



SENATOR JOSÉ MENÉNDEZ
DISTRICT 26

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**The Texas Latino Education Coalition Applauds the Addition of Latino Senators
José Menéndez and Pete Flores to the Higher Education Committee**

San Antonio, TX — The Texas Latino Education Coalition (TLEC) applauds the addition of Latino Senators José Menéndez, (D26) and Pete Flores (R19) to the Senate Higher Education Committee.

**Celina Moreno, President & CEO of the Intercultural Development Research Association
(IDRA), released the following statement:**

“The Texas Latino Education Coalition is pleased that Senator Menéndez and Senator Flores have been appointed to the Senate Higher Education Committee. We appreciate the Senate’s leadership and Chairman Creighton for supporting this change. Latino students make up almost 37% of students enrolled in Texas institutions of higher education. To ensure that the needs of all learners are met, it is critically important that our state leadership reflect the make-up of our students. We know that all Texas students will benefit from the backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences that Latinos bring to the legislative process.”

IDRA founded and is an organizational member of the [Texas Latino Education Coalition](#).

**Senator José Menéndez, Chairman of the Senate Hispanic Caucus, released the following
statement:**

“Getting a college degree is a game changer. It changes the life of the students and transforms their families. When TLEC expressed their concern about Latino representation on the committee, the Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick, Chairman Creighton, and my colleagues in the Senate responded by appointing Senator Flores and myself. As a first-generation college graduate and father, I am grateful and honored to be able to continue my work on behalf of colleges and universities across Texas.”

About TLEC:

TLEC is a collaborative of organizations and individuals who advocate for the rights of Latino students at the local, state, and national levels. The coalition was organized to focus specifically on critical educational issues in Texas and to improve the state of education for Latino students in public schools.

TLEC member organizations include:

César E. Chávez Legacy and Educational Foundation, Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP), Dr. Hector P. García G.I. Forum, Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA), La Fe Policy Research and Education Center, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), Mexican American School Board Members Association (MASBA), National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS) – Tejas Foco, San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE), Texas Association for Chicanos in Higher Education (TACHE), Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce (TAMACC), Texas Center for Education Policy at the University of Texas – Austin, Texas Hispanics Organized for Political Education (HOPE), Texas League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Texas NAACP, The McNeil Foundation, and UnidosUS (formerly known as NCLR).

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