

	NAME	ENDORSEMENTS	RATING	SUPPORTS 25X25?	CURRENT SESSION	HISTORY
Senate District 1	Bryan Hughes	2020 - Greg Abbott, Texas Homeschool Coalition 2016; Dan Patrick, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility/Empower Texans, Jonathan Stickland	unfriendly	YES	Serves on the Education committee. Authorized legislation - SB316 - relating to the attorney general's duty to defend public school teachers. Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Co-sponsor SB12 (TRS contributions). Co-sponsor SB213 (End IGCs - sunset). HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted NO; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted NO; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted NO; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted NO; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted NO; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAR writing tests-voted NO; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAR penalties-voted NO. Voted NO - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from property tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers) Grade from Project Educdo. F. Penalties does not list anything about education.	Information: first elected to the Senate in 2016. Up for re-election in 2020. Served in the House from 2003 - 2017. Served on the education committee during 2017 session. Voting Record: Voted contrary to TCTA recommendations in 5 of 6 votes last session. Voted against a teacher pay raise in 2007. 2017 Update: Voted for SB3 ESAs (vouchers); Voted for extending IGCs (SB 463). Voted for short-term funding for TRS-Care. Opposed long-term funding for TRS-Care. Supported vouchers by willing twice for private school voucher bill (SB 3). Voted for SB 1276 to lower standards for educator prep programs. Voted for SB 13 to take away payroll deduction for professional dues. Voted a bill (SB 7) that took away educator payroll deduction for dues. Voted for SB 179 to prevent and respond to cyberbullying in schools. 2015: supported HB 743 to reduce time spent on testing in grades 3-8. Voted for HB 4 to increase pre-k funding. Voted against amendment to limit pre-k class sizes. Voted for HB 1796 (home rule charter districts). 2013: Voted against budget bill that increased funding for public education. Voted against amendment to prohibit public funds from being spent on private vouchers. Voted for SB 1458 to shore up TRS and provide retirees a benefit increase. Voted for HB 2012 to improve educator quality by raising standards and improving appraisals. Voted against the Texas Teacher Residency Program. Voted against amendment to require ASD schools to be subject to the same laws as regular districts. Voted against class size caps for ASDs. Voted against bill to notify public if schools do not have a full-time counselor. Voted against amendment to delay expansion of charters.
	Audrey Spanko BLOCK VOTE		neutral	YES	Social Worker. From website: "To improve our current education system, we must increase teacher salaries, improve technology access, and create more inclusive and safe school environments. As the daughter and sister of public school teachers, I feel strongly about the need for a thriving public education system. I am fighting for a system that not only supports high quality education for our kids, but also values our public school educators. Public school teachers dedicate their lives to the well-being of our children. I witnessed firsthand the countless hours my mom spent preparing her classroom, grading papers and stepping up for her students. Her dedication and the dedication of every other Texas teacher is worth more. " Per news article in the <i>Panjs News</i> , she wants to help fund education through stopping corporate tax breaks. Survey responses: WHAT IS BROKENT? Stable, sustainable funding for public school costs and pay for educators is "broken". Texas's corporate welfare program "decreases local revenue sources costing school districts millions of dollars. I believe Texas has an obligation under Chapter 313, to pay teachers sufficiently, improve technology access, and create inclusive and safe school environments. PRIORITIES: -end Chapter 313 and work to ensure teachers and school staff are paid a wage equivalent to their value. Increased funding should also be used to cover health insurance premiums for employees at public schools and improve facilities and technology access. 2. Create inclusive and safe school environments - As a licensed social worker and advocate for the National Association of Social Workers, I have worked to educate school administrators and elected officials on the importance of social workers on staff to provide mental health support/counseling, home visits and wellness checks, and a social justice perspective that is often not included in district planning. Social workers are trained professionals who can have a positive impact on individualy and the creation of safe school environments. 3. Strengthen our teacher unions - We should be working to make union participation easier. Strong unions provides greater opportunities for elected officials to hear a collective voice and work with school employees and union officials to create needed change and solutions. FUNDING: School funding should be increased. FINDING MONEY: To increase school funding Texas must end Chapter 313. These corporate taxes would create revenue for schools across the state. CHARTERS/VOUCHERS: I would not support the use of public funds for private/charter schools. STAAR: I do not support the STAAR test in its current form. I believe advancement exams should be created at the local district level. standardized test created for profit for for-profit agencies are not in the best interest of Texas students or teachers. ADVANCEMENT/GRADUATION: I believe teachers should be allowed to do their job and use their knowledge and expertise to determine advancement and graduation. I do not support the STAAR test being used as the primary measure to determine advancement. IGCs: My knowledge of the IGCs committee is limited. I do support the committees and believe sunset dates often hamper work and create unnecessary hurdles. Although I support agency and process reviews, I would support ending the sunset date for these committees. A-F CAMPUS EVALUATION: The A-F rating is an ineffective tool that does not take the uniqueness of each school into account and does not effectively measure a school's needs or performance. MERIT PAY: I do not support merit pay tied to STAAR scores, student performance or extra tasks. Teachers should have a base pay that is truly comparable to the work and also invests in teachers over time. CLASS SIZE CAPS/WAIVERS: Yes, I support class size caps. No, I believe districts should be held accountable to hiring and meeting the needs of their students and waiving standards as an alternative to doing what is necessary. ATTRACTING/RETAINING TEACHERS: We have to increase teacher pay and reduce weight placed on standardized testing. I feel strongly that we can increase teacher pay by appropriately taxing corporations. COLAs: I believe retired teachers should get a cost of living increase annually. TRS CARE: As a former state employee, I know that there are options and we need to investigate those options. While working for the state, my healthcare premium costs were zero and my day to day costs were minimal. Teachers deserve these same benefits. TRS NO: I do not support keeping the TRS in its current form. I believe teachers deserve a guaranteed plan. I am a former state employee and would I return to the state for 10 years the ERS provide a guaranteed plan. Our teachers deserve the same benefits offered to city, municipal or state employees. 25x25: Yes.	
Senate District 2	Bob Hall	2018: Dan Patrick, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility/Empower Texans, Texas Homeschool Coalition, Texas Freedom Caucus 2014: Texas Homeschool Coalition, Empower Texans/Texas for Fiscal Responsibility	unfriendly	YES	Serves on the Education committee. Authorized legislation - SB79 - eliminating requirement that certain busses that transport children have 3-point seat belts SB379 - relating to competitive bidding procurements by a school district for certain goods or services, including professional services. SB377 - relating to eliminating certain requirements imposed on school districts, establishing a process for review of a school district's termination or suspension of a classroom teacher. SB380 - relating to a student's eligibility to enroll in courses provided through the state's virtual school network. Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Co-sponsor SB12 (TRS contributions). HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted NO; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted NO; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted NO; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted NO; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted NO; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAR writing tests-voted NO. Voted NO - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from property tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educdo. F. Seat not up in 2020.	Information: first elected to the Texas Senate in 2014. Up for re-election in 2022. Member of Education committee. Statement from Hall's 2014 campaign website: "State and local government spending from ALL sources should increase only by the sum of population growth plus inflation and no more. I will fight for a state constitutional amendment to set this limit in order to protect current and future taxpayers from excessive spending." Hall signed a pledge in 2012 to limit government spending and make it more efficient for the legislature to pass spending increases for public services such as education. Voting Record: 2017 Update: Sponsored SB3 ESAs (vouchers); Voted for extending IGCs. Voted for SB 13 (Payroll deductions). Sponsored SB 2145 (defund GFL). Never got out of committee. Voted for SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers) Sponsored SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of GovLtl. Gov/Speaker) Voted for SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of GovLtl. Gov/Speaker) Voted for the Senate amended HB21 for funding to come from other means other than ESF. Contributors: 2016: Voted for SB 1968 (eliminate teacher payroll deductions for dues). Voted for SB 149 (IGCs). Voted against SB 4 (voucher "scholarship" bill). Voted for SB 14 (Parent trigger/deregulation of struggling schools). Voted for A-F accountability bill (SB 6). 2013: voted to increase end funding (SB 1). Voted against measure to move funds from transportation to education budget. Voted against measures to increase education funding by taking money out of merit pay program. Voted for SB 1458 (TRS/retiree benefit increase). Voted for SB 2012 to raise standards for entering education profession. Voted for creating Texas Teacher Residency Program. Voted for bill that would have reduced time spent on standardized testing in 3-8. Voted to bill to allow students with high scores to skip the exam some years. Voted against bill to require schools to notify public if they don't have a full-time counselor (SB 401). Voted against bill to expand charter schools across the state.
