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April 26, 2011

Thank you for expressing your support regarding Senate Bill 354; Relating to the carrying of concealed handguns on the campuses of and certain other locations associated with institutions of higher education. At this time I cannot be in favor of this bill as it was brought to my attention that one of the high schools within my district is located on the campus grounds of Texas A&M-Kingsville. Several school officials and parents contacted me expressing their concerns regarding this legislation. I had to respect the wishes of these concerned parents and abide by current law which does not allow for guns on primary or secondary institutions.

Exemptions were discussed, however, with this particular high school being located within and sharing facilities with the university, it makes it impossible to simply exempt this high school from this bill. I also offered other alternative amendments to this bill, but the author was not in favor of those changes either.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to express your support. It makes me proud to represent individuals such as yourself that engage in public policy advocacy. If there is any way I may be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eddie Lucio, Jr." in a cursive script.

Eddie Lucio, Jr.
State Senator

ELJ/kld

