

**DISTRICT 25** 

<u>Committees:</u> Nominations – Vice Chair Education Jurisprudence Transportation Veterans Affairs & District 25 Counties: Bexar (part) Comal Guadalupe Hays Kendall Travis (part)

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Military Installations

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## Senator Campbell Passes Three Key Education Bills Out of Senate

AUSTIN – State Senator Donna Campbell passed three bills out of the Senate chamber today; **SB 1845**, **SB 1005**, and **SB 1883**.

"We must ensure our children have every educational tool necessary to succeed," Senator Campbell said. "The three bills I authored and passed out of the Senate today will empower Texas students and our military veterans to achieve their highest aspirations while saving students and taxpayers money."

**Senate Bill 1845 (College Credit for Heroes):** Directs the Higher Education Coordinating Board to develop a standardized curricula that allows veterans and service members to turn their military work experience and military education into college credits. Since we first started implementing this program, participating universities in Texas have awarded an average of 16 credit hours per veteran applicant, representing substantial savings to our veterans both in terms of tuition costs and opportunity costs.

**Senate Bill 1005 (Secondary Exit-Level Assessment):** Allows students to use the ACT or SAT as a substitute assessment for the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) exit-level exam. This bill would give the TEA Commissioner flexibility to designate an alternate assessment for certain students to use to graduate from high school, leading to savings to the state of nearly \$2 million a year.

**Senate Bill 1883 (Charter School Application and Review):** Creates an appeal process for initial charter school applicants who barely miss meeting the threshold to establish a charter school in Texas. The appeal process would only apply to charter schools with applications that fall short of the existing threshold by 10% or less. This will help bring more quality charter schools to Texas to reduce the 140,000 student waiting list to attend a public charter school.