



Texas Home School Coalition Association

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Talking Points in Opposition to House Bill 2628

(Enables students to avoid the highway sign and traffic law parts of the written test at a Driver License office if they have already passed the test under the supervision of the driving school)

The bill **discriminates against parent-taught driver education courses** by not allowing those students to receive the same treatment. Parent-taught driver education students currently receive the same waiver for the road test as do students of driving schools.

- **We are not opposed to standards, but we do oppose double standards.**

If the driving test can be waived for all students, then the written test should also be waived for all students. The DPS allows the parent to test the student for the road test. Testing for the written tests should likewise be permitted. Both driving schools and parent-taught courses are required by rule to have taught the same content before a minor receives a permit from the DPS. (They take the same 6 hours.)

- **A recent study has shown that parent-taught driver education has had no negative impact on the driving records of teen drivers in Texas.**

There is also no evidence that would show a relationship between the accreditation of driving schools and certification of their instructors and lower crash rates of students they instruct.

- **This bill creates a hardship for rural and low-income families.**

Many users of parent-taught driver education courses are families in rural areas where driving schools are not located. Low-income families often choose the more affordable alternative of a parent-taught driver education course because of the high costs of driving schools. By discriminating against parent-taught courses this bill requires that these parents spend more time in line and at the DPS office—time usually taken from work—than do students from driving schools.

- **It is a Special Interest Bill.**

This bill is designed to give commercial driving schools a financial advantage, and it is designed to drive customers to their businesses under the lure of not having to take a test at the DPS. It also positions driving school programs as better than parent-taught by allowing only the customers of driving schools to waive the written test at the DPS.