



Garnet F. Coleman
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Representative Coleman on Release of HISD School Ratings

HOUSTON, TX – Today, August 15, 2018, Representative Garnet Coleman (D-147) released the following statement regarding the release of Houston Independent School District's (HISD) school accountability ratings:

"I am proud that HISD's Achieve 180 initiative and interim Superintendent Dr. Grenita Lathan have been successful in improving our schools. This improvement under Dr. Lathan should be allowed to continue for at least another year in order to avoid disruption to student growth.

The four IR schools that did not qualify for a Harvey waiver all met standards, meaning TEA will not be statutorily allowed to take over HISD this year. However, HISD is not out of the woods yet. HB 1842 from the 84th Legislative Session still allows for TEA to take over HISD if the IR schools that received Harvey waivers this year do not meet standards next year. I was one of only three Representatives in Harris County who voted against HB 1842 and I stand by the statements I made earlier this summer that it is a bad law in need of major revision. I remain committed to working with my colleagues to create a better school accountability system. Additionally, I am still disappointed that TEA did not provide Harvey waivers to all HISD schools and other Harvey-impacted schools.

As I did in May and June, I will continue to engage with TEA Commissioner Mike Morath and the Governor's office in their attempts to take over HISD and close individual schools."

Representative Coleman is available for comment.

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