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**Educator group files brief to support teacher rights in Dallas**

**AUSTIN, Texas** — The state's largest educator group filed a brief in Dallas County District Court, Monday, Aug. 4, in an effort to protect the contract rights of all Texas educators. The action by the Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) stems from a case involving a Dallas ISD employee who was involuntarily placed on the district's "excess" employee list. Her placement on that list was later used as a reason not to renew the teacher's contract.

"The action taken by DISD simply cannot go unchallenged," ATPE Director of Member Legal Services Donna Derryberry said. "If districts are allowed to designate teachers as excess and then use that against them, this could have negative implications for educators statewide."

ATPE is asking the court to overturn the Texas Education Commissioner's decision that upheld the action by DISD.

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The Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) has been a strong voice for Texas educators since 1980. It is the leading educators' association in Texas with more than 100,000 members statewide. With its strong collaborative philosophy, ATPE speaks for classroom teachers, administrators, future, retired and para-educators and works to create better opportunities for 5 million public schoolchildren. ATPE is the ally and the voice of Texas public school educators.