Senate District 3	Robert Nichols		neutral	YES	Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Co-sponsor SB12 (TRS contributions). HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted NO; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted NO; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted NO; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted NO; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted NO; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAR writing tests-voted NO. Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAR penalties-voted NO. Voted NO - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from property tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educdo. F. Seat not up in 2020.	Information: first elected to the Texas Senate in 2006. Up for re-election 2022. 2017 Update: Voted for SB3 ESAs (Regulations of facilities). Voted for extending IGCs. Sponsored SB 13 (Payroll deductions)/Voted against SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers) Sponsored SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of GovLtl. Gov/Speaker) Voted for SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of GovLtl. Gov/Speaker) Voted for the Senate amended HB21 for funding to come from other means other than ESF. Contributors: 2016: Voted for SB 1968 (eliminate teacher payroll deductions for dues). Voted for SB 149 (IGCs). Voted against SB 4 (voucher "scholarship" bill). Voted for SB 14 (Parent trigger/deregulation of struggling schools). Voted for A-F accountability bill (SB 6). 2013: voted to increase end funding (SB 1). Voted against measure to move funds from transportation to education budget. Voted against measures to increase education funding by taking money out of merit pay program. Voted for SB 1458 (TRS/retiree benefit increase). Voted for SB 2012 to raise standards for entering education profession. Voted for creating Texas Teacher Residency Program. Voted for bill that would have reduced time spent on standardized testing in 3-8. Voted to bill to allow students with high scores to skip the exam some years. Voted against bill to require schools to notify public if they don't have a full-time counselor (SB 401). Voted against bill to expand charter schools across the state.
Senate District 4	Brandon Creighton	2020 - Greg Abbott 2016: Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans), Texas Homeschool Coalition	unfriendly	YES	Authorized legislation: SB243 - relating to the carrying or storage of a handgun by a school marshal. SB 244 - relating to the number of school marshals that may be appointed to serve on a public school campus or at a private school. Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Voted for SB 12 - unanimous vote. HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted NO; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted NO; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted NO; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted NO; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted NO; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAR writing tests-voted NO. Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAR penalties-voted NO. Voted NO - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from property tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educdo. F. From website: "Brandon's innovative approaches have impacted tax reform efforts in Texas, yielding more than \$1 billion dollars in tax cuts for small business along with other franchise tax reforms. While his ultimate goal is repeal of the franchise tax, he will continue crafting stat reform solutions that fund key priorities and shrink the tax burden on Texas job creators. He is also working to reign-in runaway property taxes by reducing the amount your property tax bill can go up each year from 10% - 6%."	Information: first elected to the Senate in 2014. Served in the House from 2007-2014. Voting Record: 2017 Update: Voted for SB3 ESAs (vouchers); Voted for extending IGCs. Voted for SB 13 (Payroll deductions)/Voted for SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers)/Voted for SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of GovLtl. Gov/Speaker). 2015: voted for SB 1968 (prohibiting payroll deductions). Voted for SB 149 (IGCs). Voted for SB 895 (alternative compensation for educators). Voted for SB 4 (voucher "scholarships"). Voted for SB 14 (Parent triggers/private takeover of struggling schools). Voted for SB 6 (A-F accountability). 2013: voted for amendment to prohibit public education funds to be spent on private school vouchers. Voted for SB 1458 to shore up TRS and give benefit increase. Voted against HB 2012 to raise standards for new educators. Voted against Texas Teacher Residency Program. Voted against amendment to require ASD schools to be subject to laws governing regular schools. Voted against class size caps for ASDs. Voted against bill to require schools to notify public if a full-time counselor was not on staff. Voted against an amendment that would have delayed the expansion of charter schools.
	Jay Stilleburg BLOCK VOTE		neutral	YES	Project Manager. Navy vet. From website: "Texas is not performing when it comes to educating our children. For years the funding for public education has declined and the emphasis on standardized testing has blown up. This has resulted in Texas being ranked in the bottom 10% nationally in public education, this approach is clearly not working. It is time to change the status quo and start working to improve the quality of public education in Texas, both for students and teachers. I will look for long term solutions for public education funding and being care of our teachers, both current and retired". From survey: WHAT IS BROKENT? What is broken is how our public education system is funded, how we evaluate our school districts, schools, teachers and students and how we take care of our active and retired teachers in Texas. This is a short sentence but to exactly why the state of Texas lags near the bottom 10% in public education nationally. I cannot claim to know all the answers in how to fix these problems, but what I do know, is that I will champion long term public education funding from the state level at a percentage that reduces the property tax burdens on our citizens, this includes closing loopholes in our tax laws that allows corporations to not pay their fair share in property taxes. We need to reevaluate the STAAR exams role in our public education system. I can understand the use of standardized testing, I look them when I was in school many years ago, but they were not the benchmark for everything in our educational system and they should not be now. We also need to do right by the teachers that put their trust in Texas when it comes to their performance and healthcare when they choose to work in our public education system. We deeply have personal/invested plans in Texas that work much more efficiently, local government plans as an example, and we need to ensure that these plans work for those that choose to enroll in them. We need elected officials that are willing to think outside of the box when it comes to public education and stop the status quo from continuing, otherwise we won't be in the bottom 10% anymore, we will just be the bottom 3. PRIORITIES: Long term funding plan from the state. Change the role of the STAAR exam in our system. TRS overhaul. FUNDING: Once again, Texas is near the bottom of the pack when it comes to per student funding in our public education system. I absolutely understand that simply throwing money at a problem does not fix the problem, but I also know that when we do not spend an appropriate amount on something as important as our public education system, it can never succeed. We need to increase our spending in a manner that has obtainable goals, which includes a long term plan in how we will accomplish this and metrics to measure the success. And those metrics need to come from public education professionals and not politicians. FINDING THE MONEY: We already know the state doesn't bring in enough revenue to cover all of its expenses, so we have to find innovative revenue to help us solve this problem. We must start by closing existing loopholes in our tax laws and evaluating other revenue streams that have not been reevaluated for years to ensure that they are being adjusted for inflation, population growth, etc. Again, I do not claim to be the expert on these items, but I do know that I have the political fortitude to try to change what is not working. PRIVATE/CHARTERS: I do not support the use of public funds for private/charter