

Letters to the Editor

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Importance of textbooks

Re: Feb. 22 article "New testing, old textbooks troubling mix."

Your story puts in sharp focus how important up-to-date textbooks are to the learning process for Texas students. But this year, it is even more critical because the Texas Legislature recently raised the educational standards to improve students' readiness for college and career. So it stands to reason that students must have the new instructional materials in order to successfully pass these new tests.

To her credit, state Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, a recognized leader on education and finance in the Senate, is making this point loudly, clearly and consistently. Shapiro should be congratulated for urging her fellow lawmakers to fully fund textbook purchases during these difficult financial times. It takes a leader to recognize that quality instructional materials are actually an investment in the future of Texas.

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