

## **Resolution to Establish the Office of Inspector General of Public Education**

**Whereas**, the root cause of most problems in Texas public schools stems from the lack of accountability;

**Whereas**, public education represents one of the largest budget items in Texas, yet parents and other citizens lack the means to hold government accountable;

**Whereas**, school districts consistently violate the Texas Education Code, the Texas Family Code, Texas Penal Code, due process rights, and other laws, and the current grievance process presents a conflict of interest as the defendant, investigator, and judge are the same entity -- the school district;

**Whereas**, Texas Education Code Chapters 26 and 28 have no enforcement measures, allowing public schools to treat laws as mere suggestions, which does not serve the interests of Texas citizens and results in harm;

**Whereas**, current enforcement measures imbedded in Texas Education Code are ignored;

**Whereas**, sex and violence against students at the hands of school employees is occurring at an alarming rate and is not appropriately reported, investigated, or referred for prosecution and placement on the do-not-hire list (as required by law) in a timely manner, leaving students at risk;

**Whereas**, the level of violence against students and educators in Texas public schools is unacceptable, but current restorative justice practices fail to remedy or reverse this trend;

**Whereas**, school districts issue illegitimate criminal trespass warnings, threaten and slander parents, target their children for retaliation, initiate bogus Child Protective Services (CPS) complaints, and arrest parents who file complaints or challenge lawfulness of district actions and speak up at board meetings;

**Whereas**, the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) has been witnessed instructing school boards on how to circumvent the Texas Education Code;

**Whereas**, school district policies include strict and short deadlines for parents to file grievances, but school districts delay responses at will, even when an immediate threat of harm exists;

**Whereas**, Texas school financing formulas are so complex that it is nearly impossible for a constituent taxpayer to know the complete funding of a school district and if those funds are being used as required;

**Whereas**, the State of Texas has added enormous funding for school safety with no accountability processes for management of expenditures, leaving room for opportunity, incentive and rationalization for fraud;

**Therefore, be it resolved that we implore the Legislature to create an independent Office of Inspector General of Education, appointed by a majority vote of the elected State Board of Education, to investigate fraud, waste, abuse, and violations of parental rights and student due process rights; and to propose and assure enforcement of Texas laws, including the Texas Education Code, Texas Family Code, Texas Penal Code, and other laws, when they occur in a Texas public school setting.**

A copy of this resolution should be sent to the \_\_\_\_\_ County/Senate District # \_\_\_\_ Convention Resolutions Committee from Precinct # \_\_\_\_ with the recommendation that it be passed and sent to the State Convention Platform Committee of the \_\_\_\_\_ Party of Texas.