TEXAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

316 W. 12th St., Austin, TX 78701 • 877-ASK-TSTA • www.tsta.org • Fax 512-486-7049

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Contact: Clay Robison 512.476.5355, ext. 1313; clayr@tsta.org Cell: 512.535.8994

## TSTA: With DeVos confirmation, real fight for public schools just beginning

Noel Candelaria, president of the Texas State Teachers Association, issued the following statement today on the Senate's confirmation of Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education:

"There is a reason that it took an unprecedented tie-breaking vote by the vice president to confirm the new education secretary: Betsy DeVos is totally unqualified for the job. Millions of Americans spoke out against her nomination, and for us this is just the beginning. Our real fight to protect our students and our public schools begins today. We will resist every attempt to defund public education and divert money to the education privateers, who view our neighborhood schools as profit centers, not as places that offer opportunity to every child.

"The Texas State Teachers Association thanks the millions of educators and parents who joined us in urging their senators to oppose Ms. DeVos' confirmation, and we are grateful to the 50 senators who voted against her. We fought the profiteers to a standstill until the vice president stepped in. Unfortunately, Sens. John Cornyn and Ted Cruz of Texas voted for the confirmation, choosing ideology and ignoring overwhelming opposition from Texans from all walks of life who value our children's education."