

# Texas Freedom Network Education Fund

## 2016 SBOE Candidate Questionnaire

**Additional responses to questions related to Education Issues submitted by:**

**Ricardo Perkins (L)**

**Candidate for SBOE District 5**

“As a person with extensive working knowledge of atmospheric processes, man-made and natural, I believe that students must be taught the importance of prioritizing the effects of ‘climate change’ when compared to dozens of other more urgent needs in our society. Societal problems of a more urgent nature should be addressed first and those affecting the planet 50, 100, or even 500 years in the future must be discounted to a present value. The climate has been changing for centuries and the natural world has evolved throughout that time. The benefit of energy production using fossil fuels far outweighs the future impact of CO2 emissions. There are technical solutions to trapping CO2 emissions that are working and in existence today and students must be educated on all of the options. Yet the prescriptive nature of the "anti fossil fuels crowd" is to ban fossil fuels and create a new problem of using solar energy as a primary energy source. The immediate need ‘to do something’ about CO2 emissions is a warped political dogma and needs to be properly addressed in science classes by industry professionals who specialize in CO2 capture, nuclear electric power, and the Life Cycle Analysis of the various alternatives. Its not as simple of an issue as the mainstream news media would have you believe.”