

VERIBEST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. Box 490
Veribest, Texas 76886

Bobby Fryar - Superintendent
Denise Dusek - Business Manager
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Whereas: Since the mid-1970's, the State of Texas has recognized the diseconomy of scale of small/rural schools by providing a formula that adjusts for the high cost of small classes in schools with less than 1600 pupils in attendance. However, when legislation was put forward to provide help for these small schools, many in the legislature at that time felt that some of these small schools were small by choice and should, therefore, be consolidated. The idea of encouraging consolidation obtained a majority of thought and the decision was made that small school districts with less than 300 mi.² within their boundary should be encouraged to consolidate by funding them by a factor of 0.15 within the formula less than those districts above 300 mi.², and

Whereas: this factor would cause a funding discrepancy of 3% to 35% between school districts that would range in size from 200 to 1400 students within districts with less than 1600 students in attendance, and

Whereas: there are many school districts with less than 1600 students in attendance and less than 300 mi.² within their boundaries whose campuses are located within a community that is a county seat and, therefore, do not have the ability to attach themselves to another school district unwilling to consolidate or direct another school district within their county to consolidate with them, and

Whereas: students within a school districts with less than 1600 students in attendance and less than 300 mi.² within their boundaries and adjacent to a similar school districts with less than 1600 students in attendance above 300 mi.² within their boundaries and with the same tax rate will not be able to receive the same services as the students in this adjacent districts, and

Whereas: taxpayers within school districts with less than 1600 students in attendance and less than 300 mi.² within their boundaries in order to provide their students with the same services as neighboring school districts with less than 1600 students in attendance and above 300 mi.² within their boundaries must have a higher tax rate than their neighboring school district by up to 35%, and

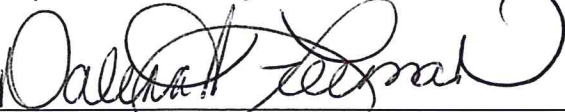
Whereas: the State of Texas has now created Public Charter Schools throughout the state, most of which have less than 1600 pupils in attendance and suffer no penalty for their size, and

Whereas: since this penalty against small/rural school districts has been in effect for over 40 years and has contributed to very few consolidations, in fact most of the consolidations have been due to

the lack of students rather than revenue, it is time for the State of Texas to stop penalizing students and taxpayers for where they reside, and

Therefore, be it resolved that: the Trustees of Veribest Independent School District do hereby direct their Legislative representatives: Senator Chris Perry and Representative Drew Darby to author, co-author, and/or support to final passage legislation that will correct this more than 40 year old penalty against small/rural school districts with less than 1600 students in attendance and less than 300 mi.² within their boundaries.

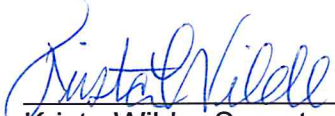
Adopted this 21 day of November 2016



Dalena Freeman, President



Bo Briley, Vice President



Krista Wilde, Secretary




Justin Warren, Member

ABSENT

Joel Halfmann, Member



Thadd Martin, Member



Mark Kellermeier, Member