SHARE:

Join Our Email List

Texas Education CAFE™ Advocacy Network

Texas Policy Weekly Update

Each week, we are sharing the latest news about what's happening in Texas education policy and how you can make your voice heard.

Make sure you keep receiving these notices by subscribing to the Texas Education CAFE Advocacy Network!

Coming Up: Week of March 29

Hearings this week will address:

- Oversight of public school accountability,
- Expanding virtual learning,
- Ending corporate tax breaks that hurt school funding, and
- Changing high school courses and career goals.

You can watch the hearings live online. Each hearing covers multiple bills (click the links below to see the agendas). For hearings in the Texas House, you can submit comments about any of the bills being discussed during the hearing using an online portal (even if they've moved on to a different bill).

Monday
House Ways & Means Committee
10:00 a.m. (See notice)

Tuesday

Wednesday
Senate Higher Education Committee
9:00 a.m. (See notice)

Watch hearings live

Public Education Committee
8:00 a.m. (See notice)

Thursday
Higher Education Committee
8:00 a.m. (See notice)

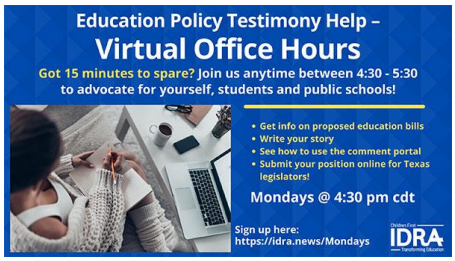
Watch hearings live

Watch past hearings

Watch past hearings

Submit Your Comments this Week

IDRA holds virtual office hours to walk you through the process of submitting public comments online



Every Monday afternoon, IDRA helps students, families, educators and community members submit their own comments on education bills being debated by Texas lawmakers that week. #ShareYourStory

What happens during IDRA's virtual office hours?

- Get information on bills that will be heard by lawmakers that week.
- Summarize your own story and how a proposed bill would impact schools in your community.
- See how to use Texas' online public comment portal so you can share your thoughts and ideas with lawmakers. Submit your comments!

Mondays • 4:30-5:30 pm cdt
Bilingual event in English & Spanish
Register once to get the link and come back any time.

Register Now!

Note: IDRA will assist with bill information and the comment process, not on influencing a participant's position.

Highlights from Last Week

IDRA submitted the following testimony this week.

- SB 29 Harms Transgender Students by Prohibiting Their Participation in Team Sports Aligned with their Gender Identity, IDRA Testimony against Senate Bill 29, submitted to the Senate State Affairs Committee, March 26, 2021

- New Charters Must Still Be Accountable to the State Board of Education and Communities, IDRA testimony against Senate Bill 28, submitted to the Senate Education Committee, March 25, 2021

- **School District Accountability Cannot Compromise Community Input and Engagement**, IDRA testimony against Senate Bill 1365, submitted to the Senate Education Committee, March 25, 2021

- **Texas Needs a Statewide Approach to Internet Connectivity Across Texas School Districts**, IDRA testimony on Senate Bill 1171, presented by Thomas Marshall before the Senate Education Committee on March 25, 2021

- **School Safety Funds Should Support Positive School Climates**, IDRA Testimony on House Bill 1525, submitted to the House Public Education Committee, March 23, 2021

- **Individual Graduation Committees Should be Available to All High School Students**, IDRA Testimony for House Bill 999, submitted to House Public Education Committee, March 23, 2021

