

Happy Holidays!

This holiday season, I hope you enjoy time spent with family and friends, and give thanks for all of life's blessings. Best wishes for a happy, healthy, and abundant holiday season.

As we all celebrate the holidays, I want to extend my best wishes for the holiday season and the year to follow. This season, Miya and I are most grateful for the addition to our family (Lyndon) as well as the continued love in both of our lives (Winston).

Among the joys brought on by the holidays is the creation of the District 137 Christmas tree ornament. Each year, my office works with local schools to find creative and fun ways to decorate the Christmas tree that stands on the floor of the House of Representatives in Austin. This year, art students from Sharpstown International School designed our Christmas ornament. Decorated with flags from the countries where students were born, the ornament celebrates District 137's diversity and cultural variety. Congratulations to Sharpstown International School students!



The District 137 Christmas ornament adorns the Christmas tree on display in the House of Representatives.



Celebrating With District 137

Giving back to our community and neighbors is one of the great joys of being a public servant. This holiday season, I'm happy to announce some of the efforts my office has taken to bring a little more joy into a few constituents' lives. If you are aware of a family in Southwest Houston that is in need of assistance to help celebrate the holidays, please contact my office at 713.271.3900 or District137.Wu@house.texas.gov.

Spark of Love Children's Christmas Luncheon and Toy Giveaway

This year marked the seventh annual event sponsored by Houston City Council Member Mike Laster along with the Police and Clergy Team. Our office helped provide food and toys for over 400 low-income family members in Southwest Houston.

Adopt a Family

Another great event in our district, Adopt a Family is sponsored by La Rosa Family Services. I was pleased to join with sponsors and supporters to "adopt" one of several low-income families from the Houston area, providing gifts to ensure that the families were able to treasure the holidays.



Over 200 children received gifts at the Spark of Love Toy Giveaway. Among the bigger gifts raffled off at the event were two bicycles provided by Representative Wu.

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Celebrating Houston as a Welcoming City



On December 12th, Representative Wu joined with Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo, and Houston ISD Superintendent Richard Carranza at Baker Ripley Center as Mayor Sylvester Turner announced the creation of the Office of New Americans to improve access to City services for all Houstonians.

The office, formerly known as the Office of International Communities, will serve as a clearinghouse for information and engagement with Houston's thriving immigrant community and work with a task force of stakeholders to develop the city's Welcoming Houston program. The task force will submit its assessment of service needs and gaps and recommendations for enhanced coordination between the city and community organizations early next year.

The Mayor's actions follow from work being led by Neighborhood Centers to be formally recognized as a "Welcoming City" - a designation created by a national network of nonprofits and local governments called Welcoming America. The effort sends a strong and unified message that Houston will continue to be a welcoming and tolerant place that will reject hate and violence.

Welcome Aboard

Join us in welcoming individuals who will have an enormous impact on our community.



Dan De León

Principal of Sharpstown High School

Mary Francis Morris

Partnership Coordinator for Sharpstown High School

Sharpstown High School has recently concluded their first semester under new Principal, Dan De León. De León began his career with HISD in 1988 as a teacher and has been the principal at Carrillo Elementary, Edison Middle, and Chavez High School. Mary Francis Morris joins Principal DeLeón to coordinate partnerships with local businesses and volunteers who contribute to the development of young talent at Sharpstown High School. We all look forward to their continued success on behalf of all Apollo students and families.



Anne Sung

Newly-elected member of Houston ISD Board of Trustees

The newest addition to the Houston ISD Board of Trustees is Anne Sung. She will take office in January after recently winning her runoff election on December 10th by 37 votes.

Anne will represent District VII, which shares the neighborhoods of Briarmeadow, Gulfton and St. George Place with District 137.

Looking Ahead to the 2017 Legislative Session

The Texas Legislature is constitutionally required to meet for 140 days every two years. But the work that goes into those 140 days is an ongoing endeavor in the nineteen months between legislative sessions. Representative Wu has been engaged with District 137 constituents throughout this time.

Public engagement for this legislative session began with an Open House on May 7th, with district residents invited to listen, learn, and give feedback on some of the major issue areas our state deals with. It continued with Representative Wu's involvement in Public Safety forums to get deeper insight into finding ways to address safety concerns expressed by residents, as well as an Education Listening Tour that has had Representative Wu visit with principals, school board members, teachers, students, and parents to

learn more about the unique challenges faced by Southwest Houston schools.

During the interim, House members also meet as part of the committees they are assigned to. With Representative Wu serving on the County Affairs Committee, he has been tasked with developing solutions for two critical areas that the legislature will be involved in next session: repairing our state's broken foster care system and reforming our criminal justice system.

All of this ultimately leads to legislation that Representative Wu will be filing in the weeks ahead. The input from our constituents is particularly appreciated and we look forward to announcing our legislative priorities as the legislative session approaches.

2017 House Calendars Now Available



The latest version of the official Texas House of Representative Calendars are now available. Our office has a limited supply to offer free of charge. You can receive one by any of the following ways:

Visit our Capitol Office in Austin

Our new office location Austin can be found in the Capitol Extension, office E2.718.

Visit our District Office in Houston

Our district office location can always be found on the Baker Ripley Center campus, located at 6500 Rookin, near Hillcroft and Southwest Freeway.

Visiting the Capitol

The Texas Capitol in Austin is your Capitol. It is open to the public every day and you are encouraged to visit. Please drop by and say "Hello!" to your District 137 staff while in Austin. The legislative session begins on January 10th and concludes on May 29th.

Among the activities you can enjoy while visiting Austin during the legislative session.

- Watch the Legislature in action from the House or Senate galleries.
- Guided tours of the Capitol building are offered free of charge if you want to learn more about the history of the building.
- The Capitol Visitors Center can be found just outside of the Capitol. Here, you will find exhibits and a gift shop to learn even more about your capitol.

Follow the Legislature

You don't have to travel to Austin to keep up with the Legislature. The House and Senate both have a variety of resources to help you track legislation, view floor or committee activity, and receive email updates on legislation of interest to you.

- To view floor or committee activity in the House, visit the House website: www.house.state.tx.us
- To view the floor of committee activity in the State Senate, visit the Senate website at: www.senate.state.tx.us
- To track legislation or sign up for email updates on bills, visit the Texas Legislature Online (TLO) at: www.legis.state.tx.us

As always, if you have further questions or want to learn more about how the legislature impacts issues you care about, contact either my District or Capitol offices.