

# ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas  
House of Representatives



*March 13, 2015*

Friends,

Today is the 60th day of the 84th legislative session and the last day legislators can file bills. In the House alone, over 3,500 bills have been filed and legislators have until 6:00 pm today to submit their proposals. You can monitor which bills are filed and create your own bill watch list containing the legislation that is important to you by visiting <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/MnuMyTLO.aspx>.



**With Congressman Sam Johnson on the floor of the Texas House this week**

### **Economic Development**

This week I filed HB 26, HB 27, and HB 28. This legislation lays the groundwork for Economic Development reform in Texas. The reform package consolidates the Emerging Technology Fund into the Texas Enterprise Fund and restructures it so it may also be used for small business and to help university-born technology projects get off the ground. The package also increases transparency and oversight by creating the Economic Incentive Oversight Board charged with regularly reviewing programs, participating in the awards process, and forming metrics to evaluate the success of the programs. The legislation I filed requires all economic development incentive programs to go through regular independent audits to make sure each tax dollar spent is going toward its intended purpose and is bringing a return on taxpayers' investment. Additionally, I am calling for the immediate elimination of several underutilized programs.

The Economic Development reform package filed today includes many of the key issues identified by the Select Committee on Economic Development Incentives that I chaired during the interim. Now, as Chair of the standing Committee on Economic and Small Business Development, I look forward to working with my colleagues, the business community, and every Texan to ensure Texas remains a leader in job creation.

### **Visitors from Home**

I was excited to see some friends from home at their State Capitol this week. Chris Freeman of Garland stopped by as he was visiting the State Capitol. John and Jodie Ellzey, also of Garland, came by to say hello as they were here Austin for an early spring break trip. I also had the chance to visit with Dallas County Community College District Chancellor Joe May about higher education issues in our area. Thursday was Girl Scout Day at the Capitol celebrating the 103rd

anniversary of the organization's founding. As an honorary troop co-leader of the Texas Legislative Troop 1920, I was honored to celebrate with them and recognize the group from the House floor.



**I was happy to meet with Girl Scouts from around the state as they celebrated their organization's anniversary**



**I enjoyed getting to visit with educators from Richardson, Garland, and other surrounding school districts when they came down to their State Capitol on Monday**

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](mailto:Angie.Button@house.state.tx.us).