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Representative Dan Huberty



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Adjourned Sine Die

After 140 days of the legislative session, the Texas House had finally adjourned "Sine Die" for the 83rd Regular Session, which literally means "without assigning a day for a further meeting or hearing." The technical definition says, "a legislative body adjourns sine die when it adjourns without appointing a day on which to appear or assemble again." The business of the state of Texas has been completed.

But in the late hours of Monday, Governor Perry called a Special Session, set to begin immediately, to consider the redistricting maps drawn by the district judges last summer. The Texas Senate chose to stay Monday evening and begin the process. The House adjourned until Tuesday morning.

When we convened today, the Select Committee on Redistricting was named and I have been chosen to serve, along with 18 other members of the Texas House. Our first public hearing should be held later this week. Please see more on this in the newsletter below.

As always if you have questions, please feel free to contact my office with any questions you may have regarding the 83rd Legislative Session. You can reach the Capitol Office at 512-463-0520, or my District Office at 281-360-9410.

Sincerely,

Dan Huberty
State Representative- District 127

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Speaker Straus Addresses Texas House Before Sine Die

House Speaker Joe Straus gave the following remarks to the Texas House before the Legislature adjourned and ended the 83rd regular session Monday: Members, we began this session in January with a focus on tackling serious issues. With a strong economy and a rapidly growing population, we had a unique opportunity to address the major challenges facing our state. Today I'm pleased to say that the Members of this House have done just that. Working together, we have made a historic decision to address our water needs. As a result, Texas will be better prepared to respond to the severe drought conditions that have cost our economy billions of dollars. Our work on this issue shows that Texas is serious about continuing to lead the nation in private-sector job growth. We have reformed public education so that every student can succeed in a diverse, fast-changing economy. And we have reduced the burden of standardized testing, giving local educators more flexibility to meet the individual needs of their students.

Finally, we significantly increased transparency and accountability in our budget. We will use more of our transportation dollars to directly improve mobility. And we have put Texas on the path to making our budget even more transparent in the years to come. On these issues and many others, you showed that Texans from different parties and regions can come together to address our most pressing challenges. You reached across the aisle, and you found common ground. Many challenges remain, but you can be proud of the work you've done to address the issues that matter to the people of Texas. Thank you to each and every one of you – and to your families and your staffs – for your effort...your leadership...and your commitment to the State of Texas. It has been an honor to serve with you. Thank you.

Legislative Update

To view a list of Representative Huberty's legislative package, simply [click here](#). To see a list of Senate bills being sponsored by Representative Huberty, [click here](#).

HB 462 - Frequently referred to as the "Common Core" bill, HB 462 would prohibit the adoption of an appraisal process or criteria on the performance of teachers, as well as, the adoption of any common core or national curriculum standards by the State of Texas. HB 462 was sent to Governor Perry on May 27. Read more about the bill [here](#).

HB 866 - This piece of legislation addresses the current over burdensome amount of testing related to the newest state test, STAAR. It would allow for high-performing students to "test out" every other year of 3rd through 8th grade. On May 27, HB 866 was sent to Governor Perry. Read more about this bill [here](#).

HB 1035 - This bill gives elected officeholders and candidates the option to file required reports and statements electronically, via e-filing. On May 20, it was passed from the Senate and returned to the House. HB 1035 was sent to Governor Perry on May 27. Read more about this bill [here](#).

HB 2049 - This bill would allow a qualifying cogenerator to sell electric energy at retail to more than one purchaser of the cogenerator's thermal output. It most recently sent to Governor Perry on May 27, and can be viewed [here](#).

HB 2607 - Currently, school district employees must have the representative in person when appealing a grievance. This bill would allow their attorney or representative to be present via a telephone conference call. It was sent to Governor Perry on May 26, and can be viewed [here](#).

HB 2961 - In order to prevent ever-prevalent identity theft, this bill would prohibit school districts from using employee social security numbers as an identifier. It was signed by Governor Perry on May 25, and can be viewed [here](#).

Representative Huberty also sponsored several Senate bills which are in the final stages of passage. Including: **SB 816** by Senator Glenn Hegar - Relating to the date by which a school district must complete a report of an initial evaluation of a student for special education services. This bill was sent to Governor Perry on May 25. It can be viewed [here](#).

SB 906 by Senator Bob Deuell - Relating to developmentally appropriate assessment of special education students. This bill was sent to Governor Perry on May 27. It can be viewed [here](#).

SB 1658 by Senator Ken Paxton - Relating to the effect of certain state aid on school districts required to take action to equalize wealth under the school finance system. This bill was sent to Governor Perry on May 25. It can be viewed [here](#).

Statement from Speaker Joe Straus on the 83rd Session

"Because of the decisions the House made Sunday, Texas is significantly closer to having the water supply needed to respond to severe droughts and to encourage private-sector growth. In addition, educators will have the flexibility needed to prepare every student for success while spending less time on standardized tests, and the state budget will be more transparent and straightforward. The House has focused on the core responsibilities of government throughout this session, and I am grateful that Members have worked in a collaborative way to successfully address the issues that matter most to the people of Texas."



Governor Perry calls an Immediate Special Session

Gov. Rick Perry today announced a special session of the Texas Legislature will begin at 6:00 p.m. Monday, May 27. "We can all be proud of the responsible steps made this session to invest in our citizens, fund water infrastructure, and build an even stronger foundation for the future of our economy and Texas families," Gov. Perry said. "By lowering taxes on job creators, opening the door to more higher education opportunities in South Texas, investing in a skilled workforce and keeping our state government efficient and accountable, hardworking taxpayers have freedom, opportunity and peace of mind. However, there is still work to be done on behalf of the citizens of Texas."

The special session will consider the following issue: legislation which ratifies and adopts the interim redistricting plans ordered by the federal district court as the permanent plans for districts used to elect members of the Texas House of Representatives, Texas Senate and United States House of Representatives. You can view the proclamation issued by Governor Perry in full [here](#).

Appointment to Redistricting Committee

Representative Huberty was appointed to serve on the Select Committee on Redistricting for this Special Session. Here is the announcement from Speaker Joe Straus:

Pursuant to Rule 1, Section 16 of the House Rules, I, Joe Straus, speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, create the House Select Committee on Redistricting. The committee shall have jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to: (1) house districts, (2) senate districts, and (3) congressional districts. The committee shall have nineteen members. The following members are hereby appointed to the House Select Committee on Redistricting:

The Honorable Drew Darby, chair; The Honorable Yvonne Davis, vice-chair; The Honorable Travis Clardy; The Honorable Brandon Creighton; The Honorable Joe Deshotel; The Honorable Larry Gonzales; The Honorable Linda Harper-Brown; The Honorable Dan Huberty; The Honorable Todd Hunter; The Honorable Jim Keffer; The Honorable Trey Martinez Fischer; The Honorable Geanie Morrison; The Honorable Rene Oliveira; The Honorable Rob Orr; The Honorable Joe Pickett; The Honorable Four Price; The Honorable Richard Peña Raymond; The Honorable Senfronia Thompson; and The Honorable Jason Villalba.