schools under any circumstances. That being said, I also do not necessarily think "all" of the circumstances that may surround this issue and I would listen to arguments for certain circumstances, but if we would have to show a benefit for the majority to earn my support, STAAR: I do not support the STAAR test in its current form. There is nothing wrong, in my opinion, in giving a standardized test. I look them in school, to use as a tool to evaluate where, in general, kids are in their learning, but that should not be the sole basis for evaluating school districts, schools, teachers or our kids. Some people are not good standardized test takers, but that doesn't mean that they are not learning and progressing and not every student is on the same playing field, so to speak, even if they are in the same grade. That is just not how life and learning work. ADVANCEMENT/GRADUATION: As I stated above, in 8th, the STAAR tests should not be the sole deciding factor in education. I am certainly more in support of IGCs and determination by the teachers, staff and parents that interact with that child on a daily basis to determine their progress. IGCs: I personally like the concept of the IGC committees. I certainly think it offers some benefits to those that may not fare on a standardized testing and still be able to graduate. I am actually not certain why there is push back on making IGCs permanent, but I would be in favor of doing this as it just seems the right thing to do in our current state. A-F CAMPUS EVALUATION: My personal feeling on this is I find it hard to believe that a school can receive a single letter grade that considers the many variables that exist to evaluate a school on its performance that is easy to understand for a parent. I know the reason for the letter grades is to give parents some form of indicator of the public schools and where they may choose to live and send their kids to school, but I feel that a single letter grade is really not fair to the schools or the parents. I also know the state split these grades into three areas of evaluation but an overall grade is developed from those individual grades, but the formulas used are complex and likely not easy for a parent, or teacher, to decipher how everything is weighted. This system would also require periodic review of these formulas, otherwise it is the "Robinson" program because of the complex formulas and the lack of periodic and timely reviews and change these over time. I know there is a lot of debate on some regular basis, maybe every 3 to 5 years. We just shouldn't settle for allowing inflation and local economic changes and retired teachers to be left behind because it is done to by adjust. TRS CARE: This is a problem that requires action not only by the state government, but also by our federal elected officials. The continued rising healthcare costs in general do help to solve the problem with the TRS-Care system. The state does need to do their job in ensuring that this system is funded, what we need to ensure does not take the cost of the program off of the state and that the retirement money can be used in a manner that is affordable and that we can ensure that the state is able to pay for it. We need to ensure that if they are willing to do the work, which often requires TRS RETIREMENT, we need to fix the TRS benefit plan and ensure it has stable long-term for our teachers. It needs to be funded properly and evaluated often and we need professionals that understand this to help the state make the right decisions and stop the retirement and pension issues from becoming an insurmountable burden on the state. We need to ensure that we do not do anything that would take away from the state's ability to pay for the TRS program. We need to deal with the issue directly. 25x25: Yes. We need to be better in this work with public schools and I know that just putting more money at something doesn't fix the problem, there are many other things that need to be changed as well, but we need to ensure that we are allocating enough funds to be able to provide a quality education.	
Senate District 5	Cameron Brock Charles Schwertner	2018: Texans for Fiscal Responsibility (Empower Texans), Texas Homeschool Coalition, 2012, Texans for Fiscal Responsibility/Empower Texans	unfriendly	YES	Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Voted for SB 12 - unanimous vote. HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted NO; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted NO; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted NO; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted NO; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted NO; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAR writing tests-voted NO; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAR penalties-voted NO. Voted NO - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from property tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educdo. F. Seat not up in 2020.	Information: Doctor (orthopedic surgeon). First elected to Texas Senate in 2012, served one term previously in House. Up for re-election in 2022. Voting Record: 2017 Update: Sponsored SB3 ESAs (vouchers). Voted for extending IGCs. Sponsored SB 13 (Payroll deductions) Voted for SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of GovLtl. Gov/Speaker) Voted for SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of GovLtl. Gov/Speaker) Voted for SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of GovLtl. Gov/Speaker) Voted for the Senate amended HB21 for funding to come from other means other than ESF. Contributors: 2016: Voted for SB 1968 (eliminate teacher payroll deductions for dues). Voted for SB 149 (IGCs). Voted against SB 4 (voucher "scholarships"). Voted for SB 14 (Parent triggers/private takeover of struggling schools). Voted for SB 6 (A-F accountability). 2013: voted for amendment to prohibit public education funds to be spent on private school vouchers. Voted for SB 1458 to shore up TRS and give benefit increase. Voted against HB 2012 to raise standards for new educators. Voted against Texas Teacher Residency Program. Voted against amendment to require ASD schools to be subject to laws governing regular schools. Voted against class size caps for ASDs. Voted against bill to require schools to notify public if a full-time counselor was not on staff. Voted against an amendment that would have delayed the expansion of charter schools.

NAME	ENDORSEMENTS	RATING	SUPPORTS 25X25?	CURRENT SESSION	HISTORY
Millinda Morris		neutral		Physician. Website doesn't mention education but calls for an end to taxpayer funded lobbying. Information collected from candidate provided AFT Survey. EDUCATOR PAY: willing to champion increased funding for public schools, supports across the board pay raise for teachers and support staff raises to at least \$16 an hour. PRIVATIZATION: Supports charters, but says she also supports them having the same standards and accountability as public schools and would support a moratorium on charters pending an impact assessment. Supports the repeal of DOI and legislation that promotes private/public partnerships. TESTING: Supports reduced class time spent on testing, opposes hiring teacher pay to testing or student surveys, supports repealing A-F system. Supports allowing state takeover of "ailing" schools. PAYROLL DEDUCTION: Contradicts her position on her website by claiming to support teacher payroll deduction for union dues. RETIREMENT: Supports keeping defined benefit, supports tying COLAs to inflation, supports increasing state contribution to TRS. HEALTHCARE: supports increased state contribution to teacher healthcare system, but opposes state expansion of medicare. Additional comment by candidate under healthcare: "I will support the creation of a private healthcare insurance program for Texas educators which is partially funded by the state." DUE PROCESS: Supports law requiring districts to provide a written notice for employee termination and a hearing for the employee to be heard. LABOR: Supports giving educators the right to collectively bargain and school boards the right to hire an outside group to lobby for them (again contradicting her website position). Does not support repealing law requiring striking teachers to be fired. PRE-K: supports expanding access and fully funding Pre-K in funding formulas. STUDENT DISCIPLINE: supports law to remove persistently disruptive students and law to fund more programs aimed at positive behavior intervention. Supports Piyer v. Doe (protecting undocumented students' right to an education). Supports defunct work day for educators.	
