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TSTA: Senate Bill 13 is a selective attack on educators and other public servants

TSTA President Noel Candelaria issued the following statement on the Senate’s approval of SB13, the dues deduction bill:

“By approving Senate Bill 13, the Senate majority made a selective attack on educators, Child Protective Services workers and certain other public employees who voluntarily join employee associations and unions for professional development and other reasons important to their job performance. They use their own money to pay their membership dues, and it doesn’t cost governments anything to deduct their dues payments from their paychecks. These dedicated public servants should be free to use their own money to pay their membership dues as they see fit.

“The Texas State Teachers Association and other employee organizations don’t use membership dues for political purposes, but this bill is obviously politically motivated. Otherwise, why would some employee unions and associations be exempted from the bill and allowed to continue to have their membership dues automatically deducted by their government employers each payday?”