

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 24, 2017

Landry for West Texas
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On Thursday, July 20, HB 20 was filed to take money out of the “Rainy Day Fund” and place it into Teacher’s Retirement System of Texas (TRS) to decrease health insurance premiums and deductibles for certain health benefit plans. Along with HB 20, HB 22 was filed to extend additional state aid for tax reduction (ASATR) provided to certain school districts.

HB 20 was authored by Representatives Ashby, Darby, VanDeaver, Zerwas, and Howard and co – authored by Representatives Bell, Bonnen (Dennis), Burns, Button, Cook, Gooden, Guillen, Kuempel, Lambert, Martinez "Mando," Oliveira, Price, Raney, Shine, Springer, and Villalba. Whereas, Representative King authored HB 22 and it had no co – authors.

These are issues that need addressed but where was Representative Dustin Burrows on them? He was too busy trying to control local governments by co – authoring HB 46, which relates to the regulation of discrimination by cities and counties.

Representative Burrows stated in a late June issue of the Snyder Daily News that he wants to fund education. Around that same time, he wrote an Op – ed piece in the Avalanche – Journal claiming ASATR was one of his priorities for this special session. He was on right – wing media this past Friday to reiterate how ASATR was a top priority for him during the special session. But when push came to shove on this critical issue, Representative Burrows was a ghost.

“If he thinks getting his picture taken with the Governor and thanking him for putting ASATR and TRS – Care on the special session agenda is good enough to make West Texans think he cares about education, he has another thing coming,” Drew Landry said. “There’s a 1970’s classic rock song called ‘Smoke on the Water.’ Well, West Texas educators, current and retired, get a lot of smoke from my opponent and that’s exactly what all his recent actions were,” Landry stated. “He could have at least co – authored those two bills that are crucial to rural schools and our retired teachers. But he didn’t care to,” said Landry. “The only one who gets anything from my opponent is the Lt. Governor and that is extremely sad.”

