Advocacy

IS THIS PART OF MY JOB?
Education Reform

It is the one thing both parties agree on.
National Reports on Higher Ed

4. Remarks of US Secretary Arne Duncan at the TIME Higher Education Summit
5. Huffington Post, “University of Texas, Rick Perry Clash over Future of Public Higher Education”
National Reports on Teacher Ed

1. NCATE’s Blue Ribbon Panel Report
2. Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) Standards and Processes
3. Teacher Performance Assessment Consortium (TPAC and edTPA)
5. State Boards of Education
6. CCSSO Report, “Our Responsibility, Our Promise”
7. AFT Report, “Raising the Bar”
8. NCTQ review
9. NEA
10. State efforts...
Legislation

- National
- State
Zip Code: 75965

Texas U.S. Senators

U.S. Senators represent the entire state. Texas' current U.S. Senators are Senator John Cornyn and Senator Ted Cruz. See their websites for current contact information.

Texas U.S. Representative

Congressional District 1--Congressman Louie Gohmert
Texas Congressional Member Websites

Texas State Senator

Senate District 3--Senator Robert Nichols
Capitol Office: EXT E1.706
Capitol Phone: (512) 463-0103
Capitol Address: P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711
District Address: 329 Neches Street
Jacksonville TX 75766
Phone: (903) 589-3003
State District Offices

Texas State Representative

House District 11--Representative Travis Clardy
Capitol Office: EXT E2.316
Capitol Phone: (512) 463-0592
Capitol Address: P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
District Address: 202 E. Pilar St., Rm. 310
Austin TX 78701
Phone: (956) 560-3982

Texas State Board of Education Member

SBOE District 9--Mr. Thomas Ratliff
State Board of Education Member Websites
H.R. 1334: To establish a grant program to ensure that students in high-need schools have equal access to a quality education delivered...

...by an effective, diverse workforce.


Sponsor: Rep. Judy Chu [D-CA27]

Status: Referred to Committee

The bill's title was written by the bill's sponsor. H.R. stands for House of Representatives bill.

STATUS
This bill was assigned to a congressional committee on March 21, 2013, which will consider it before possibly sending it on to the House or Senate as a whole.

PROGRESS
- Introduced: Mar 21, 2013
- Referred to Committee: Mar 21, 2013
- Reported by Committee: ...
- Passed House: ...
- Passed Senate: ...
- Signed by President: ...

PROGNOSIS
1% chance of getting past committee.
0% chance of being enacted.

SUMMARY
No summaries available.

TEXT
Text not yet available.

PRIMARY SOURCE
View on THOMAS (The Library of Congress)
GovTrack gets most information from THOMAS, which is updated generally one day after events occur. Activity since the last update may not be reflected here.

CITATION
Click a format for a citation suggestion:
APA | MLA | Wikipedia Template
ESEA Reauthorization: A Blueprint for Reform

The Obama administration released its blueprint for revising the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) on March 13, 2010.

Read the blueprint or download it PDF (1.9M). Read blog posts related to ESEA reauthorization. Watch a video created by a teacher.

Learn how the blueprint empowers educators and how it differs from No Child Left Behind. Download PowerPoint (101K). Find out what the blueprint proposes for:

- accountability PDF (1.03M)
- a complete education PDF (2.10M)
- college- and career-ready standards and assessments PDF (2.24M)
- diverse learners PDF (1.99M)
- early learning PDF (1.17M)
- families and communities PDF (912K)
- public school choice PDF (2.04M)
- rewarding excellence and promoting innovation PDF (2.65M)
- rural schools PDF (937K)
- science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education PDF (833K)
- teachers PDF (851K)
- turning around low-performing schools PDF (1.77MB)

Read documents outlining research that supports proposals in the blueprint:

- College- and Career-Ready Students PDF (749K)
- Great Teachers and Great Leaders PDF (920K)
- Meeting the Needs of English Learners and Other Diverse Learners PDF (562K)

MORE RESOURCES

ESEA blog posts
How you can help build the movement to end testing mania

February 12, 2013

Monty Nell of FairTest on how we can win the battle for better evaluations of students, teachers and schools.

