



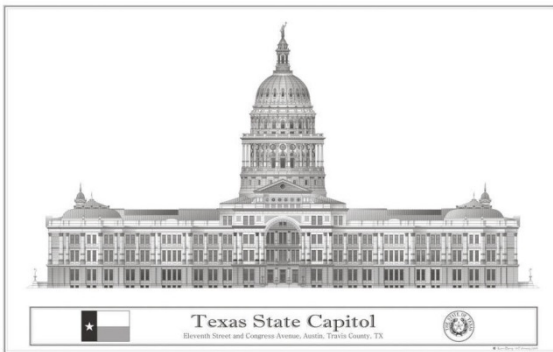
GARY

VanDeaver

STATE REPRESENTATIVE



House District 1 - Bowie, Franklin, Lamar & Red River counties  
District & Capitol Report  
85th Legislature - February 2017



***Around the District.***

*Proscribed burns to be conducted between March & June 2017.* The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) recently informed my office that it will conduct one or more proscribed burns in the Pat Mayse Wildlife Management Area between March and June 2017 in an area at the intersection of County roads 3565 and 3561. Neighboring landowners have been notified and a notice will be published in

*The Paris News* prior to the burn period. If you would like to receive text message notifications prior to the burn, text 81010 with the message: @pmburn. For more information, contact Eric Clewis, wildlife biologist with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept., at [eric.clewis@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:eric.clewis@tpwd.texas.gov).

***At the Capitol.*** Earlier this month, House Speaker Joe Straus (San Antonio) announced committee assignments and appointed me to three House committees. This session, I again am serving on the House Committee on Appropriations and House Committee on Public Education, as well as the House Committee on Administration where I serve as its Vice-Chair. I have also been chosen to serve on the Appropriations Article III subcommittee that focuses on public and higher

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education that has been meeting frequently to hear information from a wide range of state agencies including the Texas Education Agency, Teacher Retirement System of Texas, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and all of the state's public colleges and universities and their service agencies. Though lengthy, these hearings are an excellent chance to really learn about our state's diverse educational operations from pre-K classes to the highest level of research being conducted at our elite research universities.

Additionally, I have been selected to serve on the oversight board for the Texas House Research Organization (HRO), which is a nonpartisan independent department of the House of Representatives that provides impartial information on legislation and issues before the Texas Legislature.

Committees are hearing presentations from agencies and experts and will soon begin hearing bills. If you are looking to follow a certain piece of legislation, you can use the Texas Legislature Online website at <http://www.legis.texas.gov/> to get access to a bill's status in the legislative process, as well as authors, co-authors, and Senate companion bills. Feel

free to contact my office if you have any questions or need more information.

*Texas PTA rallies at the Capitol.* I had the privilege of speaking to parents, teachers and students who came to the Capitol to show their support of public schools. It was good to see so many active supporters visiting the Capitol to advocate for "fair funding for public schools."



VanDeaver speaking on 02/27/2017/ at the Texas PTA rally; picture by Ellen Arnold

***My office is here to help.***

I thank each of you for letting me serve you as your state representative. Please contact either the District office (903-628-0361) or Capitol office (512-463-0692) if there is anything you think we can do to help you.

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