

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 03, 2016

## GUILLEN VOICES SUPPORT FOR COLLEGE READINESS

**AUSTIN** – Following a special panel's recommendations regarding the STAAR test Wednesday, Representative Ryan Guillen (D- District 31) called for legislative action to ensure college readiness.

"The primary focus of public education should be preparing our students for their life after high school," said Guillen. "For our students looking for higher education, we need to ensure they are sufficiently prepared for college."

Discussions over the STAAR test have emerged in recent weeks with the publishing of a survey showing a high disapproval rating of the STAAR test and a number of other test-related incidents. The special panel tasked with recommending changes to Texas' testing system voted 9-1 Wednesday to, "recommend that the state lawmakers implement a series of individualized, computer-based exams to measure student performance and progress throughout the year." The panel has until September 1 to finalize the decision and submit its final report.

"We need to focus on what is best for our educators, our students, and our parents," said Guillen. "I look forward to seeing the panel's final report and working with other legislators to promote college readiness in our schools."

###