



Dear Friends,

With less than a month to go, the Texas House is working around the clock and passed multiple, notable bills this week. I've highlighted some of them for you below...

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Texas House Passes Major Pro-Life Legislation: Wednesday, the Texas House heard and ultimately passed, two substantial Pro-Life bills. Senate Bill 8 which will protect the unborn by banning abortions after a heartbeat has been detected and House Bill 1280 which will ban abortions in the event that the U.S. Supreme Court reverses its ruling under Roe v Wade. I'm a proud joint-author of both bills and with this great victory, Texas remains on the front lines in the fight for innocent life.

Criminal Justice Reform: The death penalty should be reserved for the worst of the worst offenders, for the most heinous crimes, but the current law-of-parties allows those who never intended for anyone to die, much less themselves pull the trigger, to be sentenced to death. And that's why I authored House Bill 1340. My bill, which passed the House this week, will do two things. First, it brings Texas in alignment with Eighth Amendment standards by stating that to be convicted of capital murder under a conspirator party rule, a defendant was a major participant in the underlying conspiracy and acted with reckless indifference to human life. Second, it states that in order to impose a death sentence, the jury must find that the defendant intentionally killed the victim or did not actually perpetrate the murder but intended to kill the victim or another. Capital punishment should be handled with the upmost seriousness, and only utilized when there is absolute confidence in the crime and the perpetrator.

Election Integrity: The integrity of our elections is paramount to preserving, safeguarding and strengthening our democracy. This shouldn't be a partisan issue - but instead should be an issue that unites every freedom-loving American who wants to work together to ensure the highest levels of trust in our institutions and in our elected leaders. To that end, each and every eligible voter must be empowered to make their voices heard at the ballot box. As I have always done, I will continue to protect that sacred right. At the same time, I am committed to supporting public policies that safeguard the integrity of our elections at all levels and I believe Senate Bill 7 does just that. SB 7 secures voter registration and voting by

mail, helps prevent fraud and bolsters the transparency of our elections. Everyone should feel confident when they go to the ballot box that their vote is safe and secure and SB 7 will help ensure that for all voters.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

My office is now accepting applications for the Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program (TASSP), an educational scholarship opportunity for a deserving Texas student aspiring to serve through military service. Additional details outlining the TASSP application process and requirements may be found [here](#).

WE LOVE OUR TEACHERS!

It's Teacher Appreciation week and I would be remiss if I didn't give a huge shoutout to all the teachers out there. Whether you are teaching in-person or virtually, we applaud you for another amazing school year despite all the challenges. With three kids in public school myself, I have seen firsthand what an incredible impact teachers have on their students lives. Keep up the good work! (And Summer is around the corner!)



Have a great weekend friends! And remember – I'm always a phone call away if there is any way I can serve you.

All My Best,



Jeff Leach

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