Date

The Honorable Name of Senator

P.O. Box 12068

Austin, Texas 78711-2068

OR

The Honorable Name of Representative

P.O. Box 2910

Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Dear Senator/Representative Name,

I am writing to you as a concerned (parent, teacher, staff member, community member, taxpayer) of the Northwest Independent School District. As I believe you know, Northwest ISD is one of the fastest growing school districts in the state of Texas. NISD averages over 1,100 additional students every year. Even in light of this massive growth trend, Northwest ISD has been able to rise to the top of the state’s academic accountability system – receiving an “A” rating both years of the new system’s implementation.

I point to Northwest ISD’s success in literacy that anchors the academic success across the district. The teaching of reading has been a local performance objective reflected in the superintendent’s evaluation objectives, the District Improvement Plan, and all Campus Improvement Plans for many years. The district has spent years developing its reading program to meet the needs of local students. With this in mind, I feel the House Bill 3 (HB3) requirement of state-mandated Reading Academies is both a waste of taxpayer dollars and an intrusion into an already successful academic program. Why would we switch to an unproven reading program when we have spent so much time and money developing a successful local literacy program? Texas school districts should be allowed to continue successfully practicing local instructional strategies without the state’s mandates. Please allow successful school districts to “opt out” of these mandated HB3 Reading Academies if the school districts can show years of progress in their own programs.

I am proud to be a stakeholder of the Northwest Independent School District, and I very much appreciate the support you have given our schools and (more importantly) our children with your leadership. Thank you for all you do and all you will do for us.

Sincerely,

Name