



**DONNA CAMPBELL, M.D.**  
TEXAS STATE SENATOR  
DISTRICT 25

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**SEN. CAMPBELL SUPPORTS GIVING TEXAS VOTERS  
OPPORTUNITY TO AUTHORIZE ONE-TIME INFUSION FROM  
ECONOMIC STABILIZATION FUND TO PAY DOWN DEBT,  
INVEST IN CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

AUSTIN-- Senator Campbell joined GOP Senators in endorsing a plan to protect more than \$6 billion of unspent reserves in the rainy day fund and empower Texas voters to consider a one-time infusion of \$5.7 billion from the Economic Stabilization Fund into critical state water, roads and education priorities to accommodate growth.

"Keeping Texas strong requires keeping our infrastructure strong to support economic growth and a thriving jobs market. This is a fiscally responsible plan that complies with the Texas Budget Compact and will keep our state on a path to prosperity," Senator Campbell said. "Most importantly, it's the taxpayers' money and this plan allows them to have the final say."

SJR 1 by Senate Finance Chair Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, would ask voters to approve the proposed constitutional amendment in the Nov. 5 election.

The plan preserves a strong rainy day fund, avoids new or increased taxes, protects Texas's AAA credit rating, and enables Texas to better respond to the demands that rapid growth puts on water, transportation and education infrastructure. It will also provide more equity for public schools without asking property wealthy school districts to shoulder the burden.

"This is anti-Robin Hood, improving equity and resources for Texas schools without triggering recapture," said Sen. Ken Paxton, R- McKinney.

The proposal would allow voters to approve or deny using \$5.7 billion of the projected \$12 billion rainy day fund for:

- \$800 million in public education funding
- \$2 billion for water projects in the State Water Plan

\$2.9 billion for road and transportation projects.

State Comptroller Susan Combs endorsed the plan.

"I commend Senator Williams for his leadership in writing SJR 1 and sending this to Texas voters for what I view as an ideal, one-time use of taxpayer dollars," she said.

The state's savings or rainy day fund account, formally known as the Economic Stabilization Fund, will continue to grow thanks to Texas' growing economy and booming oil and gas sector.

If approved by voters, SJR 1 would result in a one-time allocation of \$2 billion to create a revolving fund for financing projects in the State Water Plan. The fund will be replenished as loans for those projects are repaid.

Allocating \$2.9 billion to avoid bond debt would allow the state to address transportation infrastructure needs based on fiscally sound and conservative principles.

By appropriating \$800 million to address equity in public education, schools will, on average, be funded at or above 2010-11 levels without penalizing property wealthy districts.

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*Senator Donna Campbell represents Senate District 25 which includes all or parts of Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Hays, Kendall and Travis counties. She is a practicing emergency room physician who lives in New Braunfels with her husband and the youngest of their four daughters.*