



TONI ROSE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ DISTRICT 110



86TH LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 110

Fall 2019

Dear Friends,

It's an honor and a privilege to serve you in the Texas House of Representatives!

On May 27, 2019, the Texas Legislature adjourned, closing a successful and productive 86th Legislative Session. Thanks to the leadership in the Texas House and hard work amongst its members; we addressed the state's budget for the biennium, Public School Finance Reform, Retired Teachers and more.

After meeting with many of you and listening to your concerns, I worked on numerous issues of particular interest to the District 110 community. Issues such as mental health, public safety, healthcare and criminal justice reform.

Despite our victories this session, many challenges remain. Now more than ever, we need experienced leaders who have the courage to put people over politics and govern with compassion. Though legislative session is over, I will continue to work to make Texas a better place to live and work for ALL families.

Many thanks and gratitude for those who have contacted our office to voice your ideas and concerns. The success we enjoyed this session is due to your continued involvement in the legislative process. Please do not hesitate in contacting our office, if we can be of service to you.

Let's continue working together for a better Texas!

In service,

Toni Rose
State Representative
District 110



Speaker of the House Dennis Bonnen presenting Rep. Rose with the Chair Gavel for her leadership as House Appropriations Subcommittee Chair on Articles VI, VII, & VIII.

★ REPRESENTATIVE ROSE'S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA ★

During the legislative session, Representative Rose authored and sponsored legislation pertaining to access to healthcare, domestic violence, children and families, criminal justice and improving the quality of life for all Texans.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

HB 1528 – It has been recognized that law enforcement was not required to enter certain family violence misdemeanor convictions or affirmative findings of family violence into the computerized criminal history system. This bill mandates the Texas Department of Public Safety to record such offenses to aid in identifying habitual offenders, providing greater protection for victims of family violence. Additionally, it requires the offender to plea in court and not by mail. The bill was sent to and signed by the Governor; and became effective on 09/01/2019.

SB 583 – For many years Courts throughout the state were appointing private bar and attorneys to represent indigent defendants at the expense of the county taxpayers' dollars other than utilizing the public defender's office. Therefore, Representative Rose sponsored SB 583 by Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa in the House to facilitate efficient use of the taxpayer funds and the public defenders' offices. The bill will require countywide procedures adopted by judges for appointing attorneys for indigent criminal defendants to provide for the priority appointment of a public defender's office if one existed in the county. The bill will specify that capital murder cases are included among the proceedings for which courts must give priority to appointing public defender offices. The bill was sent to and signed by the Governor and became effective on 09/01/2019.

FAMILY & SAFETY

HB 1769 – Representative Rose Joint Authored HB 1769 with Representative Greg Bonnen. HB 1769 was filed in honor of constituent D'Lisa Kelley, who was kidnapped and found deceased in an abandoned house in 2014. Representative Rose previously filed legislation to establish a statewide alert system for missing adults. HB 1769 will require the Texas Department of Public Safety to develop and implement a statewide alert for missing adults. The alert system applies to an adult between the ages of 18 and 65 who is missing for less than 72 hours and is in imminent danger of injury or death, or appears to have been abducted or kidnapped. The law was sent to and signed by the Governor, and became effective on 09/01/2019.

HEALTH & MENTAL HEALTH

***HB 744** – It has been reported that the maternal mortality rate has continued to grow at an alarming rate across the State, especially among Black Women. In order to address the #1 recommendation from the Maternal Mortality & Morbidity Taskforce, HB 744 was filed. This bill would have required the Health and Human Services Commission to continue to provide health benefits to pregnant women who were eligible for medical assistance for at least 12 months following a delivery or involuntary miscarriage. The bill passed the House and was referred to the Senate.

SB 1834 – Reports indicated that low-income families are disproportionately impacted by obesity, and although fresh fruits and vegetables may carry a higher price tag, the consumption of these foods is directly linked to reduced rates of obesity and certain chronic diseases. Representative Rose sponsored SB 1834 by Sen. Carol Alvarado to address this issue. The bill authorizes the Health and Human Services Commission to create a pilot program to incentivize the purchase of Texas-grown fruits and vegetables under the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP). It will also require a study on existing programs that incentivized the purchase of Texas-grown fruits or vegetables under SNAP. The bill was sent to and signed by the Governor and became effective on 09/01/2019.

