



# TSTA NEWS

TEXAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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## **TSTA: Voucher bill is as shameful as the Senate budget**

TSTA President Noel Candelaria issued the following statement on the Senate's approval of SB3, the voucher bill:

"First the Senate follows Dan Patrick's lead and cuts state funding for public education. Then senators approve his voucher bill to drain even more of our tax dollars from public schools to help a handful of families pay private school tuition. The voucher bill is as shameful as the Senate budget and as harmful to public schools, educators and students.

"A recent bipartisan TSTA poll shows that most Texans, including Republican Primary voters, oppose education savings accounts, which would require little, if any, accountability for how tax funds are spent. Most Texans also oppose tax-credit scholarships and other forms of vouchers.

"Carving some rural counties out of Senate Bill 3 may have won the votes of a few senators, but it did nothing to protect their rural constituents from having to pay state tax dollars to subsidize private schools in distant cities, if this bill were to become law. TSTA believes that House members will see through this ploy and protect their neighborhood public schools by opposing the voucher bill."