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2023 Officers

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Rep. Joaquin Castro 1-202-225-3236

March 18th Program

Our guests will be the candidates for city council Districts 6, 7, 8. You will want to hear what the city candidates' goals are for San Antonio. You will get an opportunity to meet the candidates. We are meeting at Luby's (Huebner@Floyd Curl). Meeting begins at 8:30 am. Continental breakfast: \$7

MARCH SPECIAL PROJECT IWC BACKPACK OUTREACH

The IWC needs funds and supplies to create backpacks for migrant families as they begin their journey across the US.

A donation of \$25 will purchase and fill ONE FULL backpack, enough for one small family.

Make checks payable to Interfaith Welcome Coalition. Cash donations will be collected by NWD and a check sent to IWC.

Contact Gene Marck, 210-273-9201, if you have any questions.

Authorized & Paid for by the Northwest Democrats To submit an article or other info, email Brenda Middleton at: bkdmiddleton@yahoo.com Our **Joyce Dorrycott** is now recovering at home. Please call her and let her give you her opinion! She misses all of us and will be back to our meetings soon. You can't keep Joyce from being Joyce.

The **Hon. Peter Sakai** fell at the state capitol while advocating for an expansion of Bexar County jail facilities. He will have knee surgery in the near future. NWD wishes him a speedy recovery.

Northwest Democrats sends heartfelt wishes for a speedy recovery to the **Hon. Joaquin Castro**. We are grateful for all your work on behalf of San Antonio, Texas and the USA.

ABBOTT WANTS TO DENY UNDOCUMENTED KIDS A PUBLIC EDUCATION

A new bill would prohibit children not authorized to be in the country from attending public school.

by **JOSEPHINE LEE**

MARCH 2, 2023, 10:45 AM, CST

Texas' GOP leaders have a sadistic penchant for booting out immigrant families on holidays. Last Christmas, Governor Greg Abbott bussed and dumped migrant families in the freezing cold in Washington, D.C. This past Valentine's Day, Texas Senator Drew Springer filed <u>SB 923</u>, delivering on Abbott's reelection campaign goal to deny undocumented children access to public education unless the federal government pays. The bill is now in the Senate Education Committee.

From bussing migrants and executing Operation Lone Star to building Texas' own border wall and, now, to his efforts forcing out undocumented children from public schools, Abbott has been attempting to one-up President Joe Biden and the Democrats to show he can do a better job enforcing federal immigration laws than the federal government. He has <u>framed</u> his political stunts as a genuine effort to deal with the "unsustainable and unaffordable" burden of illegal immigration on the American people. Democrats and the mainstream liberal media have reacted by offering a <u>cost-benefit</u> <u>analysis</u> of immigration. But in doing so, they have fallen into Abbott's political ploy that makes the problem about the costs of immigration instead of about the state's plan to abandon its responsibility to provide basic services like public education to *all* Texans.

Democrats and mainstream liberal media outlets like <u>*The New York Times*</u> and the <u>*Dallas Morning News*</u> have fallen for Abbott's divisive tactics that pits us against one another by narrowing the problem to just an immigrant issue. On one hand, Abbott argues that undocumented children and their families are a burden on our society. On the other, the *Dallas Morning News* lauded the economic benefits that migrant children would provide to Texas in the future. That is just code for saying migrant children are good for the economy because they would provide a steady source of cheap, exploitable labor in the future. Such an argument traps us in a rhetorical feedback loop and fuels the right-wing shibboleth of blaming immigrants for stealing our jobs and resources. Such misguided thinking steers us to fight each other for inadequate resources and services while the plutocrats of our society, aided by the state, rob from us each day.

SB 923 would prohibit undocumented children from receiving state public education funds, withholding these funds from public schools. Districts would then have to call on the federal government to pay. The bill would deputize school districts to enforce immigration laws and empower them to decide what constitutes proof of nationality. School districts would then report children who do not meet such requirements to the state education agency. It's a recipe for a host of discriminatory actions that would impact any minority child—not just undocumented children.

Article reprinted from *The Texas Observer*, March 2, 2023 (Ironically, March 2, is Texas Independence Day) Northwest Democrats P.O. BOX 681911 San Antonio, TX 78268-1911

www.northwestdemocrats.org

IMPORTANT DATES	
March 18	Northwest Democrats Meeting
April 15	Northwest Democrats Meeting
May 20	Northwest Democrats Meeting
August 3	Pat Maloney, Sr. Public Service Award Dinner