



**T E X A S**  
**HOME SCHOOL**  
COALITION ASSOCIATION  
*Keeping Texas Families Free*

November 21, 2014

Department of Veterans Affairs  
125 S. Main Street  
Muskogee, Oklahoma 74401

Re: VA filing # \_\_

To Whom It May Concern,

By way of introduction, let me state that the Texas Home School Coalition Association is a statewide advocacy organization for home educators, with more than 50,000 families on our mailing list. As the home school advocacy organization for the state of Texas, we act as a liaison with state and federal agencies in regard to issues related to home education. In fact, the state department of education, the Texas Education Agency, frequently refers calls received by that agency regarding home education to our organization for verification or resolution.

I am responding to a September 22, 2014 letter from your office, which was sent to Mr. M\_\_ D\_\_, regarding his son J\_\_ M\_\_ and his student status. This letter requested that J\_\_'s parents "submit evidence to establish the child's continuing dependency" in order to process a request for "continued payments based on school attendance." J\_\_ will turn eighteen years of age on December 6, 2014, and he is still a student in his family's home school in Texas. As J\_\_'s mother Ms. M\_\_ is a member of the Texas Home School Coalition Association, I can assure you that J\_\_ is a full-time student who is being taught at home and is in full compliance with the laws of the state of Texas regarding academic instruction.

The state of Texas considers home schools to be private schools, and home school students in high school are considered to be in attendance in a secondary school. In fact, the state of Texas views home school graduates as equivalent to public high school graduates. (Texas Education Code Sec. 51.9241) In addition, the Texas Family Code (Section 154.002(a)) requires that child support continue for students beyond the eighteenth birthday who are pursuing a high school diploma in a home school. Since the state of Texas does not regulate, monitor, or oversee private schools it cannot approve any private school or home school course of instruction.

I hope that this verification of J\_\_'s enrollment and high school course of instruction will serve to answer your questions. Should you have further questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Tim Lambert

cc: Ms. N\_\_ M\_\_, Mr. J\_\_ D\_\_, U.S. Senator Ted Cruz, U.S. Senator John Cornyn, U.S. Representative Filemon Vela, Texas home schoolers