Tools & Resources

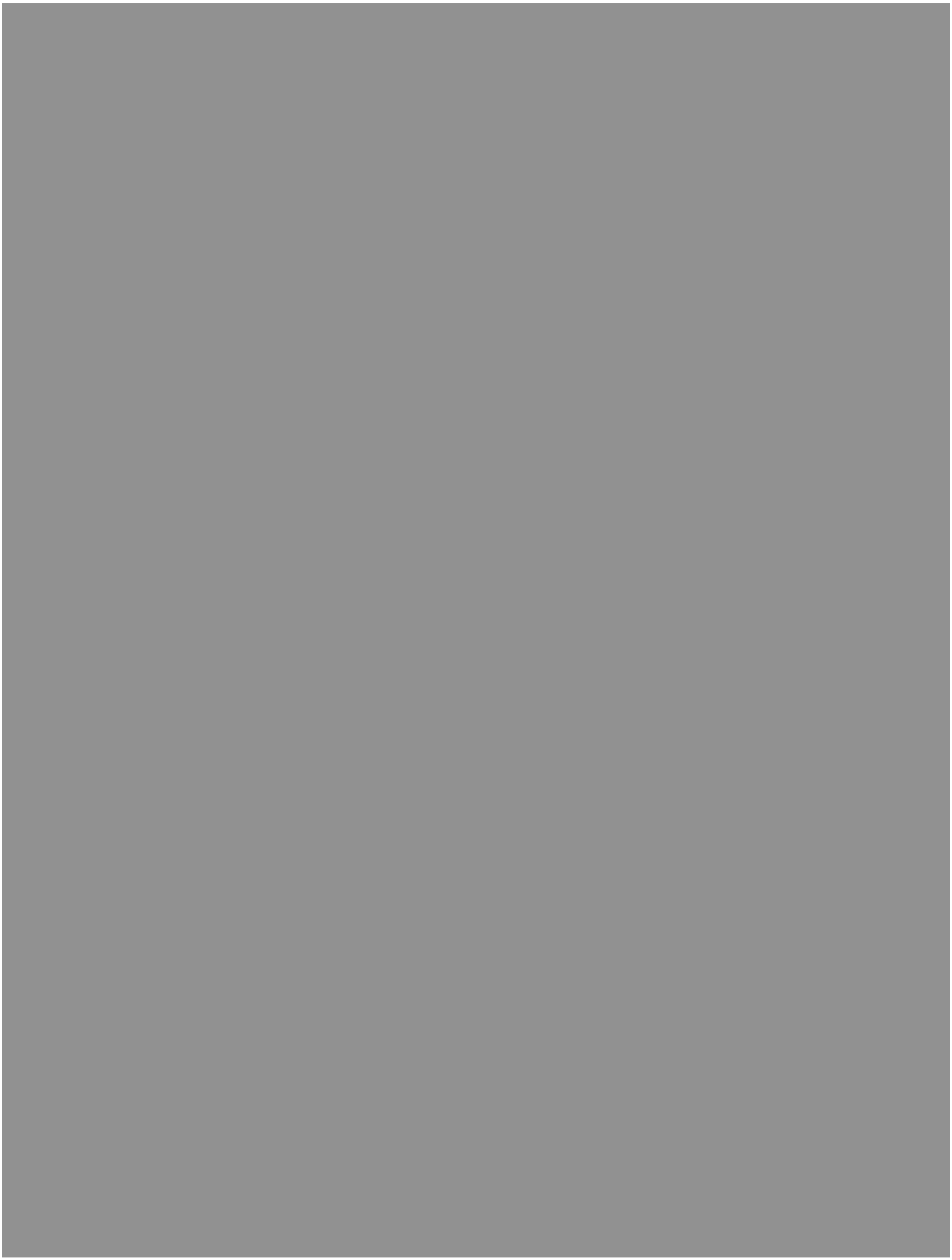
Texas House Public Comment Portal

How to testify in the #txlege Twitter thread by the Texas Legislative Education Equity Coalition (TLEEC)

How to Testify before the Texas Legislature, Infographic

Learn more about IDRA's policy recommendations for Texas

Join the Texas Education CAFE Advocacy Network!

Children First IDRA Transforming Education
5815 Callaghan Road, Suite 101
San Antonio, TX 78228
Phone: 210-444-1710

Reach Out To Us