Senate District 14	Sarah Eckhardt	Neutral	Yes	Current Travis Co. Judge. No education policy platform on website. Interviewed with Texas Trib on May 20, asked about issues, still no mention of education. Survey responses: WHAT IS BROKEN? Funding is what's broken. The state moved to bring its share of education funding back to the 45% share it had been before the Abbott/Padrick cuts following the last recession, but it mainly through one-time sources. We need durable funding sources and it is increasingly clear that those funding sources need to be from somewhere other than oil and gas. The only way for districts to hold down property taxes is if the state continues the 45% or higher share of funding so that districts can continue to grow without residents' taxes growing along side. If the state can not or will not meet its share of the burden the artificial local tax caps must be removed. As a county official I have had to deal with these artificial caps on my budgets passed by legislators who never have to deal with the reality of their actions. PRIORITIES: I would classify my top three priorities as 1. Funding which includes teacher and personnel pay and benefits. 2. Safeguarding the universal public education system from pilfering by private schools and 3. Countering the School as Pre-Prison model with Schools that use Safe Places of resources and opportunity for the whole community. FUNDING: We must invest more Public Education Investment has astronomically high generational returns financially and morally. I would advocate that public education investment be frontloaded in the budget process. AFT: I will support the current revenue sources and potential revenue sources of the state to provide appropriate on-going state investments rather than one-time dollars and revenues from volatile sources. By establishing sustained state investment above 50%, we can finally fix the inequity in our public school system. I do think local districts should have skin in the game, but not so much that it cuts into bone. The Robin Hood system as currently constructed only makes wealth inequalities worse across the state. I want to work in the Senate to find a way to more evenly distribute resources so that the districts who receive funding are able to make meaningful improvements while the districts sending funds aren't doing so at the expense of impoverished communities within wealthy districts. Austin has been particularly hard hit by this system. I will make it a priority that no district be forced to close schools because of the state raiding funds. FINDING THE MONEY: This will be a very difficult budget year. We will need to look for new revenues to diversify and therefore reduce the volatility of sales taxes, lottery, oil & gas revenues and the like. The state will need to reveal some obvious and more stable revenue sources that most other states have used for generations, such as the books of preferential tax treatments so that everyone is paying their share, reconsider tolls for transportation and find new ways to capture the wealth of this generation to pay for the education of the next. The likely solution probably includes multiple sources, including private philanthropy. VOUCHERS/CHARTERS: I have a demonstrated record of resisting tax incentives for private businesses, whether the business is Apple looking for a tax break to relocate or private prison operations. I would bring the same philosophy to the diversion of public school funds to private schools. Public money is for public goods, services and infrastructure. Rather than give public dollars to private industry, I will seek to draw private industry investment in public schools. I would, for example, support an in-district charter that is supported with private funds. I myself am the graduate of a magnet school in the Houston School District (HSPVA) and my daughter attends the Liberal Arts and Science Academy in the Austin School District. STAAAR: I do not support it in its current form. I believe that snapshot measurements have specificity to gauge whether an enterprise is on the right course but snapshots cannot dictate that course. The STAAAR test has been misused as a single metric of damnation. I would require the STAAAR test be weighted and balanced with other objective metrics and include qualitative assessments as well. Objective metrics alone are good when you're producing widgets in a factory but not when you're molding young and unique minds. ADVANCEMENT/GRADUATION: I support IGC/determinations by teachers, staff and parents. IGC: I support them. I recognize that Senator Seliger may have had to endure an extended sunset provision to assure their near term continuation in the last session. I would support making them permanent. A-F CAMPUS EVALUATION: There is no nuance in A-F and tells the audience nothing of the handicaps a school faces in overcoming achievement gaps of its kids in comparison to the average child. MERIT PAY: I support merit pay as long as merit can be measured and distributed fairly and consistently. CLASS SIZE CAPS/WAIVERS: I support class size caps and would allow for waivers in narrow circumstances of demonstrated need. ATTRACTING/RETAINING TEACHERS: I'm only 11 years of experience making compensation, benefits and retirement decisions for the 5,000 employees of Travis County, appropriately compensating talents and dedicated professionals pays for itself. Recruitment and retention are easier. Training costs go down. Internal promotions increase upward mobility and stability within the campus and the district. Competent administrators who have come up through the ranks save us money through their knowledge of effective, efficient and fair mechanisms particular to their communities. COLAs: At Travis County we index our retirement benefits to CPI. The actual cost of living is not inflation. We have excellent benefits while beating the actuarial odds year over year. The key is good management and I would require that as your State Senator. TRS: I would provide multiple choices including a bare bones plan for younger educators without dependents who want to keep more of their cash, more comprehensive plans for educators with dependents and even a 401(k) style plan for those who prefer it. One size does not fit every family or every size profile. 25X25: ABSOLUTELY! Won special election as of May 2020. Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Voted for SB 12 - unanimous vote. HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted YES. Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted YES; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted YES; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted YES; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K pay raise-voted YES; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAAR writing tests-voted YES; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAAR penalties-voted YES. Voted yes - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from tax bill). Voted NO - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educo: A. Seat not up in 2020.	
Senate District 15	John Whitmore	2018 - TSTA, Texas AFT	Friendly	Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Voted for SB 12 - unanimous vote. HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted YES. Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted YES; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted YES; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted YES; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K pay raise-voted YES; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAAR writing tests-voted YES; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAAR penalties-voted YES. Voted yes - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from tax bill). Voted NO - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educo: A. Seat not up in 2020.	Information: has served in the Senate since 1983. He is the Dean of the Senate and one of the longest tenured members. Voting record: 2017 Update: Voted against SB3 ESAs (vouchers); Voted for extending IGCs/Voted against SB13 (to prohibit payroll deductions of professional dues); 2015- Voted against bill to prohibit payroll deducted professional dues; Voted against vouchers and a merit pay system; Voted for all grad to STAAAR; 2013-Voted for increased funding of public education; for reduced testing time (STAAAR); voted to "shore up" teacher retirement; Voted to expand the number of charter schools and change the c.s. authorization process. In 2009, Whitmore authored an amendment which led to an across the board raise for teachers. Member of the Finance Committee Voted against SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers)/Voted against SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov./L. Gov/Speaker)
Senate District 16	Nathan Johnson	2018 - TSTA, Texas AFT, Texas Parent PAC	Friendly	Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Voted for SB 12 - unanimous vote. Co-sponsor SB213 (End IGC sunset). HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted YES; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted YES; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted YES; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted YES; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K pay raise-voted YES; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAAR writing tests-voted YES. Voted YES - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from tax bill). Voted NO - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educo: A. Seat not up in 2020.	Information: elected to the Senate in 2018. Website: school finance is a difficult problem, involving fairness in taxation, responsible spending, and competition for funding at both the state and local levels. But difficulty does not excuse failure. Objective research shows the vast social and economic benefits to everyone — kids, communities, business, and our tax base — of giving priority to investments in education. We must fully fund early learning programs and K-12 expand access to community colleges, and allow those who seek a college degree to do so without incurring crushing debt. No voting record, new member of the Senate.
Senate District 17	Joan Huffman	2018 - Texans for Fiscal Responsibility/Empower Texans, 2012 - Texans for Fiscal Responsibility/Empower Texans	unfriendly	Authorized legislation: SB393 - relating to the contributions to the Teacher Retirement System of Texas SB843 - relating to the authority of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas to invest in certain hedge funds Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote Co-sponsor SB13 (TRS contributions). HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted NO; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted NO; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted NO; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted NO; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted NO; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAAR writing tests-voted NO; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAAR penalties-voted NO. Voted NO - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from property tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Grade from Project Educo: F. Seat not up in 2020.	Information: First elected to the Texas Senate in 2008. Up for re-election in 2022. Voting Record: Against payroll deductions for teachers for association dues. Voted for a bill to give some high school students who've failed certain STAAAR tests a pathway to graduate. Voted for a budget bill providing increased funding for public education and a partial restoration of the education budget cuts made in 2011. For Teacher Residency Programs. For reducing testing. Voted for a bill to do away with the minimum salary schedule for teachers and compel school districts to evaluate and compensate their teachers based on measures that are potentially unreliable, such as student standardized test score data. Voted for a private school voucher "scholarship" bill. Voted for a bill to expand "parent trigger" laws in Texas and make it easier for struggling schools to be placed under private management and subject to deregulation upon a petition by parents. Voted for an accountability bill to assign "A" through "F" letter grades to school campuses.
