Groundbreaking Education Choice Program

30 other states have acclaimed education choice options for students. Now is the time for Texas to be a national leader by passing SB 3, creating a groundbreaking Education Savings Account (ESA) program and a Tax Credit Scholarship. The bill would allow the parent or guardian to receive a generous percentage of what the state spends each year per student in the form of an ESA to customize their education, and/or receive a tax credit scholarship to help cover extra costs of a quality education. The funds could only be spent on approved education-related expenses.

A child would be eligible to participate in the ESA program if they:
1. Attended public school the year prior, OR
2. Entering Kindergarten or 1st grade for the first time

A child would be eligible to participate in the Tax Credit Scholarship program if they:
1. Are in a household with an income not greater than 200% of the threshold for free and reduced lunch program, in foster care, institutional care, or are a child of a military family AND
2. Attended public school the year prior, entering Kindergarten or 1st grade for the first time, are the sibling of an eligible student, or attend a nonpublic school and qualify as a student who is not counted toward a public school’s average daily attendance during the year in which the student receives the scholarship

Funds could be spent on approved educational expenses such as:

- Tuition for:
  - An accredited private school
  - A post-secondary educational institution
  - Online education courses or programs

- Fees for:
  - Educational therapies or services provided by a licensed practitioner
  - Licensed private tutor or teaching services
  - Classes and/or educational services provided by a public school
  - Nationally norm-referenced exams (including SAT and ACT)
  - Textbooks or instructional materials
  - Curriculum, etc...

This bill protects against additional government regulation on the educational program of the child. No school will be forced to alter its creed, practices, admissions policies, curriculum, performance standards, or assessments to receive money under the program. There will be no state control or supervision of a private school, parent, or student not absolutely necessary to implement the program and prevent financial fraud.

For more information, visit www.TxEdOpportunity.org or email info@txedopportunity.org.