



CITY OF HOUSTON

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Mayor

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The Honorable Dan Huberty
Chair, House Committee on Public Education
Texas House of Representatives
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Dear Chairman Huberty and Members of the House Committee on Public Education,

Recent events have cast a painful spotlight onto the issue of gun violence in our public schools. The shooting at Santa Fe High School was a wakeup call. It has become apparent that violence in our schools is an omnipresent possibility. I emphatically support House Bill 496 to help address this problem. HB 496 will place bleeding control kits at each campus in a public school district.

This legislation mandates that bleeding control kits are stored in easily accessible areas of the campus that are selected by local school officials. Of course, district and public school personnel who might reasonably be expected to use a bleeding-control kit will need to receive agency-approved training in how to use these kits. When an injury occurs resulting in bleeding, treating these wounds in a timely matter is critical, and can save lives. Any employees or school district personnel will be immune from civil liability resulting from the good-faith use of these kits provided they received the required training and did not act with gross negligence.

These kits must include a tourniquet, gauze and trauma dressings, nitrile gloves, scissors and instructions. These medical kits shall be inspected on an annual basis, and any expired materials will need to be replaced. These kits shall be restocked as soon as possible after any use of the kit to ensure the kit contains all required materials and equipment.

HB 496 will save lives in the State of Texas and will impose very low costs. I wholeheartedly support the passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Haley Carter
Chair, Mayor's Commission Against Gun Violence