



## **THSCA LEGISLATIVE ALERT**

S.B. 1943 and H.B. 2588 are Companion Bills relating to allowing participation of private school in U.I.L. Sponsored Activities.

S.B. 1943, by Dan Patrick, has been passed by the Senate and sent to the House (the only senators voting against the bill were Senator Van de Putte – San Antonio, Senator West – Dallas, and Senator Selinger – Amarillo). It will more than likely be assigned to the House Public Education Committee for Public Testimony.

H.B. 2588, by Cortez, has been left pending in the Public Education Committee. This Committee has met twice since the bill was left pending and we do not expect action on it. We believe they will wait and hear the engrossed S.B. 1943 when it is assigned. This should happen soon, because time is running out in this session.

It is imperative that we strongly oppose opening the U.I.L. membership to private schools. If passed the language in this bill would destroy a level of playing field for all U.I.L. member schools. This would affect athletics, academics, music and fine arts in all conferences.

We are asking each of you to use the following bullet points and contact your representative (by phone or their formal web-page email form) and express your opposition to S.B. 1943 and H.B. 2588. It is also important for you to contact the representatives making up the public education committee and the calendars committee in your area. **THE QUICKER THAT YOU CAN RESPOND TO THIS THE BETTER!**

Bullet points in opposition to Private School Membership in all U.I.L. Activities:

- Private must recruit to exist. (Impossible to comply to recruiting rules because recruiting is critical to their very existence.)
- Private schools do not have to admit all children. (Public schools are required to take all comers; private schools are able to create a select environment)
- Private schools do not comply with parent residence boundaries as do most all public schools. (How do you solve the issue of boundaries with private schools?)

- Academic Standards are not mandated by statute while public schools are heavily regulated.
- Private schools control the number of students who attend and would control their U.I.L. Classification while a public school cannot. (The smaller the classification the greater the impact of private schools.)
- Private schools have an unfair competitive advantage in that they have a unique situation in the fact that they can establish a select environment.

**House Committee on Public Education:**

Rep. Rob Eissler (The Woodlands)	512/463-0797
Bill Zedler (Arlington)	512/463-0374
Dan Branch (Highland Park)	512/463-0367
Harold Dutton (Houston)	512/463-0510
Scott Hochberg (Houston)	512/463-0492
Anna Mowery (Fort Worth)	512/463-0608
Dora Olivo (Missouri City)	512/463-0494
Diane Patrick (Arlington)	512/463-0624
Dianne White Delisi (Temple)	512/463-0360

**House Committee on Calendars:**

Rep. Beverly Wooley (Houston)	512/463-0696
Norma Chavez (El Paso)	512/463-0622
Dan Branch (Highland Park)	512/463-0367
Myra Crownover (Lake Dallas)	512/463-0582
Dawna Dukes (Austin)	512/463-0506
Gary Elkins (Houston)	512/463-0722
Ryan Guillen (Laredo)	512/463-0416
Mike Hamilton (Mauriceville)	512/463-0412
Larry Taylor (League City)	512/463-0729
Sylvester Turner (Houston)	512/463-0554
Corbin Van Arsdale (Houston)	512/463-0661

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