

ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas
House of Representatives



February 1, 2013

Friends,

This has been a great week in Austin. On Tuesday, Governor Perry delivered the State of the State Address to a joint session on the House floor and on Thursday Speaker Straus announced committee assignments. Now that committee assignments have been announced, the pace at the Capitol will pick up, but I am never too busy to hear from you. If there is an issue or piece of legislation that is important to you, please be sure to contact my office and let me know.

State of the State

In his speech, the Governor highlighted our state's strong economic outlook and laid out his priorities to keep Texas moving forward. He called on the Legislature to provide at least \$1.8 billion in tax relief, invest in the state's water and transportation infrastructure, and improve access and choice in both public and higher education. He encouraged feedback from Texans on the best methods of tax relief, inviting you to share your ideas on the Governor's website: <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/>.

"The state of our state is stronger than ever. We remain the nation's prime destination for employers and job-seekers alike, and across the state - in classrooms, on assembly lines, in laboratories, on farms and in office buildings - hard working Texans are today turning their dreams into realities," Gov. Perry said. "Big and small, dreams do become reality in Texas."

Committee Assignments

On Thursday, Speaker Straus announced committee assignments. I was appointed to serve as Vice-Chair of the Technology Committee, as well as to serve on the Calendars and Ways and Means Committees.

I am pleased to once again serve as the Vice-Chair of the House Technology Committee. The technology sector is vital to our state's economy. This committee, which will be chaired by

Representative Gary Elkins, will work on all matters pertaining to advances in science and technology. I am looking forward to working with Chairman Elkins to ensure that the state's policies are keeping up with this continually evolving industry.

The powerful Calendars Committee has jurisdiction over the placement of bills on the floor calendar. It is a procedural committee that plays a critical role in the legislative process, as every piece of legislation that is heard on the floor must first pass through this committee. Representative Todd Hunter was appointed to chair this committee.

The Ways and Means Committee is responsible for tax policy. This committee has an impact on every Texan because tax code has the power to attract businesses to Texas, support our economic growth, and to enhance our overall competitiveness as a state. This session, Representative Harvey Hilderbran will serve as Chairman of this important committee.

The Ways and Means and Calendars Committees have historically been considered two of the top four most powerful committees in the legislature, along with Appropriations and State Affairs. I am excited to have the opportunity to serve my district through these committees. I look forward to working with my constituents back at home and my colleagues in Austin over the coming months to move our great state forward.



I was thrilled to have Kim Caston (left) Richardson ISD Board of Trustees member and Susie Kemp (right) Coppell ISD Board of Trustees member visit me in Austin to discuss ways we can enhance our schools by incorporating technology.

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

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

