



AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY

TEXAS

Texas Weekly Update for the week ending April 6th, 2013

News and Views from
Americans for Prosperity-Texas

ALERT: School Choice Testimony Needed for **Tuesday, April 9th** Hearing at the Texas Capitol

On Tuesday, April 9, school choice bills will get a hearing in both the House and the Senate. **These bills have been under attack by the education lobby which is demanding more money and less accountability AND NO COMPETITION.** We hope you will either come to testify, or let your legislator know you support school choice in Texas.

The Senate Education Committee will hear public testimony on SB 23 by Sen. Dan Patrick which is the Texas Equal Opportunity Scholarship Program (a tax credit bill) and SB 1575 by Sen. Donna Campbell, the Taxpayer Savings Grant. The House Ways and Means Committee is slated to hear public testimony on HB 3245 by Rep. Bill Callegari, the Tax Credit for Scholarships.

Senate Education Committee Hearing Room:

- **8:30 AM, Tues., April 9th**
- **Place: E1.028 in the Texas Capitol**

Ways & Means Committee Hearing:

- **2:00PM or upon final adjournment/recess, Tues., April 9th**
- **Place: E2.028 in the Texas Capitol**

TAKE ACTION:

- Oppose CSCOPE: Support SB 1406
- School Choice for Disabled Children: SB 115 & HB 1175

ISSUES Summaries (on next page):

- AFP-Texas Agrees Medicaid Expansion is Not Right for Texans
- Parent Trigger Provides Local Control

AFP-Texas Agrees Medicaid Expansion is Not Right for Texans

Gov. Rick Perry, Sen. John Cornyn and Sen. Ted Cruz held a roundtable followed by a press conference to discuss the flexibility needed by states to enact meaningful reforms to the existing, broken Medicaid program. They were joined by Congressmen Joe Barton and Michael C. Burgess, M.D., Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, State Rep. Lois Kolkhorst, Texas Health and Human Services Commissioner Kyle Janek, as well as the Texas Public Policy Foundation (TPPF). Several Texas lawmakers and groups also joined in support of reforming the current Medicaid system and providing flexibility. AFP-Texas State Director Peggy Venable and Michael Quinn Sullivan from Empower Texans also participated.

[Read more by clicking here!](#)

Parent Trigger Provides Local Control

Failing schools represent a betrayal of the trust we have placed in public education. More funding has not been the answer. Over a ten-year period, Texas school funding grew at a rate of five times faster than the student enrollment growth and we still have kids assigned by government – based solely on their zip codes – to failing schools.

Many of those kids are poor and their parents have no choices. They cannot move to another district, nor can they afford to home school or pay for a private school.

Texas needs a meaningful parent trigger bill. [SB 1263 provides a tool to empower parents to take over and turn around their children's failing schools.](#)

[Click here to keep reading!](#)

Americans for Prosperity (AFP) is a nationwide organization of citizen leaders committed to advancing every individual's right to economic freedom and opportunity. AFP believes reducing the size and scope of government is the best safeguard to ensuring individual productivity and prosperity for all Americans. AFP educates and engages citizens in support of restraining state and federal government growth, and returning government to its constitutional limits. AFP has more than 2 million members, including members in all 50 states, and 34 state chapters and affiliates. For more information, visit www.americansforprosperity.org