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Dear Friends,

I am pleased to inform you of the great strides we are making at the Capitol to make the great state of Texas even better. With a month left in the 84th legislative session, we are busier than ever trying to accomplish our goals. This past week, I was deeply humbled to nominate Chris Kyle for the Texas Medal of Honor, pass two bills, and work with the rest of the House to develop and pass a historic Tax Relief Plan. Please continue to read for further information!

CHRIS KYLE MEDAL OF HONOR

The Texas Legislative Medal of Honor Committee met to hear testimony on behalf of several deserving candidates nominated for Texas' highest military honor and ultimately selected Chief Petty Officer Chris Kyle for the award. Kyle was nominated upon the merit of his exceptional dedication over the course of his service, and specifically for citations of conspicuous gallantry and self-sacrifice during the battles of Fallujah in 2004 and Ramadi in 2006. At the time of his death, Kyle was a resident of Midlothian, TX. I had the privilege to nominate Kyle for the award and testified in support of the nomination before the committee.



Testifying on behalf of Chris Kyle

TAX RELIEF PASSES HOUSE

The Texas House of Representatives voted to pass a monumental \$4.9 billion tax cut package in the form of two separate bills that were both unanimously supported by the Texas House Republican Caucus Members. [House Bill 31](#) reduces the sales tax rate from 6.25 percent to 5.95 percent, creating the first ever state sales tax reduction in Texas history. [House Bill 32](#) addresses burdensome business taxes by providing a 25 percent across the board franchise tax cut.

In crafting this bold tax relief plan, the House asserted its belief that the combination of these two measures provides tax relief to every taxpayer, shrinks the size of government instead of shifting it, and provides permanent relief that can't be taken away by local government or an appraiser.

HOWARD JUNIOR HIGH VISITS THE CAPITOL

On Tuesday, members of Howard Students with Purpose came to visit the Capitol and learn more about their State government. There are approximately 350 members in the program which is designed to promote good character and mature behavior while encouraging academic achievement and fostering positive relationships among classmates. It was a privilege to recognize the students with a resolution honoring their achievements.



Recognizing the Howard Students with Purpose at the Capitol

TAX PAYER BILL OF RIGHTS

In an attempt to foster an environment of responsibility and transparency for the taxpayers of Texas, our Comptroller, Glenn Hegar, has created the 'Tax Payer Bill of Rights:

[As a Texas Taxpayer...](#)

1. You have the **RIGHT** to Fair and Equitable Treatment - We will treat you with the courtesy and respect you deserve, and we will give our full attention to your issue. No matter how large or how small the issue is, if it's important to you, it's important to us.
2. You have the **RIGHT** to Privacy and Confidentiality - We will protect your privacy and safeguard the confidentiality of taxpayer information to the fullest extent allowed by law.
3. You have the **RIGHT** to Understand the Taxes You Pay - We will provide you with information to better understand the taxes you pay through a well-organized, easy-to-navigate website. You will find useful information including tax laws and rules, policies and procedures, forms, due dates and helpful publications.
4. You have the **RIGHT** to Pay Only What You Owe - We recognize that you work hard for every dollar you earn. We will respect that work, and our professionals

will never be paid, promoted or rewarded on the basis of how much tax they collect or assess.

5. You have the RIGHT to Representation - We recognize that audits can be intimidating, and every taxpayer has the right to engage the person of their choice to represent them during that process.
6. You have the RIGHT to Contest a Decision - We know that every issue may not be resolved during the audit process and that you may wish to dispute a decision. Our publication, Contesting Disagreed Audits, outlines in detail how you can exercise your right to contest a decision.
7. You have the RIGHT to Request a Waiver of Penalties - We understand that extraordinary circumstances may cause an unavoidable late filing or payment of taxes, or the need to amend reports due to an error. We will give consideration to waiving penalties if you have not previously paid or filed late, or in a first-time audit situation.
8. You have the RIGHT to Simpler Tax Filing - We offer a fast, secure electronic reporting system for many of the taxes we administer. Our WebFile system has built-in edits that can help prevent costly mistakes.
9. You have the RIGHT to Courteous, Accessible Assistance from a Real Person - We know that you may not always be able to find the answer to your question or may want to deal directly with a person in our office. We will maintain dedicated phone lines, email accounts and conveniently located offices throughout the state where you will find staff ready, willing and able to promptly assist you.
10. You have the RIGHT to Know How Government Spends Your Tax Dollars - We know how hard you work to earn every tax dollar you send to the state, which is why we publish information about how and where those dollars are spent. We provide easy-to-use tools to track state government spending across every state agency, not just our office.

HARD WORK PAYS OFF

Our office is dedicated to serving the residents of House District 10, and we work tirelessly to effectively accomplish this task. This hard work paid off in a major way this past week, as two of my bills passed on the house floor. The first bill, [HB 2428](#), will help keep the Property Code and Estates Code in line with developments in case law, clarify ambiguities, and correct technical deficiencies. The second bill, [HB 1051](#), helps fund TSTC North Texas to meet the needs of its growing manufacturing sector. This bill has a special importance to me, as it directly impacts District 10 and its

constituents. As a freshmen state representative, I have now passed three total bills, and I am committed to continuing to work hard for Ellis and Henderson counties.

GET INVOLVED & STAY CONNECTED!

You can reach our Austin office at (512) 463-0516 and our District Office at (972) 938-9392. You can always shoot an email to district10.wray@house.state.tx.us too!

For more regular updates, "like" the HD 10 District [Facebook](#) Page and follow the HD 10 [Twitter](#) account.

God Bless you and God Bless Texas!



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