



TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JACEY JETTON

DISTRICT 26

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Jacey Jetton Announces School Choice Legislation

RICHMOND, TX - Representative Jacey Jetton announces intent to file a universal school choice bill to empower parents to choose the best education setting for their children. Governor Abbott announced the third special session will begin on October 9 and will likely center around school choice.

“Education is an essential part of the American Dream, but student outcomes should not be tied to their zip code,” said Jetton. “Texas must break down financial barriers between kids and access to the best education available. When parents are empowered to choose the education opportunity that works best for their families, Texas children win. Over 30 states already have some form of school choice. It’s time to empower parents so Texas can lead in education.”

Jetton’s universal school choice bill will empower parents to choose the right education setting for their child’s unique needs and will focus on funding for children, not systems. Funding for the program each year will be determined by legislative appropriation and administered through education savings accounts. If funding limits the number of children who can participate in the program, priority will be given to siblings of students already in the program and students who participate in special education services and qualify for free and reduced lunch. Additional groups will follow if there are more funds available.

The Texas Education Agency and the Comptroller of Public Accounts will coordinate to administer Jetton’s universal education savings account program. Funds will be dispersed directly to approved providers or to reimburse for approved expenses. Qualifying private schools will have to offer norm-based end-of-year assessments. Approved expenses will include tuition and fees, uniforms, testing fees, and required program equipment. The Comptroller of Public Accounts and the State Auditor will be authorized to audit accounts and providers to ensure appropriate use of funds.



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In the 88th Legislative Session, Jetton filed two school choice bills. The first was a comprehensive reform of special education funding that also created education savings accounts for students who receive special education services. The second also created education savings accounts for students who qualify for free and reduced lunch and students not meeting grade level on STAAR exams.

While these bills would have qualified most of the students enrolled in Texas public schools for an education savings account, the universal bill ensures all students are qualified and limits participation only based on available funding.

Jetton is currently out on active duty with the Texas Army National Guard and his wife, Fanny Jetton, has served as the Temporary Acting Representative for House District 26, which includes Richmond, Rosenberg, and Katy in Fort Bend County. Jacey Jetton will be back in Texas prior to the beginning of the third special session.

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