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Dear Friends,

Things are really starting to pick up at the Capitol. Legislation is still being filed and House Committees are meeting. My first committee hearings will be this Tuesday, February 17th for Ways & Means and Homeland Security & Public Safety.

TOUR OF FORT HOOD

Last week, I had the opportunity to tour III Corps Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas with several other members and legislative staff to experience the impact this installation has on our country's national security. The best part of the trip was getting to know the brave men and women who serve and protect our country.



Rep. Wray and Rep. Murr at Fort Hood

HD 10 AT THE CAPITOL!

The best part of any day at the Capitol is getting to visit with constituents and the many great organizations within our district.

Cedar Creek Lake Day brought many folks from Henderson County, Community College Day allowed for me to visit with the great administrators and students from Navarro Community College, and CASA of Ellis County stopped by as well.

If you haven't been by, I hope you'll plan to visit us and see your State Capitol sometime this Spring!



Navarro Students at the Capitol with Rep. Cook and Rep. Wray

LEGISLATION & THE APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Here is some of the most recent legislation I've filed or signed on to in support of:

- [House Bill 115](#) - Will award the Texas Purple Heart Medal to the military victims of the November 5, 2009 terrorist attack at Ford Hood, Texas.
- [House Bill 183](#) - Requiring state agencies to use E-verify to check the legal status of employees.
- [House Bill 1301](#) - Allowing for the "grandfathering" of gravity flow septic tanks and permitting such systems on properties of ten or more acres.

One of the most important bills filed every session, the General Appropriations act, was filed by Chairman Otto as [House Bill 1](#). The proposed bill would keep spending flat, while still addressing the important areas of education, transportation and border security. Click on the image below see highlights of HB1.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD 2016-2017 Introduced House Bill Highlights HOUSE BILL

ALL FUNDS
2016-2017

STATE FUNDING	2014-2015	2016-2017
Public Education & Higher Education	\$73,941.8	\$76,388.9
Health & Human Services	\$74,513.4	\$75,764.6
Transportation	\$23,157.1	\$23,739.9
All Other Functions	\$30,470.8	\$26,548.2
TOTAL	\$202,083.1	\$202,441.6

FOUNDATION SCHOOL PROGRAM (FSP)

The FSP is the primary vehicle for delivering public education funding to school districts. House recommendations total \$41.4 billion in All Funds, which is \$2.2 billion more than is necessary to maintain current law state obligations, including the cost of adding an estimated 85,000 children to the system each year. This additional \$2.2 billion over current law is to be used at the direction of the legislature, with the stated goals of improving the equity of the system, increasing the state's share of funding, and reducing recapture. Including local revenues, the FSP totals an estimated \$90.6 billion in revenue to school districts.

MEDICAID

The primary funding item for the Health and Human Services function is the Texas Medicaid program. Medicaid is a state and federally funded program that provides health insurance primarily to low-income children, pregnant women, older adults, and adults with disabilities. The Medicaid program is supported by \$60.1 billion in state and federal funding at roughly a 40/40 federal/state split. General Revenue represents \$24.8 billion of the total. House recommendations fully fund projected case load, maintain 2015 average costs in most programs, and fund the transfer of children from CHIP to Medicaid. There is an estimated \$171 million net supplemental 2015 need in the Medicaid program.

For more information on the 2016-2017 Introduced House Bill, visit the Legislative Budget Board website: <http://www.lbb.state.tx.us> ID: 2209 FEBRUARY 2015

I hope you'll send me an e-mail of your thoughts on this legislation and the numerous other bills that have been filed. I really appreciate hearing from you on what matters most to the district!

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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