



## SENATOR PAUL BETTENCOURT

DISTRICT 7

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**Contact Information**

Lauri Saathoff | (512) 463-0107

Lauri.Saathoff@senate.texas.gov

### **Senator Bettencourt Calls for HISD Trustees to Schedule Another HISD “Recapture” Vote for May Says voter approval of HISD ‘recapture’ would “avoid the lose-lose-lose situation that exists today”**

**AUSTIN** – During today’s Senate Finance Committee hearing, Senator Paul Bettencourt (R-Houston) called for the Houston Independent School District’s Board of Trustees to schedule another HISD “recapture” vote for May and avoid the lose-lose situation that exists today. **“I called upon the Houston Independent School District’s Board of Trustees to schedule another vote on recapture credits for HISD voters in May in today’s Senate Finance Committee hearing,”** Senator Bettencourt said. **“This is a lose-lose-lose situation otherwise.”**

He called for HISD trustees to let people vote on the inevitable tax hike that will come with the Education Commissioner’s detachment of high-value business properties in HISD, both for the detached properties and the properties that remain in HISD, since those properties will have to make up the shortfall to pay debt from HISD losing nearly \$18 billion of its tax base.

**“The first ‘lose’ is that de-annexed taxpayers will see their Maintenance and Operations (M&O) property tax rates rise by 15 cents,”** Senator Bettencourt said. **“That means commercial taxpayers will pay their new school districts millions of dollars more in taxes per year.”**

**“The second ‘lose’ is that the existing HISD taxpayers have to make up their Interest and Sinking (I&S) property tax debt rate goes up 2 cents to make up for the departed de-annexed commercial taxpayers,”** he continued. **“That is both homeowners and business owners paying 2 pennies in tax rate more.”**

**“The final ‘lose’ is that HISD permanently loses \$17.4 billion dollars of their tax roll that can’t be replaced easily per the TEA Commissioner if at all,”** Senator Bettencourt noted. **“The way to fix this is obvious: HISD trustees need to schedule another HISD recapture vote in May and avoid the lose-lose-lose situation that exists today,”** he concluded.

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CAPITOL OFFICE:  
P.O. Box 12068  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-0107  
(512) 463-0107  
FAX (512) 463-8810

COMMITTEES:  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS – VICE-CHAIR  
EDUCATION  
FINANCE  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
DETERMINE A SUFFICIENT BALANCE OF THE ECONOMIC STABILIZATION FUND

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
11451 KATY FREEWAY, STE. 209  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77079  
(713) 464-0282  
FAX (713) 461-0108