



J.D. Sheffield

**Texas House of Representatives
House District 59**

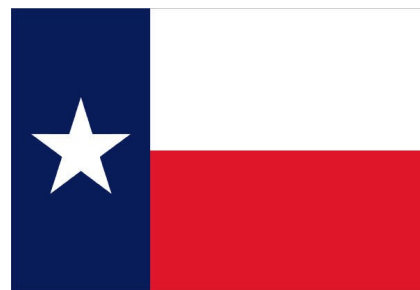
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May 2013 Newsletter

Greetings Friends,

May 27th marked the last day of the 83rd Regular Session of the Texas Legislature. I am proud to have done my part to improve Texas Public Schools, pass a balanced and fiscally responsible budget, give voters the opportunity to fund a long term water project, defend our right to bear arms and advocate for a healthier Texas.



As the gavel dropped signaling the end of the Regular Session, Governor Perry called the Legislature back for a Special Session on setting the district boundaries for the State Legislature and United States Congress. The Legislature will be back in Austin working on this important issue during the next week.

I am looking forward to spending time in communities throughout the district as soon as work here in Austin is concluded.

As always, I am here to work on your behalf. Please feel free to call the Capitol office at (512) 463.0628.

Sincerely,

J.D. Sheffield



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Legislative Update

An update on some of the bills about which many have expressed interest . . .

SJR 1- On May 22nd The Texas House of Representatives passed Senate Joint Resolution 1 that would establish the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) and State Water Implementation Revenue Fund for Texas (SWIRFT). The passage of this bill places the ultimate decision with the voters of Texas as these separate funds can only be established with a constitutional amendment. If approved by voters, these funds will be dedicated funds maintained by the State Treasury. This measure will now go before the voters in a Constitutional Amendment election.

House Bill 1009– Allows for a School Marshal position if a school district chooses to implement. This position would involve extensive training and access to a weapon in the event of an emergency situation. This bill was sent to the Governor on May 25th.

Senate Bill 1– The general appropriations bill provides a fiscally responsible budget that addresses many needs in the state while falling well below the spending cap and more accurately projecting future expenses.

Senate Bill 1458– Ensures that the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) remains sound for the long-term. This bill grandfathers many current teachers under the “old” rules. This is a shared contribution plan with teachers, school districts and the state, each contributing. This bill also provides retirees of the Teacher Retirement System with a cost of living adjustment if they have been retired for 10 years. This bill is waiting to be signed by Governor Perry.

Capitol Happenings

Blake Wood of Hico recently won first place in the Class 1A Girls Pole Vault in the State UIL Track and Field Championship. Several schools from District 59 were well represented.

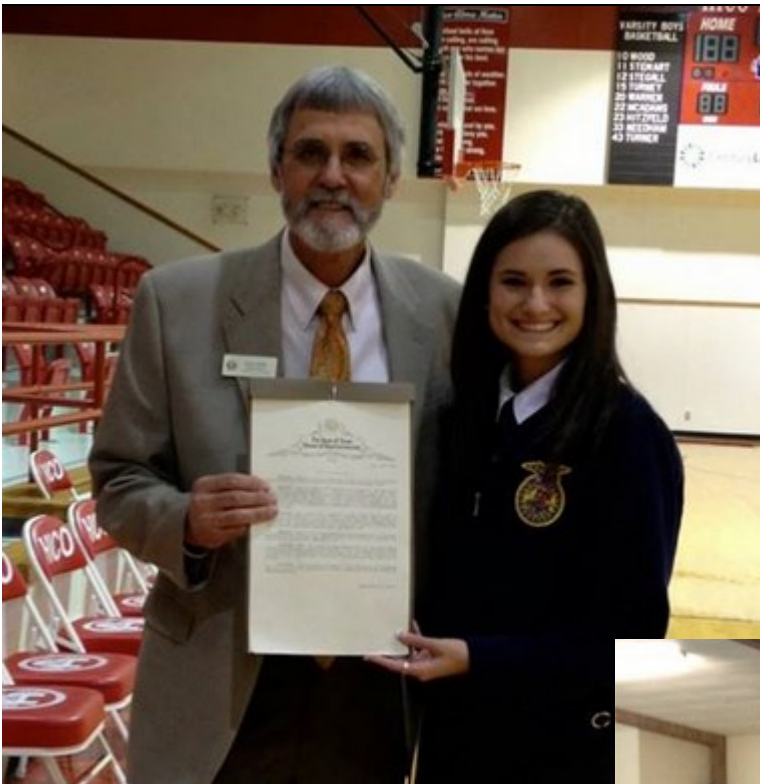
Congratulations to Blake on her State Championship!



Representative Sheffield with Representative Cortez. Sheffield and Cortez Joint-Authored House Bill 2485 providing for a specialty license plate for veterans that earned the Air Medal or Air Medal with Valor. This bill passed both the House and Senate and is awaiting the signature of Governor Perry to become law.



Speaker Joe Straus with members of the Freshman Class of the 83rd Legislature.



Hico High School Student, **Becky Irvin**, tied for First Place in the FFA National Land Judging Competition held in Oklahoma City.

District Events

While the legislature was in session, Gary Kafer, District Director for J.D. Sheffield was hard at work attending events, meeting with constituents and congratulating people on some truly outstanding accomplishments.



Goldthwaite Future Farmers of America Banquet

Fort Hood Heroes Award Ceremony

