



TSTA NEWS

TEXAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION 8716 N. Mopac Expressway, Austin, TX 78759 • 877-ASK-TSTA • www.tsta.org • Fax 512-486-7049

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 06, 2018

Contact: Clay Robison
512.476.5355, ext. 1313
cell: 512.535.8994

TSTA: School safety recommendations require more state funding

Noel Candelaria, president of the Texas State Teachers Association, released the following statement on the report by the Senate Select Committee on Violence in Schools and School Security:

“The Texas State Teachers Association agrees with proposed steps to strengthen school security infrastructure and procedures and to improve mental health services for students. But who is going to pay for them? School districts need more state funding to effectively carry out these recommendations, and so far the state refuses to even pay its fair share of basic educational services. Texas has a serious shortage of school counselors because budget-strapped school districts aren’t able to hire enough to meet the needs of their students.

“We are disappointed that Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick remains opposed to a common-sense “red flag” law that would make it easier to remove guns from the hands of people who clearly pose a danger to themselves and others. We believe this law can be enacted in such a way to help protect students, school employees and other Texans while also preserving the Second Amendment rights of firearm owners.

“TSTA supports more state funding so school districts can hire more professionally trained police officers, but we remain strongly opposed to arming teachers.”