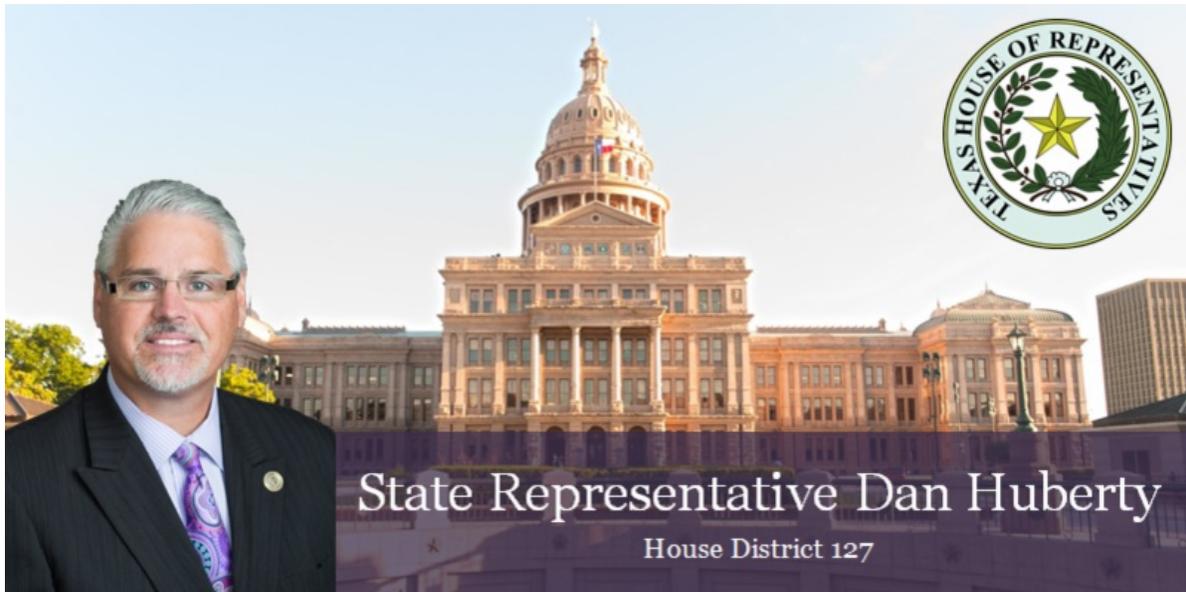


Thank you for your subscription to Rep. Dan Huberty's Session Newsletter. If you wish to unsubscribe, please use the SafeUnsubscribe option at the bottom of this email.



January 13, 2017

Dear Fellow Texan,

Thank you for subscribing to my newsletter. This edition contains important information about what is happening at the Texas Capitol during the first week of the 85th Legislative Session. Although the members only convened on the House Floor for two days, the week was full of events.

Take a look at the happenings below. Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to my staff at any time. Our contact information is listed at the bottom of this email.

