

ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas
House of Representatives



February 11, 2011

Governor's State of the State

On Tuesday, Governor Perry delivered his State of the State address. He proposed consolidating or suspending non-critical state agencies in order to make state government more streamlined and efficient. The Governor also outlined his priorities for the 82nd Legislative Session, including balancing the budget without raising taxes, preserving essential services, and strengthening Texas' position as a national economic leader through sound policies.

Gov. Perry described the state as strong, and said taking steps to further strengthen Texas' economy remains a priority to ensure continued success, while urging lawmakers to break down barriers that prevent job creation and economic prosperity. In order to help keep Texas economically competitive, the Governor called for continued funding for the Texas Enterprise Fund, which has helped create tens of thousands of jobs for Texans and generate billions of dollars in capital investment in communities across the state. He also called for renewed funding for the Texas Emerging Technology Fund, which has helped foster an environment of innovation in Texas, strengthened the state's technology industries, and attracted top researchers to Texas universities.

I am excited about the opportunity to continue working with Gov. Perry and all my colleagues in the House and Senate to grow our economy and to ensure Texas remains strong. Although many difficult cuts must take place to pass a balanced, fiscally conservative budget, it is an opportunity to take a close look at the way the State Government is conducting business and to make the process more efficient while continuing to move forward.

Committee Assignments

On Wednesday, Speaker Straus announced committee assignments for the 82nd legislature. I am honored to be appointed once again to serve on the Appropriations Committee. It will be a difficult session but I hope to use my skills as a CPA and a business woman to do what needs to be done to keep Texas on the right track. Immediately after appointments were made, the **Appropriations Committee** under Chairman Jim Pitts, held its first meeting and got to work.

Additionally, I was appointed to serve as **Vice Chair of the Technology Committee**. This is a newly formed committee with jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to:

1. advances in science and technology, including in telecommunications, electronic technology, and automated data processing;
2. the promotion of scientific research, technological development, and technology transfer in the state;
3. matters relating to cooperation of state and local governments with the scientific and technological community, including industry, institutions of higher education, and federal governmental laboratories.

I am very excited about the opportunity to serve as Vice Chair of this committee under the leadership of Chairman Aaron Peña. It will be a wonderful opportunity to help our district and state make progress towards economic growth in the expanding technology markets.



This week Police Chiefs from around the state visited the Capitol. I had the pleasure to meet with them and thank them for what they do to ensure the safety of our communities. I am pictured from left to right with Plano Police Chief Greg Rushin, Richardson Police Chief Jimmy Spivey, and University of Texas at Dallas Police Chief Larry Zacharias.

It is a pleasure to serve as your State Representative. Please continue to communicate your views on issues that are important to you.

Sincerely,

Angie Chen Button

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