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Representative Dan Huberty



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Election Day - Tuesday, November 5

Early voting has already begun for the upcoming November 5th elections. Registered voters still have until 7 PM this Friday, November 1, 2013 to vote early on the proposed Constitutional Amendments. Election Day is on Tuesday, November 5, 2013 and voters will have until 7PM to cast their ballots. To find a polling place in your area, please visit www.harrisvotes.com. Here you will be able to find the nearest polling place as well as the hours that the polls will be open at each location. You can find additional information on mail in ballots and how to vote if you will be overseas or are a member of the military at the Vote Texas website, votetexas.gov.

There are nine proposed constitutional amendments on the ballot, all of which, if approved by the voters, could mean significant changes for the state of Texas. The proposed amendments encompass an array of topics from water infrastructure to expanding sanctions that may be assessed against a judge or justice in the state. More information on all nine of the proposed amendments can be found on the Legislative Reference Library of Texas webpage, www.lrl.stat.tx.us. Summaries and comments for all nine proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution can be found [here](#).

Please take the opportunity to read about all of the proposed amendments, along with the other items on your ballot. If you have any questions, contact my staff at the Capitol or District Office for more information.

Sincerely,

State Representative Dan Huberty
District 127

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Make Your Mark, Get Out and Vote

The ballot for Tuesday's election will include nine constitutional amendments. If you live in Harris County, it will also have two county propositions. If you live in the City of Houston, your ballot will also include elections for the Mayor, the City Council and the Controller. You can find out exactly what your ballot will look like, along with information on where you vote on Election Day at www.HarrisVotes.com.

One of the most widely known propositions that will be on the ballot is Amendment No. 6 (S.J.R. 1), which would provide for the creation of the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas and the State Water Implementation Revenue Fund for Texas to assist in the financing of priority projects in the state water plan to ensure the availability of water resources. Funding a water plan is vital to public health and the continued economic well-being of the state and because of its great importance, there are many differing opinions on how to best capitalize the water plan funds. The proposed amendment would draw a one-time appropriation of \$2 billion from the economic stabilization fund, for the purpose of financing water projects included in the state water plan. Those in favor of funding the water plan in this method argue that using money from the economic stabilization fund for water infrastructure is a valid use of the fund, which was created as a savings account from which the state legislature can appropriate funds as necessary to respond to emergencies such as the current drought. Those who oppose this method of appropriation argue that the economic stabilization fund should not be used to capitalize the two water funds proposed by the amendment. Instead, funding should be drawn from the general revenue fund because drawing down funds from the economic stabilization fund could negatively affect the state's ability to respond to future emergencies.

More information on all nine of the proposed amendments can be found on the Legislative Reference Library of Texas webpage, www.lrl.stat.tx.us. Summaries and comments for all nine proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution can be found [here](#).



Texas PTA Names Representative Huberty to Legislative Honor Roll

On Friday, October 18, members of the Humble ISD's Council of PTAs presented Representative Huberty with an award from Texas PTA. Last month, Rep. Huberty was named to the statewide organization's "Legislative Honor Roll" for his work during the 83rd session of the Texas Legislature and this event served as the award presentation.

Rep. Huberty was recognized because of his strong support for increased funding for public schools and his passage of several education bills including legislation to reduce state assessment in grades 3-8; legislation to ensure assessment scores for students with disabilities are developmentally appropriate; and legislation to determine how many Texas students are diagnosed with dyslexia. "As a former school board member, Rep. Huberty understands the challenges public schools face," stated Marilyn Mann, President of Humble ISD's Council of PTAs. "He is a problem solver and this session Rep. Huberty emerged as a key player in the passage of HB 5, a landmark education reform bill that reduced high school end-of-course tests from 15 to 5, changed graduation requirements and outlined a new school accountability system. Texas PTA is happy he's on our side!"