Senate District 18	Lois Kolkhorst UNDERVOTE - LEAVE BLANK	2020 - Greg Abbott, Dan Patrick	unfriendly	No education platform on her website. Authored legislation: SB249 - relating to the automatic admission to general academic teaching institutions and eligibility for certain scholarships of a student who is the valedictorian of the student's high school graduating class. SB205 - relating to the authority of a school district or open-enrollment charter school to employ or provide chaplains. Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Co-sponsor SB12 (TRS contributions). HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted NO; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted NO; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted NO; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted NO; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted NO; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAAR writing tests-voted YES; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAAR penalties-voted NO. Voted NO - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from property tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educo: F.	Voted against a measure that would have moved \$200 million out of the transportation budget and into the public education budget instead. Voted for a bill to shore up the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) and provide most retirees with a benefit increase BUT the bill was not taken to the Senate floor and helped reduce the House's bill by close to 250 million dollars. Her bill would be even MORE devastating than HB3376. Voted against a teacher quality bill. Voted for a bill to expand the number of charters granted by the state and change the charter school authorization process. 2017 Update: Voted for SB3 ESAs (vouchers). Voted for extending IGCs. Sponsored SB 13 (Payroll deductions)/Voted for SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers)/Voted for SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov./L. Gov/Speaker)/Sponsored SB 19 (teacher bonuses and retiree insurance assistance)
Senate District 19	Michael Antalan Pete Flores	2020 - Greg Abbott 2018 - Texas Homeschool Coalition, Dan Patrick	No rating unfriendly	Attorney. Website has no mention of public education. Update Sept. 2020 - website is suspended, FB page has no actual platform or anything other than photos. Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Co-sponsor SB12 (TRS contributions) Co-sponsor SB213 (End IGC sunset). HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted NO; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted YES; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted NO; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted NO; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K pay raise-voted NO; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAAR writing tests-voted NO; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAAR penalties-voted NO. Voted NO - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from property tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educo: F.	Information: won special election to this seat December 2018. Up for re-election for full term in 2020. Previously challenged Mr. Uresti in 2016. The education of our children is key to the success of our State. Quality education should not be the exception but the rule in Texas. Our teachers and our parents share the same passion, the welfare and success of our children, working together, they know what is required and needed by the children of Texas. A bureaucrat, corporation or non-elected official does not know better than our teachers and parents. I support more teaching to learn than teaching to the test. Our teachers must have a fair market value wage and a sound retirement. They serve with purpose. State funds must be allocated with more emphasis on the course and subject than administration and special projects. I support Governor Abbott's 60/30 TX plan, which envisions that by 2030, at least 60% of Texans aged 25-34 will have a postsecondary credential or degree. I do support a voucher program, as a parent should have a choice where their child goes to school.
Senate District 20	Roland Gutierrez BLOCK VOTE	2020 - Texas AFT, Texas Parent PAC, TSTA/NEA	Friendly	Attorney. Current Texas house member. Past research in history lab. Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Co-sponsor SB12 (TRS contributions) Co-sponsor SB213 (End IGC sunset). HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted YES; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted YES; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted YES; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted YES; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted YES; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAAR writing tests-voted YES; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAAR penalties-voted YES. Voted yes - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educo: A.	Information: first elected to the Texas Senate in 2008. For reducing state testing. For giving HIS students that failed STAAAR options to graduate. For suicide prevention training. For PK funding. For limiting PK classes. Against Home Rule. For increasing Pub Ed funding. Against vouchers. Voted for TRS increases. For teacher residency programs. Supported an amendment to the Achievement School District bill to require ASD schools to be subject to laws pertaining to teacher rights and benefits, discipline and class-size limits. Supported an amendment to impose a maximum 15:1 student-to-certified teacher average ratio. For delaying the expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
Senate District 20	Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa BLOCK VOTE	TSTA	neutral	Authorized legislation: SB3 - relating to additional funding to school districts for classroom teacher salaries (co-author)/Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote/Co-sponsor SB12 (TRS contributions). HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted YES; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted YES; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted YES; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted YES; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted YES; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAAR writing tests-voted YES; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAAR penalties-voted YES. Voted yes - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educo: A.	Information: Member of Texas Senate since 2003, served in House from 1981-2003. Up for re-election in 2020. Voting Record: Voted against bill to prohibit school employees from using auto deductions to pay dues to professional organizations. Voted for reducing teacher minimum pay scale. Voted against voucher scholarship. Voted against parent trigger. Voted against AFT accountability. While he defended against vouchers, the vote to reduce teacher minimum scale, coupled with voting for parent trigger, means that he is no unpredictable. 2017 Update: Voted against SB3 ESAs (vouchers). Voted for extending IGCs. Voted against SB 13 (Payroll Deductions)/Voted against SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers) Sponsored SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov./L. Gov/Speaker) Voted against SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov./L. Gov/Speaker)/Sponsored SB 19 (teacher bonuses and retiree insurance assistance)
Senate District 21	Judy Cutright Judith Zeffirini BLOCK VOTE	No rating neutral	No rating neutral	Previously ran for Congress in 2016. Website and Facebook still list her as a candidate in that race. SB279 - relating to the completion and submission of a financial aid application for costs of higher education as a condition of high school graduation for public school students. SB242 - relating to the removal of an obsolete reference regarding open-enrollment charter schools and the state Board of Education. SB37 - relating to the abolition of student loan default or breach of a student loan repayment or scholarship contract as a ground for non-renewal or other disciplinary action in relation to a professional or occupational license. SB54 - relating to the consideration for public school accountability purposes of certain students participating in regional day school programs in the state. SB52 - relating to the high school graduation of a student who transfers to a public school in the state after the student's junior year of high school. SB51 - relating to requiring the review of public school district paperwork to limit paperwork requirements. SB36 - relating to providing fee full-day pre-k for certain children. SB38 - relating to authorizing a credit union to act as a school district depository. SB1499 - Relating to a prohibition on the issuance by the Railroad Commission of Texas of a permit for a commercial surface disposal facility located near a school. Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Co-sponsor SB12 (TRS contributions). Primary sponsor SB522 - Relating to the development of an individualized education program for a public school student with a visual impairment. HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted YES; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted YES; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted YES; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted YES; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted YES; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAAR writing tests-voted NO; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAAR penalties-voted YES. Voted yes - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from tax bill). Voted NO - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1455 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educo: A. As of 2/25, received \$5000 from Charter Schools Now PAC.	Information: member of Texas Senate since 1987. Up for re-election in 2020. Second in seniority in Senate. Voting Record: 2017 Update: Voted against SB3 ESAs (vouchers); Voted for extending IGCs. Voted against SB 13 (Payroll Deductions)/Voted against SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers) Sponsored SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov./L. Gov/Speaker)/Voted against SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov./L. Gov/Speaker)/Voted for a bill to increase the number of charter schools; voted to increase funding for schools.