Sincerely,

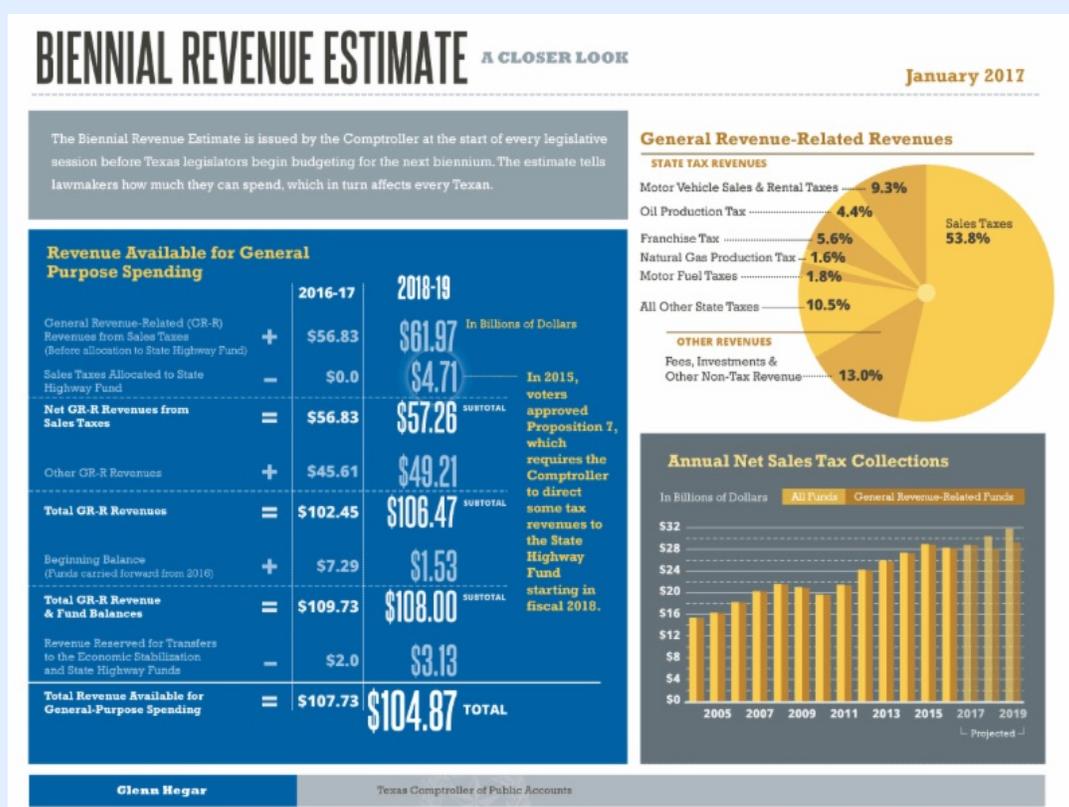
Dan

Dan Huberty



What's Going on in Austin?

2018-2019 Biennial Revenue Estimate



For 2018-19, the state can expect to have \$104.9 billion in funds available for general purpose spending, a 2.7 percent decrease from the corresponding amount of funds available for the 2016-17 biennium. If not for the new constitutional provision dedicating up to \$5 billion in biennial sales tax revenue to the State Highway Fund (SHF) starting in fiscal 2018-19, projected funds available for general-purpose spending for 2018-19 would be

\$109.6 billion, 1.7 percent greater than in 2016-17.

The \$104.9 billion available for general-purpose spending represents 2018-19 total revenue collections of \$106.5 billion in General Revenue-related (GR-R) funds, plus \$1.5 billion in balances from 2016-17, less \$3.1 billion reserved from oil and natural gas taxes for 2018-19 transfers to the Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF) and the SHF.

Tax revenues account for approximately 87 percent of the estimated \$106.5 billion in total GR-R revenue in 2018-19. Sixty-two percent of GR-R tax revenue will come from net collections of sales taxes, after more than \$4.7 billion is allocated to the SHF. Other significant sources of General Revenue include motor vehicle sales and rental taxes; oil and natural gas production taxes; franchise tax; insurance taxes; collections from licenses, fees, fines and penalties; interest and investment income; and net lottery proceeds.

In addition to the GR-R funds, the state is expected to collect \$74.9 billion in federal income as well as other revenues dedicated for specific purposes and therefore unavailable for general-purpose spending. Revenue collections from all sources and for all purposes should total \$224.8 billion.

Absent any appropriations by the Legislature, the ESF balance is expected to be \$11.9 billion at the end of the 2018-19 biennium.

85th Legislative Session Swearing-In Ceremony

On Tuesday, January 10, 2017, the returning and new members of the Texas Legislature were sworn-in to serve for the 85th Session. The ceremony was led by Secretary of State Rolando Pablos who spoke to the opportunity of the new session and the many great things that will occur in the next 139 days.

Shortly after, Speaker Joe Straus was unanimously reelected to oversee the House of Representatives. In his speech, Straus said, "In the months ahead, we will come to this chamber to deliberate thousands of your ideas and proposals. We will have moments of levity, and tension, and unity. We will disagree on some legislation and agree on much more." Straus spoke to the importance of allowing the shared values of public service to guide the members and closed by saying, "...we have an opportunity: we can show that there's still a place for thoughtful and inclusive leadership. We can show that elected officials still know how to solve problems. And we can show that, when necessary, principled leaders still have the courage to compromise."

Governor Greg Abbott was the featured speaker for both chambers. He reminded legislators that this 85th Session will outline the future of a state where "anyone from anywhere has a chance to come here and succeed, "a place where "generations of Texans have persevered through countless tribulations with the typical Texas character."

At the close of the event, Rep. Huberty was among the members appointed to serve on the House Notification Committee to Governor Abbott. They met the Senate Notification Committee in the Rotunda and together notified the Governor that the chambers were ready to get to work.



House and Senate Notification Committees meet with Governor Greg Abbott

Texas House Sends \$2.1 Billion Invoice to Feds

Rep. Huberty joined fellow Texas House members in calling on the federal government to reimburse Texas taxpayers for \$2.8 billion in costs resulting from Washington's failure to secure the border.

