RSS 3

District 60 Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Eastland, Hood, Palo Pinto, Shackelford, Stephens

#### Friends,

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I was honored that my first time to address the full Texas House of Representatives was to deliver the invocation. Click <a href="here">here</a> to watch the video.

This week the House Committee on Calendars met to determine a calendar for bills to be considered before the full House. There were 6 bills that were considered, passed out of the House, and sent to the Senate. We are just getting started!

On Thursday, March 18th, HR 215, a resolution honoring and memorializing the life of Richard Ball of Mineral Wells, was unanimously adopted by the House. Richard Ball was a lifelong resident of Palo Pinto County. Mr. Ball was a dedicated community leader serving on multiple organizational boards. He was appointed by Governors Greg Abbott and Rick Perry to serve two terms as a Brazos River Authority board director. He will leave behind a legacy that touched the lives of so many.



committees. I am pleased to see the legislation that I have filed on behalf of House District 60 moving forward. I hope to lay out more in the next coming weeks.

At this time, I have laid out 5 bills before several different House

#### **HB 1471** Unanimously voted out of committee

In 1992, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice was deeded a tract of land. The transfer of land was intended to be used for a 2000 bed TDCJ unit in Breckenridge, Stephens County. The Walker Sayle Unit, North East of Breckenridge, opened in August of 1994 as an all-male substance abuse facility. Currently, the unit sits on about 1/4th of the deeded acres and has a max capacity of 632 beds. HB 1471 outlines two tracts that total in 288.76 acres that would transfer back to Stephens County for public use.

#### Committee Vote: 7-1

**HB 1554** 

Currently, state law limits a municipal development district's funding of certain economic development projects to projects that are within the district's boundaries, even if the project outside of the district is determined to have a positive investment returns for the district. HB 1554 will allow a district to use money from its development project fund for a project located outside the district under certain conditions.

#### **HB 1831** Unanimously voted out of committee

Currently, there is no allowance in statute to allow a county or district clerk to carry over completed education hours from one year to the next. Due to unforeseen circumstances, a clerk might not be able to obtain the required 20 hours of continuing education annually. Examples of this could include a national or state emergency declaration, lack of technology to allow for virtual attendance of a class/conference, and an extended illness. The court clerks seek to have access to similar statutes as the County Commissioners, County Treasurers and Tax Assessors enjoy. HB 1831 allows clerks to carry over from the current calendar year to the following calendar year not more than 10 hours of completed continuing education hours that exceed the statutory 20 hours required annually.

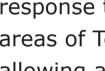
#### **HR 237** Committee Vote: 5-4

## In the past few election cycles there has been substantial concern

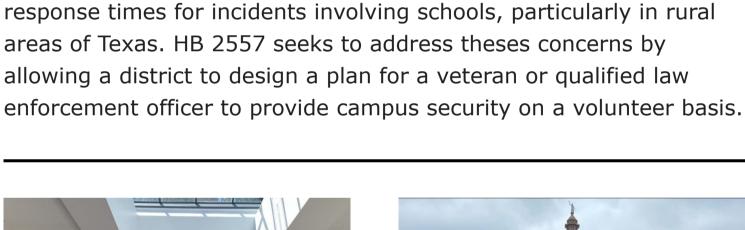
with the security of our elections. The integrity and confidence of all votes, especially the ballots cast in the great state of Texas, should be of vital importance. It is crucial to ensure and preserve election integrity that the votes cast in any election, local, state, and national, be stored and processed within the United States. **HB 2557** 

Concerns have been raised about the availability of school security

personnel and about the effect of potential shortages on emergency



Pending in committee







McCullough (Stephens Co. Commissioner Pt. 2), and William Warren (Stephens Co. Commissioner Pt. 3).

**Co-Authored Bills** 

Click <u>here</u> to see the full list

### Favorably voted out of House Committee on State Affairs HB 5 takes a holistic approach to expanding access to critical

### broadband services. The bill can be summed up in four key parts: forming a state broadband office, creating a comprehensive state

HB 901 by Burns (R-Cleburne)

**HB 5 by Ashby (R-Lufkin)** 

broadband plan, identifying which areas of the state have the greatest need through a mapping program, and incorporating funding projects to increase access and adoption in those areas. HB 6 by Cain (R-Deer Park) Pending in House Committee on Elections HB 6 requires the conduct of elections and the Election Code to be applied uniformly and consistently statewide. This bill will strengthen current election policies and will create penalties for

those who interfere with election security measures.

Referred to House Committee on Land and Resource Management

carry, open or concealed without a license to carry.

HB 901 will provide landowners with more transparency during the eminent domain process when approached by a private entity. HB 1238 by Biederman (R-Fredericksburg) Pending in House Committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety

HB 1238 will allow for an individual to legally posses a handgun to

HB 1515 by Slawson (R-Stephenville) Referred to the Committee on Public Health Under this bill, a physician will be required to check for a baby's

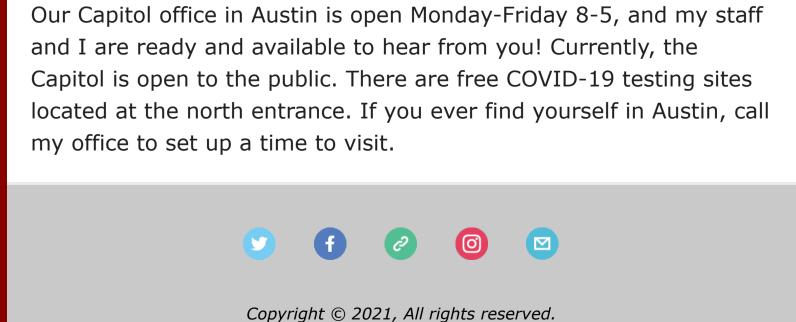
### heartbeat and, once detected, will be prohibited from performing or inducing an abortion unless there is a documented medical

emergency. **HCR 52 by Harris (R- Palestine)** Referred to House Committee on State Affairs HCR 52 claims sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment to the U.S.

Constitution over all powers not otherwise enumerated and granted

# to the federal government by the U.S. Constitution, serving notice to

the federal government to halt and reverse certain mandates, and providing that certain federal legislation be prohibited or repealed. **My Office** 



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