	NAME	ENDORSEMENTS	RATING	SUPPORTS 25X25?	CURRENT SESSION	HISTORY
Senate District 27	Eddie Lucio, Jr BLOCK VOTE		neutral		Vice-chair, education committee. Authorized legislation: SB293 - improving training and staff development for primary and secondary educators. SB292 - expansion of a pilot program for funding pre-k programs provided by districts. Use of public property. SB291 - Use of public work time. SB 427 - relating to the members of a school district's local school health advisory committee. Voting Record: Voted against prohibiting teachers from using payroll deductions to pay dues to professional organizations. Voted against lowering minimum salary scale. Voted for voucher scholarships. Voted for parent trigger. Absent for A-F accountability 2017 Update: Voted for SB3 ESAs (vouchers). Voted for extending IGCS. Voted against SB 13 (Payroll Deductions/Sponsor SB 2 (tax credit vouchers)) Voted for SB 2 (tax credit vouchers) Sponsored SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov/Lt. Gov/Speaker/Voted for SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov/Lt. Gov/Speaker)	
	Vanessa Tijerina		neutral	Yes	Candidate was accused during 2016 Congressional campaign of stealing \$70k in food stamps and Medicaid benefits, per San Antonio Express News. Seems to bounce from party to party, used to be a Dem Party chair, then ran as Green Party Congressional candidate, now running as Republican. Survey responses: WHAT IS BROKEN? This is a multipronged answer. I believe that ANY entity should be judged by how well it treats the most vulnerable of it's demographic. The refusal to identify hundreds of thousands of special education students over 10 years, has likely caused an entire generation of students to go on to live poor life outcomes. These teachers and districts during this time were also judged by this many students being tested with ZERO accommodations and ZERO accommodations with their special curriculum. I believe that we need to move away from standardized testing. Relying on these tests to measure the effectiveness of a student, teacher or district is unwise and I feel we can find a better way of measuring that success. The morale of an entire over the years has decreased. I can see why that is the case with how teachers are compensated and the way they are not really able to advocate for themselves without fear of retaliation for staff and faculty, the bullying issue, goes far beyond students being bullied and contemplating taking their own lives, the violence that goes unreported on our campuses leads to even worse, teachers even feel they work in a hostile environment. We do not need to get into that kind of relief from their classroom during the day. ALL of that makes for a schools that need care, attention and students to teachers and students to not be neglected. These are symptoms of a system that is either broken or very near being broken, they are signs on neglect. Intend to address all these concerns. PRIORITIES: In create the outcomes of the lives of Texas Students by: increase funding, in every MEANINGFUL way. Restructure our essential curriculum to actually reflect science. INCREASE the accountability of those district Members that are following below their given standards. FUNDING: Increase, every single year it should increase. Every year, will bring new and growing issues. INCREASE always, perhaps not exponentially in years where help is not needed, but in crisis situations we should ALWAYS increase. FINDING THE MONEY: Texas is the size of 5 average sized states, just as we expect Texas to manage their pocket books and rearrange priorities, we can do the same as law makers. We can identify programs that have stalled, have gone no where, we can identify areas that need cutbacks, our schools should ALWAYS be priority when it comes to budget allocations. VOUCHERS/CHARTERS: I would love for Texas to consider the legalization of Charters, the Gaming industry and how Texas Schools have been able to benefit from the existing lottery system in Texas, all of this is tax money that can be configured by coming to a mutual agreement where private owners and school districts can benefit mutually. I believe in prioritizing addressing the issues of non-private and non-charter schools BEFORE addressing the issues of private/charter schools. We can talk about voucher/charter credits, scholarships to those schools after we address the issues I mentioned, first. STAAR 1 will refer you to the answer to question number 1. I would need to see the research behind the STAAR testing to even begin to be okay with ANY current standardized testing. This research will have to convince me, with compelling evidence that students, teachers and districts have benefited from standardized testing as much as the companies that profit off standardized testing. ADVANCEMENT/GRADUATION: I will refer you again to the answer to question 1 and will add, I do not support either of the above methods and I feel strongly we can find a better way than both of those. IGCs: I support finding better ways than these, also, we need to take care of identifying EACH and every special education student before we can start evaluating which students are graduation ready. My goodness. A-F CAMPUS EVALUATION: It is ineffective because it is TOO broad. There are no increments and increments are what give us detail so how a student is gaining credit that creates. MERRIT PAY: I will refer you to the answer to question 1. CLASS SIZE CAPS/WAIVERS: NO WAIVERS: Yes, to caps. How can we put a cap on the amount of patients assigned to a nurse on a hospital, on the size of day care for smaller children, yet no caps in classroom or teacher/student ratios being addressed. Refusing to address this issue leads to our students not getting the attention they need and or to over worked and too much being expected from students, teachers and districts. ATTRACTING/RETAINING TEACHERS: You attract a teacher, just the way you would attract any creature, you improve their environment, you make them feel valuable by SHOWING them that they are, I will also refer you to the answer to number 1. COLA: I think a cost of living increase should EXACTLY follow to correlate the science and data from increased standards of living in the U.S. and our regions. That frequency, then depend on that which will be ever changing. TRS CARE: If raising costs of TRS care for retirees does NOT reflect any added value they can benefit from, then who will subsidize the rest? TRS: Voted for SB12 E-ACHS TRS participant and asking them which two they would like to go along with the majority decision. 25x25: Yes, absolutely yes. (This should have been initiated YEARS ago, we are the average size of 5 states. Grades)	
Senate District 28	Charles Perry 2020 - Greg Abbott 2014 - Texans for Fiscal Responsibility/Empower Texans	2020 - Greg Abbott 2014 - Texans for Fiscal Responsibility/Empower Texans	unfriendly		Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Voted for SB 12 - unanimous vote. HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted NO; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted NO; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted NO; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted NO; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted NO; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAR writing tests-voted YES; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAR penalties-voted NO. Voted NO - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1465 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educo: F.	Information: Served House 2010-2014. Elected to Senate 2014. Re-elected unopposed 2016. Up for re-election in 2020. June 2017 - Ranked Top 10 Worst Legislators following 85th Legislative Session by Texas Monthly - based on property tax reform and school voucher. Perry went back and forth on his support for vouchers. Spoke against the bill on the Senate floor. Then voted for it. Measure later died in the senate floor.) Voting Record: following SB 8 - Management and Operations of Public Schools (Yes), SB1 - Biennium End Budget - (Yes), May 2013 - Establish Free Breakfast program for Students (Nay - Bill Passed), May 2015 - SB 6 - Rating System for Schools, Yes 2017 Update: Voted for SB3 ESAs (vouchers). Sponsored SB 13 (Payroll Deductions/Voted against SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers/Voted against SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers/Voted for SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov/Lt. Gov/Speaker).
Senate District 29	Jose Rodriguez-- 2010 - Texas Parent PAC, TSTA	2010 - Texas Parent PAC, TSTA	friendly		Authorized legislation: SB209 - relating to social-work services in public schools--SB136 - relating to the public school finance system--SB138 - relating to the bilingual education allotment provided under the public school finance system--SB139 - relating to the open-enrollment charter-school--SB140 - relating to the public school finance system--SB141 - relating to the public school finance system--SB142 - relating to the availability of school counseling and public middle-, high-, and high school campuses--SB139 - relating to a notice of educational rights and recovery by school districts and open-enrollment charter schools of costs for certain student evaluations. Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Co-sponsor SB12 (TRS contributions)--Co-sponsor SB214 (End-IGC sunset). Voted yes --SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from tax bill). Voted NO - SB29 (taxpayer-funded lobbying). Voted NO SB1465 (virtual school vouchers). Grade from Project Educo: F.	Information: first elected to Senate in 2010 - Up for re-election in 2020. Current Senate Minority Leader. Voting Record: 2017 Update: Voted against SB3 ESAs (vouchers). Voted for extending IGCS. Voted against SB 13 (Payroll Deductions/Voted against SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers/Voted against SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov/Lt. Gov/Speaker).
