

Melody A. Johnson, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools
100 N. University Dr., Fort Worth, Texas 76107



Fort Worth
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Madam Chair and Members,

I would support legislation that:

1. Amends the class size mandate to a campus average of 22:1 with a hard cap of 25 in grades K-4, as it will save my district \$6,855,000.00 and allow my district to save jobs;
2. Repeals Texas Education Code 21.402(d), requiring districts to pay teachers no less than the previous year as this change will give us flexibility and options in reducing our budgets and will allow my district to save jobs;
3. Amends Tex. Utilities Code 36.351 and adds school districts, which will save my district \$1,600,000.00 per year in utility costs;
4. Amends Texas Utilities Code 58.258, 58.268, 59.077, 59.083, which will allow my district to save \$50,000 on broadband services; and,
5. Creates a review of Ch.21 of the Texas Education Code and associated costs of hearings and improves the efficiency of the non-renewal process.

I support the legislature's efforts to maintain funding for:

1. PreK - \$4,300,000.00 (FWISD)
2. LEP SSI - \$1,282,718.00 (FWISD)
3. DATE - \$5,596,136.00 (FWISD)
4. Math Initiative Grant (Algebra Readiness) - \$2,115,000.00 (FWISD)

Eliminating funding of any of these will force my district to absorb the cost of these critical initiatives in addition to the proposed budget cuts to the district allotment or to eliminate these vital programs and services.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melody A. Johnson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Melody A. Johnson, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools