PANHANDLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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To: House Committee Members

From: Blair Brown

Many of you know the challenges facing small communities when it comes to health care. I am writing to you in support of the following bills:

- SB 681
- SB 431
- SB 654

Panhandle, Texas is very lucky to have a clinic owned and operated by a Nurse Practioner. The clinic has a great reputation and serves not only the community but also the county. Most of my employees use the clinic on a regular basis and the clinic works closely with the district's nurse to provide immunizations and other services that we would not have if the clinic were to go away.

In addition, Panhandle is home to a large population of older citizens who rely heavily on the clinic for their daily medical needs. The clinic works closely with our local pharmacy and EMT service to help provide the citizen of Carson County with the latest in medical service. It is my hope that you will consider these bills and if you need examples of a good system please look to Carson County and the Family Care Clinic as a shining star for rural medical care.

Thank You

Blair Brown

Superintendent of Schools

Panhandle ISD