



# TSTA NEWS

TEXAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 19, 2014

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## TSTA: Wendy Davis the clear winner for public education

This evening's gubernatorial debate reaffirmed what public education advocates have known for a long time: Wendy Davis is the only candidate for the state's top office who will advocate strongly for public schools, educators and students.

"Wendy Davis is the clear winner for public education," said TSTA President Noel Candelaria. "Davis made it clear that, as governor, she will make sure testing is cut, and not school funding, so educators and students have the time and resources they need to succeed."

"The state comptroller's office has made it clear that because of Texas' strong economy, the Legislature will have billions of dollars in additional revenue next session – more than enough money for lawmakers to start working to correct the deficiencies in the inadequate and unconstitutional school funding system that Greg Abbott is defending," Candelaria added. "Now is the time to act, but Greg Abbott's courtroom appeals will force our school children to suffer through a year or more of additional delays."

In testimony before the House Ways and Means Committee earlier this week, John Heleman, the comptroller's revenue estimator, said sales tax revenue grew by 5.5 percent last year and was expected to continue growing at a similar rate next year. Additionally, he said, the Rainy Day Fund balance has reached \$8.4 billion and will continue to grow to as much as \$15 billion, thanks to increased oil production.