Learn More to Get Involved

E-mail address

ZIP code

SIGN UP

Follow Us:

February 7, 2013

Education secretary pushes for ESEA reauthorization

Education Secretary Arne Duncan appeared before a Senate committee hearing to advocate for the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

February 1, 2013

Educators, parents bring new urgency to fight against flawed standardized tests

In Seattle, educators and parents are boycotting an onerous test. It’s just one effort in a rising tide of discontent with the testing regime.
TX HB5 | 2013-2014 | 83rd Legislature

Texas House Bill 5
TX Legislature Page for HB5® - PermaLink

Summary
Relating to public school accountability, including assessment, and curriculum requirements.

Title
Relating to public school accountability, including assessment, and curriculum requirements.

Sponsors

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<td>Rep Huberty</td>
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House Committee on Higher Education (C290)
Legislature: 83(R) - 2013
Appointment Date: 1/8/2013

Position  

Member  
Rep. Dan Branch  
Rep. Diane Patrick  
Rep. Roberto R. Alonzo  
Rep. Travis Clardy  
Rep. Drew Darby  
Rep. Donna Howard  
Rep. Armando Martinez  
Rep. Jim Murphy  
Rep. John Raney  

Clerk: Dustin Meador  
Phone: (512) 463-0782  
Room: EXT E2.106
Texas Legislature
Bills By Committee
Higher Education
83rd Legislature Regular Session
Report Date: 5/28/2013

Number of Bills: 133

Report Sections: Bills In Committee | Bills Out of Committee

Bills In Committee (130):

HB 22
Author: Martinez Fischer
Last Action: 03/06/2013 H Left pending in committee
Caption: Relating to the establishment of a public service requirement for undergraduate students, known as Service to Texas, at public institutions of higher education.

HB 25
Author: Branch
Last Action: 03/27/2013 H Left pending in committee
Caption: Relating to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board’s student success-based funding recommendations for certain public institutions of higher education.

HB 28
Author: Martinez Fischer
Last Action: 02/04/2013 H Referred to Higher Education
Caption: Relating to authorization by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for certain public junior colleges to offer baccalaureate degree programs.

HB 30
Author: Branch
Last Action: 02/27/2013 H Left pending in committee
Caption: Relating to measures to facilitate the transfer of students within the public higher education system and the timely graduation of students from public institutions of higher education.

HB 31
Author: Branch | Vo
Last Action: 03/13/2013 H Left pending in committee
Caption: Relating to certain requirements applicable to meetings of the governing board of a state university or state university system.

HB 66
Author: Lucio III | Guillen | Martinez, "Mando" | Miles | Alvarado
Last Action: 03/06/2013 H Left pending in committee
Caption: Relating to the establishment of a pilot program under which high school students may accrue prepaid tuition units at public institutions of higher education by completing certain community service activities.

HB 67
Author: Lucio III | Guillen | Martinez, "Mando"
Last Action: 02/04/2013 H Referred to Higher Education
Caption: Relating to the establishment by The University of Texas System of a law school in the Rio Grande Valley.

HB 81
Author: Pickett | Moody | Guillen
Bill: HB 22

Legislative Session: 83(R)


Last Action: 03/06/2013 H Left pending in committee

Caption Version: Introduced
Caption Text: Relating to the establishment of a public service requirement for undergraduate students, known as Service to Texas, at public institutions of higher education.

Author: Martinez Fischer

Subjects: Charitable & Nonprofit Organizations (10055)
Education—Higher—Admission & Attendance (10257)
Education—Higher—Institutions & Programs (10223)
VOLUNTEERS (51114)

House Committee: Higher Education

Status: In committee

Actions: (descending date order)

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<td>03/06/2013</td>
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<td>03/06/2013</td>
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<td>H Considered in public hearing</td>
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**Bill Lists**
Create a list of bills that you would like to watch. Each time you run the list, the bill information is updated.

**Alerts**
Enter bills on the alert list, be notified of committee and calendar postings, be notified when bills are assigned subjects of interest, be notified when the house or senate adjourn.

**Saved Searches**
Access your saved bill, text, and amendment searches.

**Mobile Device Support**
Learn how to access meeting notices, member information, committee information, and bill status on mobile devices.

**RSS Feeds**
Learn how to view legislative-related feeds through your favorite news aggregator.
February

02/12/2013
Rep. Travis Clardy Files "Duty to Protect" Legislation
by: Rep. Clardy, Travis

January

01/31/2013
Rep. Travis Clardy Appointed to Key Committees
by: Rep. Clardy, Travis

Archived Member Press Releases...
Writing to Your Legislator
www.nea.org/home/19657.htm

- **Keep it brief:** Keep letters to one page. Only discuss one bill or issue.

