



Volume 1, Edition 2

1/24/15 - 2/05/15

Dear Friends,

It's been a busy few weeks at the Capitol and as promised, here are some updates on what's been happening in Austin.

RIO GRAND VALLEY TRIP

Last month, I had the opportunity to visit the Rio Grande Valley with several other members and legislative staff to see some of the challenges and successes of the region, including border security and economic development. I am thankful to gather this information first hand as I work to find solutions to some of the most pressing issues facing our district and state.



Border Patrol Officer



LEGISLATION

In other news, we have begun to file legislation and are working with constituents to support the issue most to House District 10. Regarding local legislation, Senator Nichols, Representative Spitz filed bills this last week to expand the Trinity Valley Community College Board of Directors, allowing to provide quality education at affordable rates to more students in Henderson County and through college's service area. Regarding statewide legislation and policy, I co-authored House Bill 623, which defend traditional marriage and Texas' state sovereignty. Additionally, I co-authored House Bill 910 which will protect our 2nd amendment rights and bring Texas in line with 44 other states by allowing for carry. I filed House Bill 1187, legislation that would rename a segment of US Highway 287 the "Chris and Chad Littlefield Highway." The untimely deaths of Chris Kyle and Chad Littlefield cut short lives that are worthy of our State's recognition. I am thankful for the attention that the media has brought to these heroes in Ellis County have known all along--Chris and Chad are Texas heroes. I'm busy studying and drafting other local and statewide legislation. You can follow this and other legislation on the House Website following the link below.

[LINK TO FOLLOW MY BILLS](#)

HIGH SPEED RAIL

As some of you may know, Texas Central Railway has proposed a non-stop high speed rail between Dallas and Houston. I recently wrote a letter to the Federal Railroad Administration voicing my opposition to the project for House District 10. In my letter, I detailed several concerns, joining many of my House and Senate colleagues who've objected on behalf of their districts. Issues such as private property rights, division and loss of access to residential and farm land, along with safety and environmental concerns, were cited as negative repercussions for Ellis County and its residents.

I hope you'll watch this WFAA story featuring Ellis County's own John Sullivan, a farmer and family man who is worried about the impact this railway will have on his livelihood. I appreciate Mr. Sullivan, the Ellis Co. Commissioners Court, and other local parties for taking an active role in standing up for our community's best interests.





COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT

On Wednesday, Speaker Joe Straus released committee assignments for the Texas House of Representatives for the 84th legislative session, appointing me to two committees: Ways and Means and Homeland Security and Public Safety.

I am very grateful for the responsibility that Speaker Straus has entrusted to me with these committee assignments, and I will work hard to get results over the next 116 days of session. On my preference requests was to be placed on Ways and Means and I'm honored to be the only freshman member on such an important committee. This position, along with my appointment to the committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety, gives me the opportunity to represent the district in some important policy areas and contribute to Texas' continued prosperity.

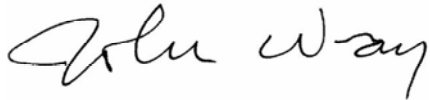
STAY CONNECTED

You can reach our Austin office at (512) 463-0516 or by e-mail at district10.wray@house.state.tx.us. Be sure to stop in and visit us when you're in Austin or the District and lookout for contact information for the District office soon!



As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve you and please contact me if I can be of assistance in any way. I look forward to working together to better our community and state!

God Bless you and God Bless Texas,



Representative John Wray

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