

Giovanni's Journal

A publication of Texas State Representative Giovanni Capriglione
The 84th Legislative Session

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Overview of My Filed Bills: Gold, Accountability, & Innovation

The following are bills I have already filed. Please note more will be filed. Updates will continue periodically.

House Bill 483, "The Gold Bill," relates to the establishment and administration of a state bullion, or gold and silver, depository. This bill would allow for Texas citizens to store their bullion in the depository as well.

House Bill 484, "Register to Run," relates to the eligibility of a person to be a candidate for public office. Currently, of the 32 public offices sought in 2014, only two offices required candidates to be registered voters: candidates for Railroad Commissioner and State Board of Education. To be eligible to be a candidate for public office, a person must be a registered voter before they file to run for public office.

House Bill 799, "Cost of Federal Regulations Study," directs the comptroller to conduct a study about the effects federal regulations and mandates enacted by federal law have on the state. This study will address issues like whether the costs of regulatory compliance exceed the state funds allocated to comply with federal regulations, whether the federal government has provided sufficient reimbursement to state governments to cover the cost of implementing federal mandates, and offering recommendations for reducing federal regulatory burden on the state and its citizens.

House Bill 903, "Rainy Day Fund Transfer," relates to the investment of a portion of the state economic stabilization fund balance. The state economic stabilization fund balance (also known as the "Rainy Day Fund") is a savings fund that allows the state to set aside excess revenue for use in times of unexpected revenue shortfall. H.B. 903 states that the comptroller will invest the balance of the fund that exceeds 30 percent of the maximum authorized balance of the fund. Taking a portion of the billions of dollars in the Rainy Day Fund account to a higher yield account will allow Texas to accrue even more money.

House Bill 986, "Chief Innovation Officer," relates to the creation of a chief innovation officer position in the state auditor's office. The CIO will be in charge of: developing procedures to improve internal state government efficiency and performance, developing methods to improve the experience of residents, businesses, and local governments in their interactions with state government, examining inefficiencies in state government procurement practices, increasing the use of technology by state agencies to reduce state expenses, and providing state agency personnel with training and skills to support innovation and encourage creative thinking. This idea was recommended by the interim report of the House Government Efficiency and Reform Committee, of which I was a member last session.

TOWN HALL MEETING

All District 98 residents are invited to attend a town hall meeting on some upcoming legislation in the Texas House. From public education reform to border security and transportation finance, these issues will impact all Texans, and are especially relevant for our district. I hope to see you there!

Thursday, February 5
6:30 P.M.

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