



# Texas★District 22

## Representative Joe Deshotel



## End of Session

June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017

### Authored/Sponsored

- HB 2431 Public state colleges, such as Lamar State College Port Arthur, will now be able to receive funding through the jobs and education for Texans (JET) grant program because of HB 2431.
- HB 4315 This bill creates the Beaumont Municipal Management District No. 1, which will have the authority to provide improvements, projects, and services for public use and benefit. This is a great bill that will significantly better our community.
- SB 1361 Texas ports have been an emphasis for me this session, and it is vital that we maintain our ports so that our economy will continue to thrive. SB 1361 (companion to HB 2952) provides the Sabine-Neches Navigation District with the authority that is necessary for a federally authorized waterway improvement project.
- SB 28 With the expansion of the Panama Canal, there will be a large increase in commerce. In order to keep Texas ports competitive, SB 28 will create a ship channel improvement revolving fund to finance qualified projects for navigation districts. These projects will prepare Texas ports for the industry's growth.
- HCR 106 Texas is the nation's top exporting state, with an estimated \$650 billion in trade for 2015. Exports support over a million jobs and are an enormous contribution to the gross state product. The Gulf Coast is a key component for Texas' exporting success, and in the recent past Hurricanes Ike and Rita have wreaked havoc on this area. The Gulf Coast Community Protection and Recovery District determined that the Coastal Spine is the best method for protecting against storm surges along the Texas coast, and the Texas Legislature is behind them. HCR 106 expresses support for the development and construction of a coastal barrier, and urges the United States Congress to provide sufficient federal funding for the construction of the project.
- SB 1145 This bill will help Texans to better manage energy use and control costs by allowing the deployment of advanced meter information networks that are eligible under Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) rules.

### Thank You!

As the 85th legislative session comes to an end, I would like to thank my constituents for the opportunity to represent Texas' 22nd legislative district for yet another year. I fought all session to pass legislation that is fair and just, while opposing legislation that would negatively impact Texans. In this newsletter you will find my legislative accomplishments for this session and a brief explanation on what the bills will do to make Texas a better state.

## **Primary Joint Author**

HB 2252 HB 2252 keeps the Joint Interim Committee to Study a Coastal Barrier System through the following interim, so they may continue to study the desirability and feasibility of constructing a coastal barrier protection system.

## **Co-Author**

HB 1917 Currently, managed care organizations that administer Medicaid benefits must adhere to the preferred drug list adopted by the Health and Human Services Commission, and must develop, implement, and maintain an outpatient pharmacy benefit plan for its enrolled recipients. On August 31st, 2018, these statutory provisions will no longer apply. HB 1917 simply amends the Government Code to postpone this date from August 31st, 2018, to August 31, 2023.

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