



SENATOR JOSÉ MENÉNDEZ DISTRICT 26

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Senator José Menéndez Calls for Moratorium on STAAR Test as Measurement of Student Achievement Amid Reports of Skewed Standards

San Antonio, Texas – Today Senator José Menéndez called upon Texas Commissioner of Education Mike Morath to suspend the use of the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) to assess school district and campus performance after reports indicate it unfairly tests students at the wrong grade level.

Sen. Menéndez told Commissioner Morath in a March 5 letter that he is introducing legislation to put a moratorium of two years on the use of STAAR test as a measurement of school district performance. Research indicates that the test measures student achievement on average two to three years above grade level.

Senator José Menéndez released the following statement:

“If the STAAR test is going to be used as an accountability measure, it must be a just and appropriate test,” Sen. Menéndez wrote. “Many students, teachers and schools are set up for failure by the currently flawed standardized testing. As the father of school-age children, I have no doubt that other parents are as disturbed by this revelation as I am. This isn't something we can wait and figure out. Students, teachers, administrators, and entire districts are being judged based on a testing procedure that could be fatally flawed. This requires urgent and decisive action.”

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