

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



February 9, 2018

Thank you for subscribing to my e-newsletter. I spent most of this week traveling back and forth between House District 127 and Austin, Texas.

On Tuesday, I was honored to receive the "Friends of Education Award" from the Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA) at their annual convention in Austin, Texas. I enjoyed collaborating with educators across the state during the 85th legislative session to continue to push public education toward the future through technology. I am truly grateful to have received this award.

On Thursday, the Commission on Public School Finance had its second meeting. We heard from experts across the state who showed us a holistic snapshot of our schools today. You can read more about the meeting in the newsletter below.

I also had the honor of speaking on a panel at the Texas Public Policy Foundation's Policy Orientation. I was joined by several of my partners in the annexation fight that resulted in the passage of SB 6 during the special session. I truly enjoyed getting to speak about the future of municipal annexation in the state, and how I plan to continue to fight against forced municipal regulations in unincorporated areas.

While in Austin, I continued my conversations with Governor Abbott's team to accomplish the remaining goals in the [Plea for Three campaign](#). I know I can speak for most of the residents here in HD 127 when I say that I am grateful for the appointments from the Kingwood area to the San Jacinto River Authority. I offer my sincere congratulations to Kaaren Cambio and Mark Micheletti. I know you will represent our district well. [You can read the Governor's press release detailing the appointments here.](#)

In my conversations with the Governor, I have continued to express my concerns about the level of Lake Conroe as well as the conditions of Lake Houston and its tributaries. I am working tirelessly to get some much needed relief for our community before the next hurricane season.

My office is working hard for you, and if you have any questions or concerns please be sure to contact them. Their contact information can be found below. We are here to assist you in any way that you may need.

I hope that you and your family enjoy your weekend.

Sincerely,



Dan Huberty



District 127 Updates

US 59 Bridge Construction - Expect Delays!



Beginning the end of February expect some major delays on US 59 going to Houston. During the construction period, southbound traffic will be diverted onto the northbound lanes.

The reason for the emergency construction is that during Hurricane Harvey, the flow of the San Jacinto River was drastically increased. The heavy flow undermined the bridge columns. Currently loads over 80,000 are restricted from using the bridge and are being routed to the feeders.

TxDOT plans to release more detailed information on this project soon, so stay tuned!

Nominate a Student Volunteer for 2018 Student Heroes Award

The State Board of Education (SBOE) is now accepting nominations for the 2018 Student Heroes Award.

The Student Heroes Award program recognizes Texas public school students in prekindergarten through high school who voluntarily work to assist or benefit their fellow Texas students.

SBOE Chair Donna Bahorich urged school and community members to nominate those students who voluntarily perform acts that improve their school or community. Action of past recipients include mentoring struggling students, creating a program that provides essential supplies to children in foster care, providing stuffed animals to sick children, hosting birthday parties for students living at homeless shelters, establishing a school drumline, providing a support group for emotionally fragile students and voluntarily coaching a cheer squad that performs at Special Olympics events.

"Every day in our schools, students quietly commit unselfish acts of kindness. They don't do so because it is a class assignment. They do so because they are people of good character who care about their fellow students. These young people make their schools and communities a better place because of their unselfish work," Bahorich said.

"The Student Heroes Award given by the State Board of Education provides an opportunity for Texans to spotlight and recognize these caring students," she said.

Up to 15 students - one per State Board of Education district - may receive the award each year. Anyone may nominate a Texas public-school student for the award.

Award requirements include the following:

- The service, assistance or good deed must be voluntary and not part of any curriculum, graduation requirements, class, or community project.
- The service, assistance or good deed must benefit other students in Texas, either individually or collectively.
- The benefit may be to students of one campus, a district, or a community.

Nominations will be accepted through 5 p.m. (CST) March 9.

Recipients of the Student Heroes awards will be announced in May. A plaque will be awarded to the Student Hero by his or her State Board member.

Nomination forms and program guidelines are available at [http://tea.texas.gov/About TEA/News and Multimedia/Awards/Student Heroes/](http://tea.texas.gov/About%20TEA/News%20and%20Multimedia/Awards/Student%20Heroes/) or for more information please email heroes@tea.texas.gov.

Austin Updates

Commission on Public School Finance Meeting - Feb. 8



Yesterday, the Commission on Public School Finance met to discuss School Finance Trends and Incentives. The commission members heard from various stakeholders in the education community who presented various data shining a spotlight on concrete dollars and populations in public schools today.

You can watch an archived broadcast of the commission meeting [here](#). On [TEA's School Finance Commission Website](#) you can find the presentations given to the

commission members for all previous meetings. Be sure to mark your calendars for the next meeting of the commission: February 22. TEA's website will update with the presentations for that meeting when they're available. You can also tune in to the live broadcast [here](#).

Please note, you can offer your public comments to the commission members by emailing schoolfinancecommission@tea.texas.gov. Each email is delivered straight to the members before the following commission meeting. Be sure to make your voice heard!

Texas Public Policy Foundation - Policy Orientation *Annexation with Representation*

This week, Chairman Huberty spoke at Texas Public Policy Foundation's (TPPF) annual Policy Orientation for the Texas Legislature. Huberty, along with several advocates for taxation without representation, were invited to the conversation-style panel to discuss the victories of last session and the next steps for the potential legislation.

