

# Association of Texas Professional Educators

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**Supporting Your Freedom to Teach<sup>SM</sup>**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Governor playing politics with needed ed funding**

AUSTIN – The following is a statement by Brock Gregg, governmental relations director for the 115,000-member Association of Texas Professional Educators, regarding the recent passage of the state aid package (H.R. 1586):

“This funding isn’t about politics in Washington or Austin; it’s about children and getting the resources they need into their classrooms. Gov. Perry is merely being asked to pledge not to cut education funding more than any other part of the state budget. Unfortunately, even though the state is predicted to be nearly \$18 billion short on revenue, the governor is playing politics with education funding that Texas needs.

“The reality is that the pledge the governor has been asked to make is no different in effect than the pledge he made when taking \$16 billion in federal stimulus dollars during the last session.”

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*The 115,000-member Association of Texas Professional Educators is the largest educators’ group in Texas and the largest nonunion educators’ group nationwide. Its membership consists of classroom teachers, para-educators, administrators, college students and retired educators. ATPE is committed to advocating for better benefits for all educators, promoting a collaborative work environment and the right of educators to choose the association they feel represents their interests, and providing the best education possible for all Texas school children.*