

ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas
House of Representatives



April 10, 2015

Friends,

The pace in Austin is speeding up as we approach deadlines for legislation to be considered during the 84th legislative session. House Committees have until May 11th to vote legislation out of committee for consideration on the floor of the House. May 14th is the last day the House can consider bills on 2nd reading. This means, if a House bill is not heard before midnight on May 14th, it will not pass. Please continue to communicate your thoughts on legislation. You can email me directly at Angie.Button@house.state.tx.us.

Cutting Taxes

This week, the House announced our plans for meaningful tax relief for all Texans. Under the leadership of Ways and Means Chairman Dennis Bonnen, the House tax cut proposal provides the broadest benefits to taxpayers, delivering tax relief to big businesses and small businesses, homeowners and renters, and every single Texan across the state.

At \$4.87 billion, it is the largest tax cut on the table and provides permanent tax relief. This plan gives a tax cut to all businesses that currently pay the franchise tax. It protects the integrity of the spending cap, while reducing the state tax burden and state spending. A major highlight of this package is that it reduces the state sales tax for the first time since it was enacted more than 50 years ago, and provides tax relief to 900,000 businesses not paying the franchise tax. I am excited to serve on the Ways and Means Committee and to work on the combination of franchise tax cuts and sales tax relief that will have the most dynamic impact on the Texas economy.

Educating Young Texans

This week, the House passed HB 4 which funds Pre-K education in our state. Governor Abbott declared high quality prekindergarten education an emergency item earlier this session,

and I am happy to support this bill to provide funding to school districts that adopt new standards for their Pre-K programs, such as only hiring certified teachers, implementing a quality controlled curriculum, and establishing a plan for more parental involvement. By focusing resources on at-risk youth with half-day Pre-K programs, HB 4 could reduce the state's remediation costs as these students progress further in their academic careers. The bill will now move on to be heard in the Senate.

Teachers and Students

This week, the Texas Retired Teachers Association came down for their state convention. Many friends from the district were at the Capitol to advocate for a number of bills that are currently before the State Legislature. Nancy and Tom Rohm and Jack Noteware, stopped by my office all advocating on behalf of Richardson's retired teachers. Robert Sewell of Garland was able to speak to me right outside the floor about his specific issues and concerns. Thank you to all of our teachers, past and present, and please do not hesitate to contact my office with your thoughts on the bills that are currently before us.

Also this week, I was honored to have Karsen Patterson serve as my page of the day. Karsen came to help out at the Capitol for the day. I really appreciate her taking the time to come down to the Capitol to learn more about our state government and to assist in the daily operations around the Capitol. If you would like your child to be a page of the day, please do not hesitate to email me at angie.button@house.state.tx.us or call my office.



Pictured with Jack Noteware, Nancy Rohm and Tom Rohm of the Texas Retired Teachers Association and Richardson ISD



Happy to have Karsen Patterson of Richardson as the page of the day along with her grandfather, Ron Patterson, and father, Ben Patterson

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.