

# ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas  
House of Representatives



*September 2, 2011*

Friends,

I hope the school year is off to a good start for everyone. Please enjoy a safe and happy Labor Day weekend. My offices will be closed on Monday so that staff may spend time with their families. If you do have an emergency during this time, please call my Austin office at 512-463-0486. Messages will be checked regularly. I look forward to seeing each of you at events around the community as we near the end of this long hot summer.

## **Happy Fiscal New Year**

September 1st is a big day in Texas. It marks the beginning of the new fiscal year. In addition, September 1st is the day that most bills from the 82nd legislature become effective. Two bills that I have not yet discussed that are now being implemented are:

**H.B. 33, Making College Textbooks Affordable** - This legislation will help drive down the cost of class materials by providing college faculty the information they need to choose more pocketbook friendly course materials, and students the details on their books and software in enough time to comparison shop for the best deals.

**H.B. 1, Improving Service at the Driver's License Office** - I have heard from many of you, including my husband, about the dreaded lines when visiting the Driver's License Office. As a result of provisions passed in the budget bill, the Metroplex will become home to two brand new "megacenter" DPS Driver's License offices in the next year.

Additionally, improvements to existing offices will include upgrades to allow the use of credit cards at all locations, implementation of electronic waiting systems and additional employee training to improve efficiency and safeguard against potential unlawful applications for licenses and other state ID cards. The goal is to lower the maximum wait time to no more than 30 minutes statewide.

## **Constitutional Amendments**

During the 82nd Session, we passed 10 joint resolutions proposing amendments to the state constitution. These items will be on the ballot November 8th. The newsletter next month will be devoted to the proposed items. In the meantime, if you would like to begin looking into these proposals, please visit [www.tlc.state.tx.us/const\\_amends.htm](http://www.tlc.state.tx.us/const_amends.htm).

## Around the District

The month of August has been very busy around the community. First, the City of Richardson and I hosted the Third Annual Senior Awareness Day at the Richardson Civic Center. This year we were able to reach around 400 people from the North Texas area. We provided one-on-one counseling and a wide range of information dedicated to seniors from over forty exhibitors. It was a huge success and much appreciation goes to the hard work of the Senior Awareness Day Planning Committee.



**Starting to my left: Jerry Nichols, Leea Thompson Fudge, Tony Torres, Sary Cheng, Lottie Randle, Jim Sykora (back), Representative Angie Button (front), Bob Hook (back), Ruth Bowling (front), Jan Woody, and Jean Mullins. I want to thank all the wonderful people who helped make this day possible.**

This month I have been honored to have the opportunity to meet with Garland ISD Administration. I had a wonderful and productive conversation with Superintendent Curtis Culwell as well as members of the GISD Board of Trustees. With input from you and these officials, I am excited to continue working toward meeting the educational needs of our children.

I was able to attend the ribbon cutting of Diodes Incorporated, a high-tech company which has recently moved its corporate headquarters to North Texas. I was pleased to visit with Ben Patterson and other Travelers Insurance executives. The insurance agency is located in HD 112 and employs many in our area. I also enjoyed attending the Korean American Coalition of DFW Eighth Annual Awareness Banquet where I received the Service Recognition Award. It was a great honor to be recognized by such a dedicated and hardworking group. The Dallas Regional Chamber hosted a very informative Congressional Forum with Congressmen Pete Sessions, Jeb Hensarling, and Joe Barton. I was happy to visit with and hear from our Congressmen on the challenges facing our state at the federal level. Last Friday, I was very happy to meet many remarkable entrepreneurs and researchers at the Eleventh Annual Tech Titans & Fast Tech Awards Dinner. High Tech businesses continue to play an important role in bringing jobs to our district. Congratulations to all those who were nominated for and won awards that evening.

Additionally, I was honored to present HCR 130 at the Richardson Chamber of Commerce monthly board meeting which recognizes Richardson as the International Business Capital of North Texas. This legislation passed during the regular session and will help promote our great community.



**Presenting HCR 130, recognizing Richardson as the International Business Capital of North Texas. From left to right, Richardson Mayor Bob Townsend, Jim Strand; Chairman of the Richardson Chamber of Commerce; and Bill Sproull, President & CEO of the Richardson Chamber of Commerce.**

At this week's Richardson City Council meeting I also presented House Resolution (HR) 2712 congratulating the citizens and police department of Richardson for taking First Place at the 2010 National Night Out Competition.



**Presenting HR 2712, congratulating the Richardson Police Department and the citizens of Richardson on taking first place in the 2010 National Night Out competition. From left to right (standing): Richardson Mayor Bob Townsend, Richardson Police Chief Jim Spivey, Assistant Chief Rhonda Bonner, Captain Brent Tourangeau, and Lt. Trey Cotten. From left to right (seated in the back): Councilman Kendall Hartley, City Manager Bill Keffler, Mayor Pro Tem Laura Maczka, and Councilman Scott Dunn.**

Sincerely,

*Angie Chen Button*

If you would like to be added or removed from this mailing, please e-mail [Angie.Button@house.state.tx.us](mailto:Angie.Button@house.state.tx.us).