Individuals recognized for the Texas PTA Honor Roll should demonstrate initiative to enhance the quality of life for children and youth, improve the quality of education for all children and youth, strengthen families, improve child safety standards, show support for children, youth, families and PTA-related positions and lend support to a current Texas PTA legislative priority.

Texas Eighth Graders Score International Attention

In an inaugural study that has been initiated by the National Center for Education Statistics, Texas 8th grade students achieved the 8th highest average score in Math and the 11th highest average score in Science on an international scale. Commissioner Williams taugted the achievement saying, ““This global study strengthens my belief that Texas students and teachers can compete nationally and internationally when we challenge them and set high expectations. While I recognize areas where we still must improve, I am proud of the hard work of our students and teachers in achieving this recognition.”

The study was created by linking the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) scale to the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) scale. The new comparison allows states across the country to compare the performance of the students in their state to the rest of the United States as well as many other countries around the world.

#	EDUCATION SYSTEM	AVERAGE MATH SCORE
1	Republic of Korea	613
2	Singapore	611
3	Chinese Taipei (China)	609
4	Hong Kong (China)	586
5	Japan	570
6	Russian Federation	539
7	Israel	516
8	STATE OF TEXAS	515
9	Finland	514
10	United States	509

If you would like to see the National Assessment of Educational Progress study in its entirety please visit the National Center For Education Statistics webpage, nces.ed.gov. Information for this article and additional information regarding Texas Student’s international standing can be found on the Texas Education Agency Website, www.tea.state.tx.us.

Draft Rules on HB 5 Graduation Program Released

Based on direction from the State Board of Education (SBOE), the Texas Education Agency (TEA) released draft rules to be considered by the SBOE at its November meeting regarding the new high school graduation program under House Bill 5 (HB 5). Passed by the 83rd Texas Legislature, HB 5 revises the graduation program for students entering Grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year and all subsequent years. The draft rules represent an initial proposal created directly from State Board member input and processed by TEA staff on the Board’s behalf. The Board is scheduled vote to authorize the agency to file the draft for official public comment at its November meeting.

A public hearing on the graduation program is scheduled for Nov. 20. As part of its process, State Board members have already been accepting public comments regarding the graduation program via email at SBOESUPPORT@tea.state.tx.us. A final vote on new HB 5 graduation program by the State Board of Education is expected in January 2014.

To review the draft proposed rules for consideration by the State Board of Education at its November meeting, visit <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=25769806149>.

Legislative Update: House Bill 2

On Thursday, October 31, the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeal reversed the federal district court ruling from earlier this week that found part of the state's new abortion regulations unconstitutional, meaning those provisions of House Bill 2 can now take effect immediately. A three-judge panel in the 5th Circuit appellate court lifted a permanent injunction placed on the abortion regulations by Federal District Judge Lee Yeakel, arguing in a written opinion that the state was likely to succeed in its legal arguments.

In the state's request for a stay of Yeakel's Monday ruling, attorneys wrote that the district court took an "extraordinary step" by ruling that the provisions caused an undue burden on women seeking abortion, as 90 percent of patients would still be able to receive an abortion within 100 miles of their residence.

Monday's ruling by District Judge Lee Yeakel, was a disappointment for the safety of the women of Texas. The status quo of accreditation for doctors performing this procedure is substandard in its credentialing process, placing women in harm's way. Hospital admitting privileges are standard of care for other surgeons, and provide necessary additional supervision, screening and accountability. The hospital credentialing process provides additional oversight that involves peer review of education, training, experience, and performance specific to the privileges requested. Additionally, it is a continuous review, repeating every two years.

A Texas medical license simply licenses a physician to practice medicine at the basic standard of having successfully completed medical school, standardized basic written exams, and a one-year internship. When administering a procedure that could potentially lead to severe complications, Texas women deserve appropriate rather than substandard credentialing that can be counted on no matter where they go. A physician with a Texas medical license, but no training or experience in OB/GYN would unlikely be granted privileges to perform these types of procedures in a hospital, but would be given privileges in an abortion clinic. Without this additional oversight we put the lives of Texas women in danger.

