



The Senate of The State of Texas

Senator José Menéndez

District 26

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Contact: Dwight Clark 512-463-0126

"The Ruling Reflects The Inherent Value Of A Diverse Campus"

Statement by Senator Menéndez on Fisher v. University of Texas

San Antonio, Texas - State Senator José Menéndez, member of the Higher Education Committee, issued the following statement after the Supreme Court upheld the admission policies of the University of Texas in *Fisher v. University of Texas*.

The following quotes are attributable to Senator José Menéndez:

"Texas' universities are among the best in the nation. The Supreme Court's decision allows them to maintain their prestigious reputations by emphasizing the importance of representative student bodies. The ruling reflects the inherent value of a diverse campus, ensuring that minorities can enjoy the same educational opportunities as non-minorities for generations to come."

"As a member of the Senate Higher Education Committee, I have seen first-hand the benefit of using race as one small factor in admissions at our state's most prestigious universities. It allows for a more diverse student body full of different backgrounds and perspectives. Most importantly though, it gives Hispanics, African-Americans, Asian-Americans and others the chance to achieve the college dream. For far too long our universities' admissions policies skewed to benefit non-minority students. The University of Texas rightly recognized this injustice and began using affirmative action to create a student body that reflects the spirit of America."

"A well-rounded education begins with a diverse student body. More inclusive campuses allow students to discuss society's most pressing issues from a variety of viewpoints. However, diversity doesn't happen on its own. Affirmative action is an essential part of our universities' admissions policies because it ensures that both minority and non-minority students get the best education possible."

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State Senator José Menéndez is Vice-Chair of the Senate Hispanic Caucus and represents Senate District 26 in San Antonio, TX. He currently is a member of the Senate Committees on Higher Education, Criminal Justice, and Intergovernmental Relations.