

DATE

Dear Senator XXX,

I am writing you as a constituent from your district to ask you to support Local Public Schools in Texas. As a parent of X children in the Spring Branch ISD, I am very concerned about public education funding being diverted to Private or Church based schools through the use of Vouchers, all under the guise of "School Choice".

I think you will find most people in your district take pride in, and support, local neighborhood schools. Many districts in Texas already allow their students to "choose" which school they will attend, most notably HISD, which is the largest District in the State. Indeed, even SBISD has 2 in district charter schools, as well as schools that offer bilingual education that students may choose to enroll in.

Instead of taking funding from our local schools to divert to private academies, which, by the way, will still be FAR too overpriced for any low income child to ever attend, much less find transportation to, The Senate of Texas needs to restore funding that was cut in past Sessions that directly affected my children and those of my neighbors. Class sizes have increased, budgets are razor thin and the demands on the schools for accountability and advanced curriculum have grown. Setting up public schools to fail, then claiming School Choice, Vouchers, or more Charter Schools are the answer is disingenuous at best.

As a taxpayer and parent, I demand that you take care of the schools that serve 94% of Texas Schoolchildren, that is, neighborhood public schools. **Please withdraw your support for SB 276 and SB 642 and get back to representing the best interests of MOST of your constituents, not just the tiny percentage who can afford private schools. We deserve this from you and Lt. Governor Patrick.**

Respectfully,

NAME

ADDRESS

Houston, TX 77079