



BORRIS L. MILES

STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 13

COMMITTEES: Criminal Justice, Health & Human Services, Natural Resources & Economic Development, Nominations and Transportation

OFFICIAL STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement from Senator Borris L. Miles on Voting Against SB 17 – Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Bill

“SB 17 would prohibit Texas colleges and universities from establishing and maintaining Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) offices.

“We do not live in a perfect world where everyone has been treated equally and color-blind hiring has been the norm. DEI policies and offices stem from efforts by colleges to correct years of historical discrimination against underrepresented minorities, and that mission is still important today. The banning of DEI will diminish the progress made by these policies and offices; we will see a significant drop in women, people of color and other minorities in positions of power at our universities.

“There is no logic in the belief that you increase diversity by removing the policies and offices that work to promote it. I voted against SB 17 because this bill will do all harm and no good. Far too many times, legislation is brought on this floor that adversely affects minorities and the voices of minority members go unheard about what affects our communities. SB 17 will not move us forward but backward. This bill is bad for our universities, students, faculty and all of Texas.”

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