- **Identify yourself:** Begin with an introduction of yourself or the organization on whose behalf you are writing. Use a simple statement, such as "I am a third-grade teacher at _______ elementary school" or "On behalf of the members of the _________."

- **Get to the point:** Follow your introduction with a brief statement of your issue or concern, such as "We urge your support for H.R. ______, which will ________." If you are writing in reference to a specific bill, include the bill number. Follow your opening paragraph with a concise explanation of why you support or oppose the particular bill or issue. A few strong, well-thought-out arguments are much more effective than a laundry list of reasons to support or oppose a bill. Whenever possible, use bullet points to outline your arguments.

- **Relate it to home:** Help the legislator understand why your position is important to his or her constituents. Include specific facts about how a bill will impact educators, students or schools in the legislator's district. If possible, include a local anecdote illustrating the problem you are seeking to address. Avoid the use of form letters or generic postcards — use your own knowledge and experience to inform the legislator.

- **Allow for follow-up:** Include specific contact information and offer to act as a resource should the legislator or staff have questions or need additional information. Where appropriate, state in the letter that you will follow up with a telephone call.

- **Address your letter correctly.**

  **United States Senators**
  The Honorable (full name)
  United States Senate
  Washington, DC 20510
  Dear Senator (last name)

  **For Members of the U.S. House of Representatives**
  The Honorable (full name)
  U.S. House of Representatives
  Washington, DC 20515
  Dear Representative (last name)
Using E-mail
www.nea.org/home/19657.htm

• E-mail can be an easy and effective tool for communicating with legislators. The tips outlined above for writing letters to legislators also apply to e-mails: keep them brief and to the point, with facts and anecdotes relevant to the legislator's district.

• **Avoid informal language**: E-mail to a legislator should be treated as seriously as a written letter. Resist the temptation to use the informal language and symbols often associated with e-mail communications. Never use impolite language or make "demands."

• **Include your full address and zip code**: Make sure the text of your e-mail includes your full name and street address, including zip code. Many legislative offices screen e-mails for address information identifying the sender as a constituent. E-mails that appear to come from outside the district are unlikely to be read and may be blocked by filtering programs.
Meeting with your Legislator from AACTE

Do...

- Say thank you.
- Do your homework: know what committees the legislator sits on, etc.
- Respect their time: be on time, prepared and flexible.
- Stay on message: be clear and concise.
- Secure support for your issue.
- Include a local story: provide facts, figures and anecdotes.
- Build a relationship with staff: become a resource.
- Leave information behind.
- Follow up: send a thank you letter immediately after the meeting.
Don’t...

- Be late.
- Show disappointment if your meeting turns out to be with a staff person instead of your legislator.
- Assume staffers know all about education and universities.
- Get off message: discussing weather and people loses valuable meeting time.
- Use threats.
- Forget to leave behind information.
- Forget to follow up or write a thank you letter.
Tips from NASPE

- **Be Direct**: State the purpose of writing your legislator in the first paragraph of the letter.

- **Be Accurate**: If your letter concerns a specific piece of legislation, identify it as such, e.g., House bill: H.R. (number), Senate bill: S. (number). The Library of Congress provides a website that will assist you in researching a House or Senate bill number. Please visit the Library of Congress at http://thomas.loc.gov/.

- **Be Concise**: Keep the letter to one page, if possible.
About House Witness Registration

House Witness Registration is the quick and simple new way to register for an upcoming House Committee hearing. House Administration has made the witness registration paperless. Now, you can complete the new 5-step registration process when you arrive at the Texas Capitol by using one of the touch screen kiosk stations located in the Capitol Extension. You can choose to save your profile information to use for future hearings.

Registration Station Locations
Registration stations are located in the Texas Capitol Extension on levels 1 and 2.

Mobile Device Access
You can also access House Witness Registration on your iPad through the capitol’s public wireless network.
1. When within network range, tap Settings on your iPad.
2. Next, tap the Wi-Fi menu. Public-Capitol should display in the Choose a Network list.
3. Tap Public-Capitol to join the network.
4. Once connected to the Wi-Fi Public-Capitol, open a web browser on your iPad and click this link: http://hwrspublic/about.aspx

NOTE: Access to House Witness Registration through a mobile device is optimized for iPad Running the most recent version of iOS. Earlier iOS versions or other mobile device platforms are not supported.

For assistance with the registration process, please contact the committee clerk of the committee for which you wish to testify.

Registration Recommendations
IMPORTANT: You can save time when you arrive at the Texas Capitol to register by creating your public profile in advance and be prepared by knowing:
• The correct bill number
• In which committee hearing the bill is being heard
• The time and location of the hearing (View upcoming meetings)
Committee Schedules

Schedule for All House Committees.

Agriculture & Livestock
April 3, 2013 @ 8:00 A.M. in room E1.010 : NOTICE

Corrections
April 3, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room E2.010 : NOTICE

Economic & Small Business Development
April 3, 2013 @ 8:00 A.M. in room E2.028 : NOTICE

Energy Resources
April 3, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room JHR 120 : NOTICE

Federalism & Fiscal Responsibility, Select
April 3, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room E2.036 : NOTICE

Higher Education
April 3, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room E1.014 : NOTICE

Pensions
April 3, 2013 @ Upon final adjourn./recess in room House Chamber, Desk # 109 : NOTICE

Public Health
April 3, 2013 @ 8:00 A.M. in room E2.012 : NOTICE

Homeland Security & Public Safety
April 3, 2013 @ 8:00 A.M. in room E2.030 : NOTICE

Culture, Recreation & Tourism
April 3, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room E2.026 : NOTICE

Special Purpose Districts
April 3, 2013 @ 8:00 A.M. in room E2.014 : NOTICE

State Affairs
April 3, 2013 @ 1:30 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room JHR 140 : NOTICE

Urban Affairs
April 3, 2013 @ 10:30 A.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room E2.016 : NOTICE

Defense & Veterans' Affairs
April 4, 2013 @ 8:00 A.M. in room E2.012 : NOTICE

Technology
April 8, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room E2.010 : NOTICE

Transportation
April 3, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. in room E2.010 : NOTICE

Vocational & business Affairs
April 3, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room E2.010 : NOTICE

Water Resources
April 3, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room E2.010 : NOTICE

Wine Industry
April 3, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room E2.010 : NOTICE

Youth Affairs
April 3, 2013 @ 2:00 P.M. or upon final adjourn./recess in room E2.010 : NOTICE
Testifying to Texas Legislature
http://obitur-dictum.blogspot.com/2012/08/testifying-to-texas-legislature.html

- Make sure you have the right hearing room and time. Arrive early. Troopers will direct you, there are maps available, and there are room guides posted at strategic places.
- Make sure you have the right bill number.
- When you get there fill in the one-page form stacked at the end of the room, then hand it to one of the clerks.
- Outline a 3-minute speech, and answers to questions they might ask.
- Try to show how it will cost nothing or even save money. They are averse to any new or additional spending.
- Everyone gets to speak, even if the hearing goes on into the wee hours.
- Try to file early. Witnesses are mostly taken in order of filing, unless they are a member or state official.
Testifying cont.

- Make sure you know the names of your reps and of the committee members, so you can address them by name.
- Open your testimony with the ritual "Mr./Madame chairman, members of the committee, thank you for hearing me today. My name is [...]. I am [any credentials, title or affiliation]. I am here to speak for/against [or comment on] [the bill]."
- Open with a summary of your position, make your arguments in a logical order, then close with a summary.
- Have lesser arguments ready in case they let you speak more than 3 minutes, which they usually do.
- This is a very civil environment. Everyone is very polite and friendly. Be humble but authoritative, and try to provide information they might not have learned from others. The members are willing to be educated, even if some are a little obtuse at times.
If you have a written statement, and especially if you are proposing amendments, have one copy for each member of the committee and one for the clerk. Hand them to the clerk as you step up to speak. You might also bring extra copies for other potential allies you may meet there, or for adversaries you might be able to turn to your position, or at least plant doubts about their own positions.

Might sit near the front, where the members can get used to seeing you. However, part of the front row is sometimes reserved for officials there to testify. Don't fidget in a distracting way.

When you get there you may find there are other related bills on which you may want to comment. That is okay but don't overdo it.

Try to make points that have not been made by others. This is mainly to inform, not to overwhelm. Repetition is best left to constituent letters.
An Authentic Example

- Dr. Mitzi Perritt, Human Sciences
Conclusion

It is part of our job!

Questions?