



**State Senator
Kirk Watson
District 14**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The following is a statement from Sen. Watson regarding the Fifth Circuit ruling on CPS:

The ruling by the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit affirmed that the agency tasked with caring for children in the state's custody has been found to violate their constitutional right to be free from unreasonable risk of harm. This is unacceptable and ought to compel the necessary work toward fixing a system that puts our children at risk. This is not the time to read this opinion looking for what legal issues the state won or lost. We're all losing because the children in Texas' care are losing. While the Department has been making some progress on addressing the concerns, we are far from where we should be if any children are not free from an unreasonable risk of harm. Now that the appellate court has ruled, we have a clear path to doing right by children who rely on us and Texas needs to do everything in its power to promote their safety and well-being.

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