

ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas
House of Representatives



October 2, 2015

Friends,

Fall has officially arrived in North Texas. For those who are not already registered to vote in the Nov. 3rd Constitutional Amendment election, the deadline to do so is Monday, October 5th. For more information on how to register, please visit <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/>.

Texas Receives Top Ratings

We all know firsthand what a wonderful place Texas is. I am excited to report that the major credit rating agencies have just acknowledged the success of our conservative approach. Our state's long-term general obligation debt was once again assigned the highest possible credit ratings from Moody's (Aaa), Standard and Poor's (AAA) and Fitch (AAA), with stable outlooks from all. High credit ratings translate into lower costs for taxpayers. These ratings are a direct result of our diverse economy, which has sustained economic growth despite falling oil prices, our state government's ample reserves, and the Legislature's consistent focus on protecting our finances.

Constituent Roundtables

This past month, I held the second set of Constituent Roundtables of 2015. We focused on a post-legislative session recap to discuss the 84th Legislature while also updating each other on the ongoing local issues.

The Education Roundtable discussed the state's new school rating system, how the legislature worked to address the needs of the TRS medical benefits, and how the state is changing high school graduation requirements. At the Health & Human Services Roundtable, we had a very productive conversation about the merging of many of the state's major health agencies as well as mental health funding for those agencies to provide better, more efficient care.

We did something a little different this time for a few of our roundtables by inviting two guest speakers to come and educate us. We invited members of the Richardson Police Department to brief the combined Public Safety and Neighborhoods Roundtables on an overview of the challenges faced by local law enforcement and how they are responding to increased technology related crimes. We also had a member of the Dallas TxDOT team present an overview of the county and region's upcoming transportation projects to a combined Transportation and Business & Economic Development Roundtable.

I want to thank all of the wonderful people in our district that gave up a part of their Friday or Saturday to come speak to me about issues that they are passionate about. If you would like to join in on the discussions in one of our roundtables, please don't hesitate to contact me for more information.

Around the District

In addition to our Roundtables, I enjoyed spending time with the DFW Asian American Citizens Council at their banquet. I also participated in the Garland Labor Day Parade again this year and was happy to see so many people brave the warm morning to celebrate with their neighbors. I was pleased to attend the Moon Festival at the Cali Saigon Mall. It was an honor to be present for the Terra Lago groundbreaking in Rowlett along with my colleague Rep. Cindy Burkett.



Pictured with Rep. Cindy Burkett, and Rowlett Mayor Todd Gottel at the Terra Lago groundbreaking

Two of my colleagues had district office openings this month and I was honored to help welcome both Sen. Don Huffines and Rep. Linda Koop into their new offices here in the area. I loved getting to be a part of the High Tech High Heels event that helps encourage girls to pursue STEM educations and careers. At the New Beginnings Center event, I was happy to support such a fine organization dedicated to helping victims of domestic violence in the area.

I was delighted to attend the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA) luncheon with some good friends of mine here in the district. I also was excited to be present for the North Texas Area Association of School Boards reception where I got to speak to school board members from around the area to discuss the past legislative session's education results. Lastly, just today I was very proud to be at the Dallas County Manufacturing Association's Manufacturing Day celebrating the vital industry that is so important to our district and the entire state.



Pictured with Tallie Young and Bob Yarborough at the NAIFA luncheon

It is an honor to serve as your State Representative. Please contact me 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.