In summary, hospital admitting privileges are directly related to improved patient care, and women seeking abortion surgery are entitled to the same standards and protections as every other surgical patient in Texas.

State of the City, County & State

Rep. Huberty was joined by Mayor Annise Parker, City Council Member Dave Martin, Tax-Assessor Collector Mike Sullivan, Constable Ron Hickman and Justice of the Peace Tom Lawrence at Kingwood Country Club on Wednesday, October 16, for a political forum. Emceed by the Honorable Lynn Fields, each elected official was given 15-20 minutes to speak about their specific area.

Rep. Huberty spoke about the accomplishments of the 83rd Legislative Session. Specifically, he covered the budget process; the changes to funding in public education; the new graduation requirements for high school students and the many public education bills he personally passed. At the end of his speech, Rep. Huberty presented a Texas flag flown over the Capitol building for the Clubs of Kingwood to Sharon Lewis, who sits on the Board of Governor's for the Clubs, and Patrick Petit, the Kingwood Country Club General Manager. It was a very informative and educational event for all the attendees and speakers and Rep. Huberty would like to thank Danell Fields for her hard work organizing this event.

Teacher of the Year Luncheon

On Tuesday, October 15, Rep. Huberty joined with community members from the Lake Houston Chamber of Commerce for the annual Teacher of the Year Luncheon. At the event, selected teachers are given the opportunity to enjoy a nice lunch away from their campus and to spend time with their principals, superintendents and elected officials.

The event honors the 2013 Teachers of the Year from Humble ISD, Spring ISD, Holy Trinity Episcopal School, Northeast Christian Academy and Lonestar College-Kingwood. Each recipient was given a certificate from Rep. Huberty, along with certificates from City Council Member Dave Martin and Congressman Ted Poe. They were also provided trophies from the Lake Houston Chamber for their honor.

Campbell Chiropractic Celebrates 20 Years

In September, local Kingwood resident, Dr. Charlie Campbell and his practice Campbell Chiropractic Clinic, celebrated 20 years of service to the Kingwood Community. During that time, Dr. Campbell performed more than 100,000 chiropractic adjustments and 65,000 treatments. He began Campbell Chiropractic Clinic in 1993 at the age of 44 after working for several years in Louisiana and Texas in the oil and gas industry. When his wife was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 36 his career path took a sudden turn.



"We had two small children at the time. And, it just brings a stark illumination to your priorities in life. And, I had this real strong desire to be able to help. And, I couldn't. I didn't have the knowledge or expertise to help her specifically with her condition at that time. But, I wanted to learn to help other people," Dr. Campbell said. A short time later he attended the Texas Chiropractic College in Pasadena and opened his own practice in the Kingwood community. It was truly an honor to present Dr. Campbell with a resolution in commemoration of his great achievement, his dedication to his family and his dedication to the community. For further information on Dr. Campbell and his 20 years of practice please refer to their website located at this [link](#).

Atascocita Middle School Student Council President

My daughter, Brianna, who is the oldest of my three children, was recently elected as the President of Atascocita Middle School's Student Council. I want to congratulate Brianna and her fellow Student Council classmates. Below is a picture of Brianna being sworn in as the Council's President. I could not be more proud of all three of my children, Brianna, Ryan, and Dylan.



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, November 5th

7 AM-7 PM - Election Day (Polling Locations can be found at www.HarrisVotes.com)

Monday, November 11th

Veterans Day (Capitol and District offices will be closed)

7:30 AM - Wildcat Salute to Veteran's - Humble High School

12 PM - Veteran's Day Event - Lonestar College-Kingwood

3 PM - 3rd Annual Veteran's Day Service - Creekwood Middle School

Thursday, November 28th

Thanksgiving Day