	Bethany Hatch 2020 - Senator Bob Hall	2020 - Senator Bob Hall	unfriendly		Website: The public school system is failing our students and our teachers. In order to provide our schools with the highest possibility for success, we must: Implement School Choice, Remove the Federal Government from Texas' Education System, Eliminate Standardized Testing. From FB, responding to article about will centers for students: "Allocating tax payer money to open will centers for students and parents because the already tax payer funded schools are too good for them. What are we afraid of?"	
	Cesar Blanco BLOCK VOTE				Authorized legislation: HB257 - relating to a policy requiring public and private primary and secondary schools and public junior colleges to provide local law enforcement agencies certain information regarding certain individuals authorized to carry a handgun on a campus. HB391 - relating to student access to public school instructional materials and technology. HB699 - relating to the bilingual education allotment provided under the public school finance system. HB258 - relating to the abolition of student loan default or breach of student loan repayment or scholarship contract as a ground for nonrenewal or other disciplinary action in relation to a professional or occupational license. Co-sponsor HB218 - relating to the abolition of student loan default or breach of a student loan repayment or scholarship contract as a ground for nonrenewal or other disciplinary action in relation to a professional or occupational license. Co-sponsored legislation: SB12 (state contribution to TRS). Voted yes - HB3. Voted yes - HB18 (student mental health services). Absent for vote - HB102 (mentor teachers). Voted yes - HB953 (TRS contributions). Voted yes - SB12 (TRS contributions). Voted no - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Grade from Project Educo: A. As of 2/25, received \$5000 from Charter Schools Now PAC.	Information: first elected to the Texas House in 2014. Voting Record: 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance)
	David Marino Pat Fallon	2018 - TSTA, Texas AFT, 2014 - Texas Parent PAC	Neutral			
Senate District 30	Pat Fallon Responsibility/Empower Texans	2018 - Texans for Fiscal Responsibility/Empower Texans	unfriendly		Serves on the Education Committee. Authorized legislation: SB262 - relating to a cost-of-living adjustment applicable to certain benefits paid by the Teacher Retirement System of Texas. Voted- record: For reducing testing. For-140 - Against charter school funding. Against PK-vouchers. For-home-rule districts. Against restoring public funding for vouchers. For-TRS funding. Against ASDEs following PubEd rules. Against ASD caps. Against delaying expansion of charter schools. Against vouchers, but for charters. 2017 Update: Sponsored HB 1366 ESAs for SpEd (vouchers). Sponsored HB 4184 (tax credits for donating to charter schools)-voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR)/Sponsored HB 24 (Huberty School Finance Bill)/Sponsored HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system- end-around public education committee) Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance). Voting record is from House, no voting record for Senate, newly elected.	
	Craig Carter		neutral	No	Small business owner. From website: "Provide our students & teachers with the tools they need to succeed." Response to a question about what he would do for educators: "I am an outside the box thinker, and I believe teachers need to be 1) better funded and to be paid more than I will get to the bottom of the education funds and why there isn't going to be any more. What I believe teachers need to be able to solve complex problems by cutting vital programs or spending more money. I take a business approach and require administrators to use process improvements to reduce spending and increase efficiency in order to provide teachers the resources to do what they teach. PRIORITIES: Increase funding for nonrenewal or other disciplinary action in relation to a professional or occupational license. FUNDING: Increase funding for nonrenewal or other disciplinary action in relation to a professional or occupational license. FINDING THE MONEY: Texas is the size of 5 average sized states, just as we expect Texas to manage their pocket books and rearrange priorities, we can do the same as law makers. We can identify programs that have stalled, have gone no where, we can identify areas that need cutbacks, our schools should ALWAYS be priority when it comes to budget allocations. VOUCHERS/CHARTERS: I do not support using taxpayer dollars for private education. I do however support allowing parents who have children in underperforming schools, but can't afford a private school, the opportunity to send their child to a better school. One way to do this is by utilizing a voucher system, but those parents must also have a financial stake in their child's education. STAAR: This is an area I am open for discussion on. I know that in practicality the test may be missing elements required for certain job skills and trades. As jobs evolve, we should also evolve our testing standards. ADVANCEMENT/GRADUATION: I feel that it should be left to the ISD to determine what measures they feel justify advancement and graduation. The goal is to prepare students for the job market. IGC: IGC committees should be determined at the local ISD level. I do not believe the state should be able to put an end date on an IGC committee. A-F CAMPUS EVALUATION: It was effective for 25 years ago as I am goal oriented and have always been numbers oriented. However I am open to discussing innovative ways to evaluate learning. Clearly doesn't understand we are asking about CAMPUS (not individual evaluation). MERRIT PAY: I do believe in providing incentives for teachers because I am a businessman, so I am not opposed to making performance one of the determining factors for pay increases. With that said, I do not believe that those results should be tied to standardized testing. CLASS SIZE CAPS/WAIVERS: Yes, I do believe in capping the size of classes, and I would also support reducing the size of classes. ATTRACTING/RETAINING TEACHERS: Attracting the best teachers goes far beyond pay. We need to create an environment where teachers, first foremost, have the support of state and local leaders who are focused on educational outcomes. I would like to enhance efficiencies to the point where we can make teachers in Texas the highest paid in the country. COLA: It is my opinion that cost of living increases should be tied to the rate of inflation. TRS CARE: Our healthcare system is broken, and I am in favor of letting the free market dictate value of health care and insurance. TRS: That is something I would get my districts opinion on before I represented them in that matter. 25x25: No, I think that if we are going to demand excellence from our students, then our students should expect the same from their teachers. My focus on education would be on implementing best practices to help students in Texas up to 2025.	
	Andy Hopper		unfriendly		Software engineer. Homeschools his kids. From website: "The COVID-19 pandemic has shown everyday Texans that there are alternatives to the one-size-fits-all public schools that they remember from their childhoods. While many young Texans have thrived in private schools, home schools, and charter schools for years, now in post-COVID-19 2020 Texans are fully aware that these are real and viable alternatives. The biggest social change for Texas and America in the 20th century was the movement of folks from rural areas into cities to live and work. I fully expect that the big change in the 21st century will be technology allowing workers and students to work and learn from anywhere. This is a good thing and will be an even greater thing for rural Texas as people will be coming back. School is changing and Texans finally have real, viable choices. However, our property taxes only support one educational possibility, and this needs to change. Texans should be able to apply the money that they earned to whatever option (private, home-school, public, charter, etc...) that they prefer for their children. Some schooling options, such as public school distance learning or home-schooling, are often cheaper per student. By opening up the number of options to parents, funds that are available via property tax can be directed to the entities that need it, such as Texas' teachers. I support legislation ensuring that the parents rights to raise and educate their children are protected in Texas just as a fundamental constitutional right and that there is a presumption that fit parents act in the best interest of their children. So long as the parent is fit, there will normally be no reason for the state to interject in the private realm of the family to question the ability of that parent to make the best decisions concerning the rearing of that child." YouTube video posted to FB about school funding states "there are options, and there isn't just one way to educate kids." "From a funding perspective...these other options are often much less expensive than public schools." Stated in video that tax money should follow the child.	