"Securing our nation's borders is a federal responsibility, but Washington's failure has forced Texas to take action on our own for many years," said Chairman Dennis Bonnen. "As a result, Texas taxpayers are carrying a tremendous financial burden that should be shared equally by all Americans. Today we are asking Washington to live up to its responsibility of securing the border, and to reimburse Texas for the \$2.8 billion our citizens have spent cleaning up the federal government's mess."

Since January 2013, the state of Texas and local governments have been forced to spend \$2.8 billion as a result of the federal government's failure to secure the border.

[View the Press Conference by clicking here.](#)



House Members Submitting Invoice to Feds

INVOICE

Submitted To The

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

BALANCE DUE

\$2,821,389,365

PAYABLE ON RECEIPT

REIMBURSEMENTS FOR BORDER SECURITY COSTS

1. Dept. of Public Safety	\$1,410,563,257
2. Texas Parks & Wildlife	\$20,268,215
3. Texas Military Forces	\$62,976,798
4. TABC	\$670,728
5. Dept. of Criminal Justice	\$463,278,833
6. Health & Human Services	\$416,882,000
7. County Jails	\$265,563,826
8. Texas Education Agency	\$181,185,708
9. Costs Not Federally Tracked	?????????

TOTAL: \$2,821,389,365.00 ↑

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STATE OF TEXAS

Rep. Huberty & Sen. Seliger Introduce HB 966 and SB 463

On Thursday, State Representative Dan Huberty filed House Bill (HB) 966 to remove the expiration on Individual Graduation Committees (IGC) created by Senate Bill (SB) 149 in the 84th Legislative Session. With approval from these committees, high school seniors who have passed all of their coursework, but have failed to pass an end-of-course exam, can still receive approval to graduate on time.

Data from the Texas Education Agency for the 2014-2015 school year reports that 12,077 students qualified for an IGC, of which, approximately 50% percent were recommended for graduation. While the large majority of these students had failed either the English II or US History exams, they were otherwise successful in school. HB 966 would extend that same opportunity to even more students facing the possibility of not graduating.

Huberty added, "we clearly know that this legislation is working. We have given our schools one more tool for student success. It is our responsibility to extend this option to future students facing the same circumstances."

HB 966 is one of several pieces of education-related legislation filed by Representative Huberty for the 85th Session. In his fourth term representing District 127, Huberty remains dedicated to addressing the many issues and challenges that lie ahead for his constituents and all Texans.

[View the Press Conference by clicking here.](#)



Chase Barker: Sworn-In by Rep. Huberty

Rep. Huberty had a wonderful opportunity to administer an oath of service as a lawyer to his former staff member, Chase Barker. Chase's wife and family were also on-hand for the ceremony. It was a very special moment as Rep. Huberty ushered Chase into his next adventure.



Staff Spotlight: Patrick Love - Legislative Aide

Patrick is the newest member to Team Huberty in Austin. Prior to accepting his position as Legislative Aide, he worked as a Senate Messenger at the Capitol. Patrick attended the University of Texas at Dallas and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Patrick originally moved to Texas in 2008 and attended Friendswood High School where he met his high school sweetheart and now fiancée. The two of them now live in Austin where she attends law school and he is beginning an exciting career in public service.



As Legislative Aide, Patrick's responsibilities include bill research, meeting with policy experts, helping constituents, and assisting Representative Huberty and the team as needed. Patrick is very excited to support District 127. When not working, Patrick enjoys going to movies, cooking for his lovely fiancée, exploring the city's parks and neighborhoods, and reading spy novels.

Capitol Office Moved to E2.408

We have moved to a different office in the Capitol. We are now in E2.408. Make note of this in your contact list so that you can come see us when you visit.

House District 127 Events

Do you want to know what Rep. Huberty and his supporters have been up to this month? Head over to his Facebook page! Give him a "like," and you'll never be out of the loop when it comes to updates, events, and photos.



Upcoming Events

January 2017

See an event you're interested in? Click the links on each date to learn more about the event's details. Under each link, you can find R.S.V.P. information, exact times, locations, and much more.

This color box indicates an event in or near House District 127.

This color box indicates an event in Austin, Texas.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	9 Biennial Revenue Estimate	10 85th Legislative Session Swearing-In Ceremony	11 Border Security Press Conference	12 Press Conference with Senator Kel Seliger	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	17	18	19 Humble ISD Legislative Committee Meeting	20 Lake Houston Area Chamber Annual Awards Extravaganza	21 FamilyTime "Hearts of Gold" Gala
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Huffman FFA Livestock Show HLSR Humble/Kingwood Boots & Buckles Ball
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

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