



SENATOR JOSÉ MENÉNDEZ DISTRICT 26

Media Release:

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Senator José Menéndez Issues Statement on COVID-19 Legislative Package

San Antonio, Texas - State Senator José Menéndez issued the following statement on the filing of his COVID-19 legislative package.

Senator José Menéndez released the following statement:

“This year we have all been battling a global pandemic and it has exacerbated already existing issues in our system. Today, my team has filed a COVID-19 legislative package aimed at assisting our frontline workers, students, the economy, and every day Texans. In the following days, we will be filing an additional bills that will ensure that we remedy the impact of another disaster like the COVID-19 pandemic from happening once again. We learned that when we help our neighbors, we can get through any situation. I urge my colleagues to join me in taking a commonsense approach and supporting these bills, as we continue to navigate this pandemic.”

COVID-19 Legislative Package:

- SB 255 - This bill will prevent anyone who has received benefits solely in error from the Texas Workforce Commission from being responsible for repaying those amounts in error. This bill seeks to address the issues that arose during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- SB 256 - This bill will assist educators who resigned or retired in the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic to be reinstated to their position and to reinstate any benefits that the educator was entitled to.
- SB 257 - This bill will provide educators and support staff with an additional 14 days of medical leave due to testing positive for COVID-19. These 14 days are outside of and in addition to their already granted medical and personal leave days.
- SB 258 - This bill will appropriate funds to directly assist public schools districts in closing the digital divide.
- SB 259 - This bill will appropriate funds to directly assist students with special needs as they navigate remote learning in our public schools.
- SB 260 - This bill would cancel the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) test and reappropriate those funds to assist Title 1 public schools.

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