***HB 1936** – Concerns have been raised about the use of the death penalty for offenders with severe mental illnesses, such as schizophrenia or bipolar disorder. It has been reported that those afflicted by such disorders have a diminished capacity to appreciate the consequences of their actions or to participate fully in their own defense. This legislation would have prohibited the death penalty as a punishment for capital murder defendants who were determined to be a person with severe mental illness at the time of the offense. If found guilty of capital murder, these defendants would have to be sentenced to life in prison without parole. The bill passed the House (engrossed) and was referred to the Senate.

SB 1238 – In the past, the requirement of a physical or psychiatric examination to be conducted prior to admission of a prospective voluntary patient for treatment in an inpatient mental health facility was a huge concern. This past requirement resulted in an inability to bill for the examination and finding an available physician to conduct the examination challenge. Representative Rose sponsored SB 1238 by Sen. Nathan Johnson. The bill will change the time frame within which a prospective voluntary mental health patient had to be examined by a physician from within 72 hours prior to admission to an inpatient facility to allowing examination up to 24 hours post-admission. This new timeframe will help streamline intake. The bill became effective law on 09/01/2019.

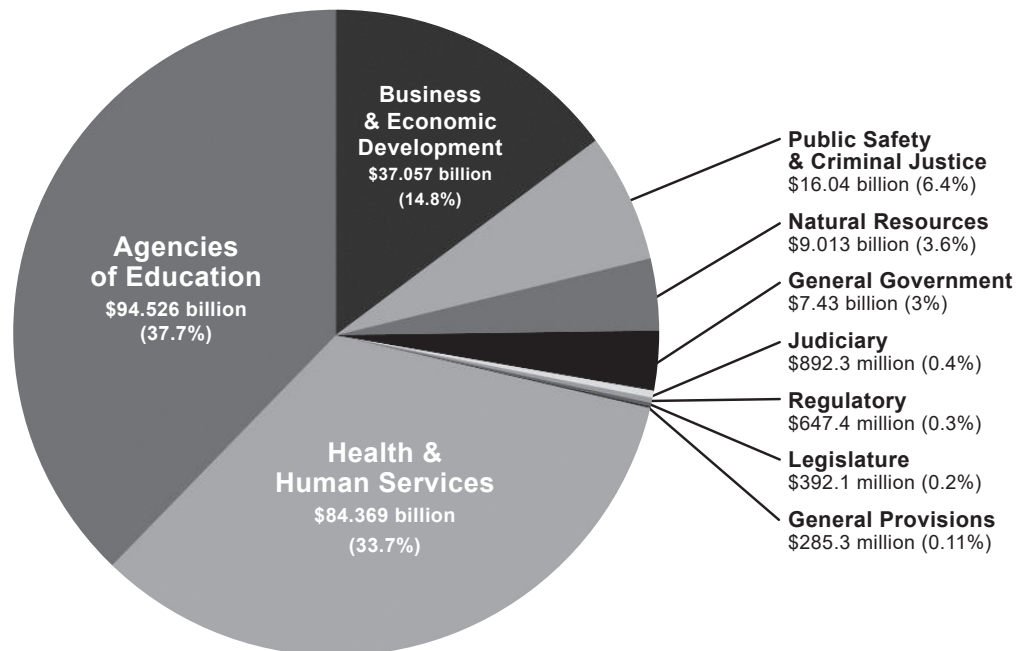
SB 1177 – There has been substantial gaps in the availability of intensive home-based and community-based mental health services for children and youth with the most serious mental health challenges served by the state's Medicaid program even though these services provided a positive outcome and are cost-effective. To help close the gap, Representative Rose sponsored by SB 1177 by Sen. Jose Menendez to make evidence-based services available to Medicaid managed care program. The bill requires a contract between a Medicaid managed care organization (MCO) to contain language permitting an MCO to offer medically appropriate, cost-effective, and evidence-based services from a list approved by the state Medicaid managed care advisory committee and included in the contract in lieu of mental health or substance use disorder services specified in the state Medicaid plan. The bill became effective law on 09/01/2019.

** indicates that the bill did not reach the final stages of the legislative process, and therefore, will not become law.*

★ HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 86TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION ★

2020-21 All Funds: \$250.652 billion

House Bill 1, the General Appropriations Act, appropriated over \$250 billion for the 2020-2021 state fiscal biennium budget. Working alongside leaders from across the state, Representative Rose played a key role in creating Texas' multi-billion dollar budget by being chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee for Articles VI, VII, & VIII. The subcommittee includes matters relating to natural resources, business and economic development, and regulatory agencies and made up \$47.3 billion of the total State Budget.



PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

There will be a \$5 billion statewide property tax relief coming in the 2020-2021 biennium budget due to the school finance system reform bill. The bill compressed school property tax rates by an average of 8 cents per \$100 valuation in 2020 and 13 cents per \$100 valuation in 2021. In addition, there will be an additional 2.5% tax compression in 2021. The annual tax cut for an owner of a \$200,000 home would be \$160 in 2020 and \$260 in 2021. This overall tax relief is due to the State increasing its share of funding education.

SCHOOL FINANCE REFORM

The biggest success of this session was the reforming the public school finance system. A total of \$83 billion was allocated for agencies of education, which is a 3.2% increase from the prior budget. \$4.5 billion was restored in public education which supports full-day pre-k for low-income students; student achievement via college, career, & military (CCMR) programs; and the creation of the first dyslexia identification program in Texas. These funds also support the creation of a "Do Not Hire" registry to protect children in the classroom. In addition, \$200 million was secured for school safety improvements including building renovations; added security personnel and technology; and emergency response training.

\$2 billion was reserved solely for dynamic pay raises for educators, raising the minimum salary level. Over \$230 million was secured to cover shortfalls and to ensure retired teachers' healthcare premiums do not increase. Also, \$524 million was allocated to stabilize the Teacher Retirement System (TRS).

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental Health was a top priority for the legislature. We were able to invest over \$7 billion to improve mental health and substance abuse intervention, including training for teachers and administrators to identify and intervene when students show signs of mental health issues. This funding will lead to

the creation of the Texas Mental Health Consortium to foster partnerships between schools, colleges, and universities with mental health programs.

HUMAN SERVICES

The Human Services Committee efforts this legislative session covered shortfalls in Medicaid, foster care, women's health, state hospitals, state-supported living centers, and correctional managed health care. A total of \$84.4 billion was allocated to Health and Human Services. This includes, but not limited to: \$145 million allocated to programs for adults and children with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD); \$48 million for rate increases and cost growth for Early Childhood Intervention; and a 24% increase of funding to support women's health.



Picture of Rep. Rose talking to T.L. Marsalis Elementary Student Council on the House Floor. Rep. Rose is a proud alumna of T.L. Marsalis Elementary.

★ COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS ★

During the legislative session, Representative Rose was appointed to serve on four key House committees:

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee on Appropriations is responsible for deciding where state funds are allocated. Representative Rose was also appointed to Chair the Appropriations Sub-committee for Articles VI, VII, & VIII, which includes matters relating to natural resources, business and economic development, and regulatory agencies.

CALENDARS COMMITTEE

The Calendars Committee is responsible for the placement of bills and resolutions on appropriate calendars, except those within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Resolutions Calendars. In addition, this committee managed all other matters concerning the calendar system and the expediting of the business of the house as may be assigned by the speaker.

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Human Services Committee oversees the Health and Human Services Commission, and the prevention and treatment of intellectual disabilities; and its programs. This committee also ensures the development, administration, and control for welfare and rehabilitation. Representative Rose has served on the Human Services Committee since her inception to the Texas Legislature.



Texas House of Representatives members who were appointed to serve on the House Committee on Calendars.

REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

The Redistricting Committee governs matters pertaining to legislative districts, both house and senate, and any changes or amendments' congressional districts, their creation, and any changes or amendments. The members of this committee are responsible for establishing districts for the election of judicial officers or of governing bodies or representatives of political subdivisions or state agencies as required by law.

★ HD 110 LEGISLATIVE SUCCESS & HIGHLIGHTS ★

- ★ *Akeena Obaze and Kendrian Collins of District 110 each were awarded a \$1,500 scholarship from state legislators for their academic achievements and involvement in their community.*
- ★ *The Texas Legislature allocated \$1 million for a local park grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The Judge Charles Rose, Sr. Park will honor the life and legacy of Representative Rose's late father who served as Justice of the Peace in Dallas County.*
- ★ *Representative Rose sponsored SB 1680 by Sen. West which secured permanent approval for tuition equalization grant funds for Paul Quinn College. This new law requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to approve private or independent institutions of higher education, that were previously qualified for tuition equalization grants, to receive tuition equalization grants. Students at Paul Quinn College are now able to apply for the Texas Tuition Equalization Grant Program, which provides grant aid to financially needy students who specifically attend private, non-profit colleges or universities in Texas.*



Picture of Rep. Rose and scholarship recipient Akeena Obaze, 2019 Senior from Townview Magnet High School and House District 110 constituent.

★ APPROPRIATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE FOR ARTICLES VI, VII, & VIII ★

NATURAL RESOURCES

\$3.8 million was allocated to the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board to provide funding for dam rehabilitation projects. That includes a portion for a federal match program. Also, \$8.5 million was allocated to the Water Development Board for funding strategic mapping and additional flood-related initiatives. This includes floodplain mapping, hydraulic river and coastal mapping, and flood monitoring.

Provided additional funding to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to hire more Full-Time Employees, and increases the amount of surcharge revenue that the agency can expend for the expedited air permitting program. And, allocated funding to hire more Full-Time Employees and additional funding for the municipal solid waste programs. Both of these programs under the agency have historically been understaffed and these additional resources will help with oversight and efficiencies.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

\$3 million was allocated to The Department of Housing and Community Affairs, for a youth homeless initiative. There are currently programs for our homeless adult population but this will be the first time we have dedicated funds to address our under 24 age population.

Additional funding was allocated to the Department of Transportation to hire 313 Full-Time Employees to help keep up with planning and construction projects tied to the Prop 1 and Prop 7 funds. Those new hires will ensure there isn't a delay in the projects that nearly 90% of our constituents approved.

\$7.3 million was allocated to the Workforce Commission for the Jobs and Education Training Program and Apprenticeship Training programs. The programs are to provide training to high school students and veterans in the State of Texas, respectively.

REGULATORY AGENCIES

\$1.1 million was allocated to the Department of Licensing and Regulation to provide a human trafficking team at the agency. The request would allow the agency to foster relationships between statewide entities and local law enforcement agencies. It would also provide for training for our law enforcement community to better identify human trafficking.



Chairwoman Rose presiding over the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Articles VI, VII, & VIII

★ REPRESENTATIVE ROSE'S BUDGET SUCCESS ★

Outside of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Articles VI, VII, & VIII, Representative Rose was able to secure funding for the following programs that will benefit constituents of House District 110 and all Texans including the following:

- The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) was awarded funds to began an Adult Education and Family Literary Workforce Diploma Program Pilot Project to increase participation in adult diplomas and technical training programs due to the high job demand in the technical field.
- Texas's largest mental health facilities are the Harris County and Dallas County Jails, and the cost of addressing mental health issues in those facilities are very expensive. In order to help with the cost, Representative Rose secured \$5 million for the Texas Indigent Defense Commission for the Public Defenders Offices' Mental Health Programs.
- \$1 million awarded to Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) to operate a pilot program that would offer services to offenders released from TDCJ facilities and are returning to Houston or Dallas. This investment will help many ex-offenders receive job opportunities as they re-enter society.

★ Visit the Capitol ★

The State Capitol is open to the public year-round with the exception of major holidays. Free guided tours are offered Monday through Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm; 9:30 am - 4:30 pm Saturdays and Noon to 3:30 pm on Sundays.

Tour reservations for groups of 10 or more can be made by contacting the Capitol Visitors Center at 512-305-8400.

TONI ROSE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ DISTRICT 110



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
TONI ROSE



Representative Rose welcomed members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. to the Capitol for their Bi-Annual Red and White Day. "Celebrating 106 Years of Public Service in Texas!" During the Senate Elections Committee hearing, members of Delta Sigma Theta testified against Senate Bill 9, a voter suppression bill that would have challenged the voting rights of Texans.

★ HELPFUL NUMBERS ★

- Department of Aging & Disability Services (DADS) 800- 458-9858
- Department of Assistive & Rehabilitation Services (DARS) 800- 628-5115
- Attorney General..... 800-252-8011
- Texas Education Agency (TEA) 512- 463-9734
- Department of Family & Protective Services (DFPS)..... 800-720-7777
- Texas Department of Insurance..... 800-252-3439
- State Bar of Texas 800-633-6630
- Health & Humans Services Commission..... 877-541-7905
- Texas Workforce Commission..... 800-558-8321