

# ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas  
House of Representatives



*February 25, 2011*

## **Redistricting**

As I mentioned last week, the state of Texas has grown by 20.6% in the last ten years. Although Dallas County has experienced growth in the past ten years, its growth was relatively slow compared to its neighbors, Tarrant, Collin and Denton Counties. There has been a great deal of speculation as to what this means to our region. We know for sure that districts will see change. For example, the ideal House District size is 167,637. We will have to take in more households as will many of our neighboring districts to achieve this target. We are all working hard to ensure the lines are drawn in a fair manner.

## **Budget**

Hard work continues on the budget. During subcommittee this week, we examined agencies that affect prisons and public safety. We are working closely with Representative Madden, Chairman of the Corrections Committee, to ensure the cuts we make do not jeopardize public safety. Furthermore, the subcommittee concurred that the state should maintain funding for border security. This is especially important in light of the recent slaying of I.C.E. Agent Jaime Zapata who was killed while working to ensure our safety. In addition to my subcommittee presenting many of their workgroup findings to the full committee, we have also heard from the subcommittees on regulated industry and natural resources. A great deal of information on the budget can be found at <http://www.lbb.state.tx.us/>. I encourage each of you to be informed and to contact me with your thoughts as we work through this difficult budgeting cycle.

## **Illegal Immigration**

This week I became a proud co-author of HB 12. As many of you know, "sanctuary city" is a term given to a city in the United States that follows certain practices that protect illegal immigrants. These practices can be by law or they can be by habit. This wonderful piece of legislation would end this practice in Texas. In short this bill prohibits cities or counties from ignoring federal or state laws regarding immigration. It bans local governmental bodies from adopting ordinances or policies that allow them to turn the other way when it comes to immigration matters. For example, if this bill passes a local police department may not be prohibited from asking someone's immigration status if the person is already legally detained. In addition, cities cannot receive state grant money if they adopt a policy or ordinance that prohibits the enforcement of state or federal law regarding immigration. I am proud that Richardson and Garland are not sanctuary cities and I am ready to get the rest of the state on the same page.

### **Friendly Faces from Home**

This morning I had the opportunity to speak at the TML Annual Youth Advisory Summit. I was pleased to present the group from Garland with a flag flown over the capitol in honor of their contribution to our city. Earlier this week I was so happy to have Bruce Sherbet, of our district, on the House floor. We passed a resolution honoring his exemplary commitment to public service with his notable 24-year tenure as the Elections Administrator of Dallas County.



**I had the opportunity to meet with several physical therapy students from the district. From left to right are Clarissa Rumphs, Nicole Bordeau, Cassie Thompson, Margaret Miao, Devin Fernandez and Christina King**



**Dr. Timothy Abigail of Garland along with several other podiatrists dropped by as well to talk about issues affecting their profession.**

This Thursday was Girl Scouts Day at the Capitol. I was chosen as a House Co-Chair of the newest Girl Scout troop, Honorary Girl Scout Troop #1920. The Girl Scouts inducted me, along with my colleagues into the honorary troop which is made up of all the ladies in the state legislature. As part of Girl Scouts Day, I got to meet with the CEOs of all seven Girl Scouts

councils here in Texas. The Girl Scouts do wonderful work promoting leadership and healthy-living for girls. There are over 10 million active Girl Scouts worldwide.



Here I am with Anna Maria Chavez, a Girl Scout CEO, Senator Leticia Van de Putte, and local Girl Scouts.

It is an honor 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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