

**GALVESTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Resolution that the Texas Legislature compel the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and the Texas Education Agency to provide a total outlay by the Foundation School Program to achieve wealth equalization throughout all the Independent School Districts of Texas.

Whereas, the Texas education funding scheme commonly known as “recapture” was born out of a 1989 Texas Supreme Court ruling that deemed the state’s school finance system unconstitutional and charged the state Legislature to provide equal access to education funds;

Whereas, A few years later, recapture was created to equalize funding for schools by sharing property tax wealth;

Whereas, the Texas Education Code requires certain independent school districts to send a portion of their collected tax revenue back to the State for redistribution to other independent school districts around the State;

Whereas, recapture has grown and is now taking approximately \$3 billion in property taxes from Texas independent school districts per year;

Whereas, in FY23 in accordance with that law, the Galveston Independent School District sent \$43.4M in collected tax revenue back to the State for redistribution to other independent school districts around the state, and sent another \$27.6M in FY24 (28% of expenditures);

Whereas, The State of Texas administers the collection of these excess revenue funds through the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and the Texas Education Agency (TEA);

Whereas, The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and the TEA may be commingling these funds within the Foundation School Program;

Whereas, an independent school district as a taxing authority has a fiduciary responsibility to provide transparency on how each district’s tax dollars are spent;

Now be it hereby Resolved: that the Galveston Independent School District appeals to the Legislature of the State of Texas to compel the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and the TEA to delineate specifically how much of the funds collected in recapture funding are directly spent in meeting the goal of wealth equalization.

Be it further resolved: the Board of Trustees hereby directs the superintendent to ensure a copy of this resolution is sent to the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Texas, the Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, each state Senator and Representative who represents territory encompassing the Galveston Independent School District, the Texas Comptroller, and the Commissioner of the Texas Education Agency. These transmittals should be via certified mail, return receipt requested, within one month of the vote authorizing this resolution.

Tony Brown, President, Board of Trustees