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TEXAS STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 25

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CSCOPE OVERSIGHT BILL PASSES SENATE

Campbell and Patrick's Bill Brings Curriculum Under Review of SBOE

AUSTIN— By a vote of 29 to 1, the Texas Senate approved a bill Monday to place the online CSCOPE curriculum under the review of the State Board of Education. Senate Bill 1406, authored by Sen. Donna Campbell and Sen. Dan Patrick, provides oversight of CSCOPE for the first time since the curriculum was developed by the state's Education Service Centers in 2005.

"No educational curriculum should ever leave parents in the dark. With today's vote, parents will have access to the material and a rigorous review process will be in place to ensure that lesson plans are factually correct, credible, and consistent with what Texans want taught in our schools," Senator Campbell said.

In February, Senator Patrick conducted a hearing, along with Sen. Campbell and other members of the Senate Education Committee, that exposed problems with CSCOPE. These errors included a lack of management oversight, a lack of transparency, questionable lesson plans, and troubling legal documents.

"If we've learned anything from CSCOPE, it's for parents to get involved and stay involved in their child's education. Concerned parents brought a lot of this to light. Added transparency and accountability will limit errors and increase standards so our students receive a better education," Senator Campbell stated.

CSCOPE is used in roughly 75 percent of Texas school districts. The bill will not affect the curriculum or lesson plans designed by schools or teachers outside those districts, which would still fall under local control.

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Senator Donna Campbell represents Senate District 25 which includes all or parts of Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Hays, Kendall and Travis counties. She is a practicing emergency room physician who lives in New Braunfels with her husband and the youngest of their four daughters.

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