

ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas
House of Representatives



April 1, 2016

Friends,

I hope each of you enjoyed a wonderful Easter with loved ones. Spring has definitely arrived in North Texas. As the weather warms and more of us head outdoors, please be alert and watch for children at play when you are driving around our community.

Economic Development

Today, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Economic Development held its first interim hearing. There was a great deal of conversation about the state's effort to do more for small business. The House Committee on Economic and Small Business Development will be holding its second hearing of the interim on April 6th in Garland. The Committee will meet at the Richland College Garland Campus in the atrium located at 675 W. Walnut St. The hearing starts at 9:00 am and is open to the public. The committee will discuss local economic development incentive programs as well as Texas's competitiveness with other states in recruiting and cultivating high-growth, high-tech industries, and creating new jobs.

The committee will hold four additional hearings in the coming months. These hearings will examine the effects of the energy sector on our economy and take a look at shared economies. Additionally there will be a hearing dedicated to education and workforce development and the Subcommittee on Small Business Development will hold a hearing to take a look at small business.

In spite of lower oil prices, Texas has again won Site Selection magazine's Governor's Cup. Texas also won in 2004, 2005, 2010, 2012, 2013, and 2014. This award means the Lone Star State had more major corporate location and expansion projects in 2015 than any other state.

Texas' success is based on a number of factors. One is that the business climate here offers advantages in the form of lower taxes and a more predictable regulatory environment. Costs are lower for business as well as employees compared to many markets (such as California). Companies also point to the state's abundant and quality workforce and other infrastructure when

they decide to locate here. It is the goal of our committee to continue improving on these policies. There could be additional fallout from the energy industry slowing in the years to come, so it is increasingly important to examine how to maintain our dynamic economy.

Around the District

Earlier in March, I was excited to be invited to the Richardson Police Department's Annual Police Awards Banquet honoring Richardson's Finest. I also attended the Richardson Chamber's Annual Meeting which featured Senator John Cornyn as the keynote speaker. I was happy to see such a strong attendance at that luncheon. My staff attended the Rowlett Chamber's Annual Banquet on my behalf, as well as the Rowlett Chamber's Monthly Luncheon where they hosted many of the local candidates for Rowlett City Council and Garland ISD Board of Trustees. Lastly, tonight I will be attending the Richardson ISD Excellence in Education Foundation's dinner to support all of the wonderful things happening in our local school district.



Pictured with Richardson Chamber CEO Bill Sproull, Richardson Mayor Paul Voelker, Senator John Cornyn, and Garland Mayor Doug Athas at the Richardson Chamber's Annual Meeting

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.texas.gov