During the First Called Special Session of the 85th Legislature, Huberty passed Senate Bill 6, the annexation reform bill. The bill instituted many reforms to the current procedures, the most important of which required a vote of the residents of an area to consent to an annexation before it occurs.

The bill went into effect on December 1, 2017 and is the first major annexation reform in decades.



In the photo above, the panelists prepare for the panel on Thursday, February 8, 2018. Left to Right: Shirley Ross (Wells Branch MUD); Rep. Dan Huberty (HB 127); Barbara Greene (Homeowners Against Annexation); The Honorable Art Martinez de Vara (Texas Local Government Center); and Robin Lennon (Kingwood Tea Party)

House Republican Caucus - Religious Freedoms Protected

In 2014, the City of Houston subpoenaed sermons and speeches from five different Houston religious leaders who opposed a city ordinance, known as the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance (HERO). The subpoenas were seen as an attempt by city officials to determine how the preachers may have spoken about efforts to repeal the ordinance.

Although the City eventually withdrew the subpoenas, this situation sparked national discussions on whether these instances violated the constitutional rights of religious liberty and freedom of speech.

During the 85th Legislative Session, two bills were passed successfully to ensure religious rights and freedoms remain protected in the state of Texas:



Senate Bill 24

- Protects First Amendment rights by prohibiting government entities from subpoenaing a religious sermon in any civil or administrative proceeding.
 - (This includes written copy or audio or video recording of a sermon delivered by a religious leader during religious worship.)
- SB 24 went into effect on May 21, 2017 following the Governor signing it into law.

House Bill 3859

- Protects faith-based child welfare service providers in the foster care system from discrimination, or adverse legal actions, for exercising their deeply held religious beliefs.
- Enables providers to decline to offer certain services when those services conflict with their own beliefs, while also requiring the state to ensure that alternate providers are available to offer any services that a faith-based provider declines to provide due to religious conflicts.
- It further aims to protect those who endeavor to serve children from being driven

- from their vocations simply because they choose to follow their faith.
- HB 3859 went into effect on September 1, 2017. Prior to this, the state of California banned state-funded travel to Texas in response to the signing of HB 3859. This virtually had no effect on Texas' tourism industry.

Religious expression remains a right guaranteed under our U.S. Constitution and Republicans in the Texas House believe it is a freedom no government should ever take away or limit.

Texas House Republicans passed legislation during the recent session to preserve the First Amendment rights of our religious leaders and foster care providers so they can express their beliefs openly without retribution.

TCEA - Friends of Education Award



On Tuesday, February 6, 2018, Chairman Huberty was honored to accept the "Friends of Education" award from the association in Austin at their Annual Convention. Chairman Huberty shown here with Texas Computer Education Association's President, Dwight Goodwin.

[You can learn more about TCEA on their website.](#)

Hurricane Harvey Recovery Resources

Plea for Three - How to Get Involved

SEND emails to all suggested state officials

SHARE the campaign with your employees, co-workers, friends, neighbors, and customers

SPREAD the campaign on social media using #PleaFor3LakeHouston #RecoverLakeHouston. See sample tweets/posts, social media pages/groups at RecoverLakeHouston.com

SIGN UP to get updates on the "Recover Lake Houston" movement (your email will not be shared or used for purposes other than Recover Lake Houston updates)

Visit <http://www.lakehouston.org/recoverlakehouston> for more information.

The logo for "Plea for Three Lake Houston" features the text "PLEA FOR THREE" in a bold, sans-serif font at the top. Below this is a stylized graphic of three wavy lines representing water, with the top line in blue and the two bottom lines in a lighter blue. Underneath the graphic is the text "LAKE HOUSTON" in a bold, sans-serif font.

Constituent Resources

Need Assistance?

Our office is always ready to assist you. Call or email us and we will do our best to help. Many State Agencies also have hotlines or citizen assistance offices to assist you. That

contact information is available at this link, in alphabetical order:

<http://www.lrl.texas.gov/genInfo/stateAgencies.cfm>

Live Updates

All of the relevant information our office has gathered in regard to response and recovery of Hurricane Harvey is posted immediately to our Facebook page. Be sure to "like" us so that you can have the most up-to-date information.



Upcoming Events

February 2018

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 Austin, Texas.

This color box indicates an event in the House District 127 area.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 KARW Mardi Gras Ball Humble ISD BBQ Cook-Off	3 Humble ISD BBQ Cook-Off
4	5 Last Day to Register to Vote	6	7	8 Commission on Public School Finance Hearing	9 Humble ISD Livestock Auction Humble ISD Rodeo	10 Humble ISD Rodeo
11	12 Lincoln's Birthday HARTA Meeting Lake Houston Pachyderm Meeting	13	14 Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day	15	16	17 Lake Houston YMCA BridgeFest
18	19 President's Day	20 Early Voting Beings	21 Early Voting	22 Washington's Birthday	23 Early Voting	24 Early Voting

	Iwo Jima Day			Commission on Public School Finance Hearing		
	State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance Day			Early Voting		
25	26	27	28			
Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting			

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