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STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 28

State School Issues
Senator Robert Duncan
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Recently, Governor Perry declared, as an emergency, legislation to improve the status of our state schools. Obviously, this is very important to Senate District 28, because we have two schools, one in Lubbock and one in San Angelo.

An emergency declaration allows the Legislature to take up, consider, and even appropriate funds earlier than other legislation is allowed to come to the floor. It really focuses the Legislature on these areas of importance to the state.

So, by declaring this an emergency, the Governor has, I think, really set the tone for meaningful reforms that will help in improving the quality of services in our state schools and the survivability of the state school as an option for those families who have children or family members in need of those services.

Currently, there is an investigation being conducted by the Department of Justice, and I think no one would disagree that we need to provide more resources for our state schools to take care of these folks who really have no one else to take care of them. I applaud the Governor for coming forward with this emergency declaration that will allow us to begin work earlier on these issues and reach some solutions hopefully before the session ends.