

1234 Central Ave.
Dallas, TX 75202

January 24, 2017

Senator John Cornyn
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

I am writing to ask you to fulfill your responsibilities to the children of Texas, your future constituents, by voting No on the confirmation of Betsy DeVos as secretary of education.

I know that your job is not easy right now. You have lawmakers and constituents coming at you from every side asking for you to use your abilities effectively to serve them. I know exactly how that feels. I have been a Texas public school teacher for 15 years now and am constantly juggling between my responsibilities as an instructor and the needs of my students. I love working in public schools, because I am reminded constantly of how fortunate we are to live in a country that believes in education for all.

I also know how that feels because I am a mother of two beautiful daughters. One of my daughters, Cami, has dyslexia. But despite the struggles she has with reading, she still loves to read and loves to learn. And do you know who I thank for that? Her reading interventionist, Mrs. Henson, and the other wonderful teachers who have helped encourage that love of learning at Lewisville ISD's Indian Creek Elementary. They are able to give her the help she needs thanks to public education funding.

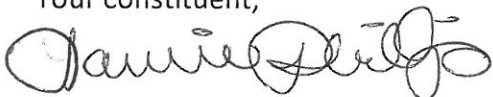
I am writing to ask you to vote No on Betsy DeVos's confirmation as secretary of education. With the funding that Ms. DeVos could potentially eliminate from public schools, students like Cami will not receive the support they need to be successful. Students like Cami will find themselves lost in an education system that cannot adequately serve them.

Ms. DeVos is unqualified to oversee the nation's education system as she has no experience as a student, parent, teacher, or administrator in a public school. Just as you would not trust someone to fix your automobile who had no experience working on a car—much less driving one—we cannot trust DeVos with the future education of our country's children.

Please vote No on DeVos. The children of Texas need your continued support.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Your constituent,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laurie Phillips". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Laurie" being more prominent and the last name "Phillips" following in a similar style.

Laurie Phillips