



TSTA NEWS

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TSTA: School finance reform must include additional state funding

TSTA President Noel Candelaria released the following statement on the House's proposed budget to conditionally increase public education funding:

"The Texas State Teachers Association is still evaluating the details of the House budget, but real school finance reform must include a significant infusion of additional state funding for public education. That is the only way to improve educational opportunities for all of Texas' 5.4 million school children, provide more equity in funding between property rich and poor school districts and provide real property tax relief.

"The comptroller has made it clear that the money is there to do the right thing for students, educators and taxpayers. Lawmakers have an extra \$9 billion in general revenue and a record \$15 billion in the Rainy Day Fund. We are disappointed that the House budget proposal would cut state funding for health care and human services, programs of critical importance to most school children and their families, and that issue also must be addressed."