	Shelley Luther	Jonathan Stickland Senator Bob Hall	unfriendly		Small business owner. Former teacher. From website: "As a former classroom teacher in our public schools I know the importance of driving dollars back to the classroom to ensure that teachers have the support they need to invest in the lives of their students. We also must end standardized testing that is tying the hands of educators." Against taxpayer funded lobbying.	
	Drew Springer BLOCK VOTE - SPECIAL ELECTION	Senate race - Pat Fallon. From House Race: 2020 - Greg Abbott 2014 - Empower Texans/Texans for Fiscal Responsibility, 2012 - Empower Texans/Texans for Fiscal Responsibility	Neutral		Authorized legislation: HB613 - relating to the date of the election for trustees of an independent school district. HB843 - relating to the inclusion of satisfactory performance on certain postsecondary readiness assessment instruments in the indicators for evaluating the performance of public schools. Co-author legislation: HB3 - Relating to public school finance and public education. Co-sponsored legislation: SB12 (state contribution to TRS). SB29 - taxpayer funded lobbying. Voted yes - HB3. Voted yes - HB18 (student mental health services). Voted no - HB102 (mentor teachers). Voted no - HB953 (TRS contributions). Voted yes - SB12 (TRS contributions). Voted yes - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Grade from Project Educo: B. Also running for HD 68 simultaneously.	Information: First elected to the Texas House in 2012. Voting Record: Voted for a bill to make it easier for public school districts to be converted to deregulated home rule charter districts. Voted against a budget bill providing increased funding for public education. Voted against an amendment that would have delayed the expansion of charter schools. 2017 Update: voted for HB 1776 (remove US history and promotion requirements from STAAR); Voted for HB 21 (Huberty School Finance); Voted for HB 191 (creates a commission to recommend improvements to the public school finance system, end-around public education committee)/Sponsor HB 20 (rainy-day fund for retiree insurance); Voted for HB 17 special session (Huberty School Finance Bill)
	Chris Watts		neutral		Attorney. Mayor of Denton. From website: "The state of Texas is solely responsible for public school financing. Public school financing is a combination of local taxpayer dollars and state funding. Over the last 8 years, the state's funding for public education has decreased from 55% to 38-40%. Thus, taxing local taxpayers to fund public education has increased from 15% to 30-40%. The hole is deep. The last legislative session attempted to increase state funding for public schools, presumably to decrease local property taxes. If you are in a high-appraisal growth area, you may see some relief. However, property owners in areas where assessed values are flat and not rising will see virtually no relief. We must continue to seek solutions that provide parity between local funding and state funding of public education."	

NAME	ENDORSEMENTS	RATING	SUPPORTS 25X25?	CURRENT SESSION	HISTORY
Jacob Minter		Neutral	Yes	<p>Electrician. Survey responses: WHAT IS BROKEN? I believe the way curriculum is taught is broken, if anything. In Montessori schools, for example, children aren't necessarily all taught the same material. They're taught at their own pace outside of a one-size-fits-all system. If we could create a less rigid curriculum, where teachers can actually use the skills they learned in college instead of being confined to what state lawmakers and other people outside of the classroom deem appropriate. PRIORITIES: Increasing teachers' salaries beyond token raises. Decreasing student-teacher ratios through creation of more schools. Dynamic curriculum as stated above. FUNDING: Increase. FINDING THE MONEY: Before finding the money, I believe we should not audit to ensure that schools are managing their finances well. When we have schools building \$70 million stadiums with poorly constructed concrete, budget waste can be a major concern. Past that, I would look to increasing commercial property taxes on businesses employing more than 100 people for funding. VOUCHERS/CHARTERS: I would not support this. STAAR: I think the test itself is fine, but perhaps the frequency at which the test occurs should be altered. Teachers and students alike are in a constant state of test preparation once the STAAR test enters their life. Perhaps shearing this back to every other year, or at exit levels such as 5th, 8th, and 12th grades could help to reduce stress levels in our students and teachers as well as allowing them to focus on other areas of education besides test taking. ADVANCEMENT/GRADUATION: I don't know enough about IGC's to intelligently comment on them, but I don't believe the assessment tests should be used. Determination by teachers and staff seems like a fair way to determine graduation and advancement. IGC: Again, I don't really know enough about them to truly intelligently comment. That said, at first glance, they seem like they may be easy to manipulate in favor of particular students/groupings. A-F CAMPUS EVALUATION: It is effective because it creates a bottom line for students to aim to rise above, and show when they need help in a particular area. It can be ineffective in that it can pressure students into perfectionism, creating unnecessary stress levels simply to strive for that A+ instead of focusing on comprehension of material. (Candidate doesn't understand focus of question is campuses, not individuals) MERIT PAY: I feel like right now with our current system, it would be unfair to teachers in historically poor performing schools. However, if we were to free up the curriculum to allow teachers to decide how best to teach the students, it would absolutely be a great idea. CLASS SIZE CAPS/MANERS: No, I think class sizes should be mediated in other ways, as in the creation of new schools. ATTRACTING/RETAINING TEACHERS: Encourage unionizing, while discouraging overreach. Use this to help work towards raises and possible yearly salary increases and better benefits. These benefits could be funded through the property taxes and school finance reform mentioned above. COLAs: Annually, based on the SSA's COLA adjustments. TRS CARE: I'd look to increase transparency in our healthcare system, and I believe that with the right system in place, our providers will be forced into a competitive pricing system which would lower costs. TRS: I believe it should remain a defined benefit plan. 401(k) plans are age restricted with penalties against those below a certain age, and the value of a plan of this nature can fall drastically. 25x25: Yes, I can commit to this.</p>	
Senate District 31	2018 - TSTA, Texas AFT, Texas Parent PAC	friendly		<p>Authored legislation: SB328 - relating to the information required to be included in or with a school district ad valorem tax bill. SB248 - relating to investment training requirements for school district and municipal financial officers. SB215 - bill to end the sunset date on IGC committees for those students who pass at least 3 STAAR exams. Voted for SB3 - unanimous vote. Voted for SB 12 - unanimous vote. HB3 Amendment 6 to keep outcome-based funding-voted YES; Amendment 8 to remove merit pay-voted No; Amendment 16 to increase bilingual ed-voted No; Amendment 29 to add counselors to \$5K pay raise-voted No; Amendment 30 to add other professionals to \$5K raise-voted No; Amendment 43 to eliminate extra STAAR writing tests-voted YES; Amendment 66 temporary suspension of STAAR penalties-voted No. Voted yes - SB2 FA3 (remove school districts from tax bill). Voted YES - SB29 (taxpayer funded lobbying). Grade from Project Educo. B. Seat not up in 2020.</p>	<p>Information: has served in Texas Senate since 2004. Won re-election in 2018. Up for re-election in 2022. Former Mayor of Amarillo. Owns Lake Steel, Inc. Voting Record: 2017 Update: Voted against SB3 ESAs (vouchers); Voted for extending IGCs; Voted for SB 13 (payroll deductions)/Voted for SB 2 (Tax Credit Vouchers) Sponsored SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov/Lt. Gov/Speaker)/Voted for SB 16 (commission to make recommendations on school finance by appointment of Gov/Lt. Gov/Speaker)</p>