

Texas Representative Roberto R. Alonzo's

Capitol Report



Education Day at the Capitol, Monday, March 9, 2015; Rep. Alonzo Greets Educators



Photo left: Rep. Alonzo met with Dallas area educators from Alliance-AFT who were in Austin during AFT Day at the Capitol, on Mon, March 9. The local affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers were in the Capitol City to participate in an Education Rally and meetings with lawmakers advocating priority issues that impact teachers and education for children. Photo Right: Among issues that Educators from the Dallas area shared with Rep. Alonzo during the AFT Rally in Austin were the importance of Stopping Bullying in the workplace.

HB 452: Rep. Alonzo's 1st Bill Heard in House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, Wed, March 11
Rep. Alonzo's HB 452 took public testimony in the House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee on Wed, March 11. The measure is regarding pre-trial hearings that would ensure that only reliable evidence as set out in the Texas Rules of Evidence is admissible for such hearings. Currently, if there are pretrial issues, the court may hold a pre-trial hearing but is not required to do so. What that means is that judges may refuse to grant pretrial hearings and force parties to trial even when the only issue in dispute is a pretrial one. HB 452 will allow for a defendant or the State to be granted a pretrial hearing if he or she requests one in any criminal case 60 days before the commencement of trial. The judge shall grant the request not may grant the request. Thus, HB 452 will ensure that ONLY reliable evidence as set out in the Texas Rules of Evidence is admissible.



New Report & Variety of Experts Highlight Benefits of High Quality, Full Day Pre-Kindergarten



According to the Center for Public Policy Priorities, New analysis shows Pre-K is one of the most beneficial and cost effective ways to ensure kids are ready to learn from day one. According to Closing the Opportunity Gap, Texas should invest in high quality, full-day Pre-K to boost test scores and improve outcomes for students.
"With Governor Abbott and several legislators prioritizing early education, we have an unprecedented opportunity to expand access to quality, full-day pre-kindergarten," said Ann Beeson, Executive Director of CPPP. "We look forward to a healthy, research-based discussion about which Pre-K proposals will most benefit Texas kids.". Learn more.

Here we see the intern for the week Eduardo Gandara on his last day at the Capitol office! Eduardo attends El Centro College in Dallas and is a part of a program which allows students to work at the Capitol during their Spring Break. Thanks for all of your help Eduardo!

