagles.com*

*Phone (903) 725-5492
FAX (903) 725-6737
jedwhitaker@yahoo.com*

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Jed Whitaker, Superintendent of Harmony ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, EWL) at the 95th percentile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Sincerely,



Jed Whitaker
Superintendent, Harmony ISD

WALCOTT I.S.D.
4275 Hwy 214
Hereford, TX 79045
806-289-5222

I, BILL S. MCLAUGHLIN, SUPERINTENDENT OF WALCOTT I.S.D. SUPPORT HB 1555 AND URGE THE COMMITTEE TO VOTE IT TO THE FLOOR. HB 1555 IS THE ONLY SCHOOL FINANCE BILL THAT FULLY RESTORES OUR DYNAMIC, STUDENT CENTERED, FORMULA DRIVEN SYSTEM, AND IT IMPROVES EQUITY AND DECREASES RECAPTURE BY SETTING ALL THREE ALLOTMENTS (BA, GYA, AND EWL) AT THE 95% TILE OF WEALTH REPRESENTED BY THE AUSTIN I.S.D..

RESPECTFULLY,

Bill S. McLaughlin
BILL S. MCLAUGHLIN,
SUPERINTENDENT



Jacksboro Independent School District

Dennis Bennett
Superintendent

Ph: (940) 567-7203
Fax: (940) 567-2214
812 W. Belknap
Jacksboro, TX 76458

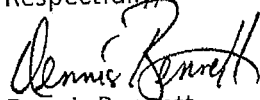
April 14, 2009

Texas Association of Rural Schools
Bill Grusendorf – Executive Director
Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Grusendorf,

I, Dennis Bennett, Superintendent of Jacksboro ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95% tile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

Respectfully,



Dennis Bennett



DOUGLASS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jay Tullos
Superintendent

Eric Samford
Principal

20712 S. FM 225
P.O. Box 38
Douglass, Tx
75943

Phone:
(936) 569-9804

Supt. Fax:
(936) 569-9446

High School Fax:
(936) 559-8688

APRIL 14, 2007

I, Jay Tullos Superintendent of Douglass ISD support HB 1555 and urge the committee to vote it to the floor. HB 1555 is the only school finance bill that fully restores our dynamic, student centered, formula driven system, and it improves equity, and decreases recapture by setting all three of our allotments (BA, GYA, and EWL) at the 95th percentile of wealth represented by the Austin ISD.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jay Tullos".