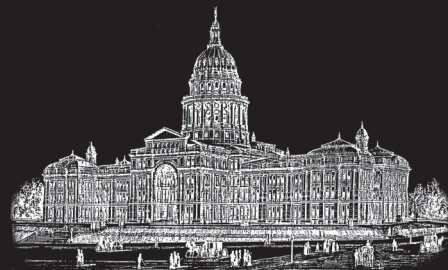


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STATE REPRESENTATIVE



KYLE KACAL



DISTRICT 12
 BRAZOS, FALLS, LIMESTONE, MCLENNAN, ROBERTSON

86TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION & CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT INFORMATION



TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
KYLE KACAL
 DISTRICT 12

Dear Friends,

With the 86th Legislative Session now complete, I want to once again express my appreciation for your continued trust and support as your elected voice in the Texas House of Representatives. I am incredibly honored to serve as your State Representative in Austin, and I am proud of what we accomplished this session for the State of Texas and specifically, for House District 12.

This session began with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the House calling to prioritize school finance reform, property tax relief, and teacher pay raises. The Legislature worked diligently and was successful in accomplishing these goals, but it did not stop there. The 86th Legislature was also able to provide meaningful improvements in border security, the advancement of pro-life reforms, protection of the Second Amendment, and the passage of a conservative, balanced budget. The changes made this past session will undoubtedly make the state of Texas an even better state to live, work, and to raise a family.

The purpose of this newsletter is to briefly acquaint you with some of the critical issues that the Legislature addressed this regular session. Please do not hesitate to contact my office for additional information on any particular issue that may interest you. Also, included in this newsletter is information on a number of state constitutional amendments that you will see on the ballot this coming November. As always, I encourage you to take some time to familiarize yourself with each of the propositions in an effort to make informed decisions at the polls.

Thank you for the continued honor and privilege of serving you in the Texas House.
 May God bless you and yours, and may God continue to bless the great State of Texas.

Sincerely,

Kyle Kacal
 State Representative

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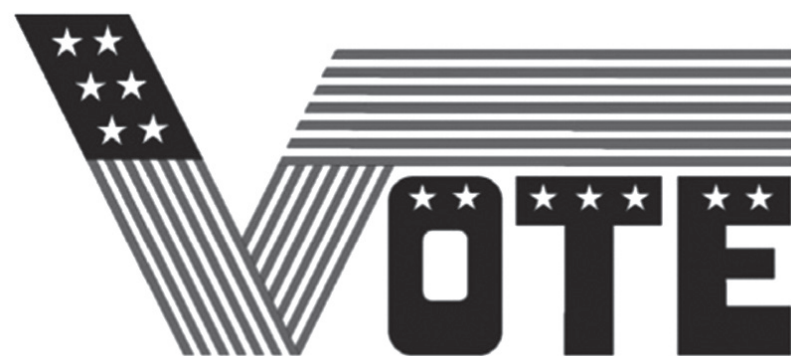


in this issue

**Constitutional
 Amendment
 Voting Guide**

cut out and take with you to the polls

Early Voting:
Monday, October 21
 through
Friday, November 1



Election Day: Tuesday, November 5

DISTRICT 12 ★ LEGISLATIVE UPDATE ★ FALL 2019

★ *Public School Finance* ★

House Bill 1, Senate Bill 2, and House Bill 3 work together to provide transformational reform to our public school system while providing some property tax relief to taxpayers. Over \$6.5 billion additional dollars will go to our public school system, which will result in an additional \$1,000 per student each year. Furthermore, the Legislature invested over \$2 billion to go towards teacher pay raises in efforts to retain and attract the best educators for our young Texans. Our public education system is the key to educating the future workforce, and this reform came at no additional cost to the taxpayer.

★ *Property Tax Relief and Reform* ★

Property tax relief and reform are top issues for many Texans, and this session the Legislature took meaningful action to protect taxpayers. House Bill 3 provided for over \$5 billion in property tax relief, which will decrease tax rates by an average of 8 cents per dollar in 2020 and 13 cents per dollar in 2021 in House District 12. Senate Bill 2 reformed the property tax system by allowing Texans to vote if a taxing entity wants to raise their taxes by more than 3.5% for most local governments and 2.5% for Independent School Districts. These key pieces of legislation also provided for more transparency in the process, which will allow taxpayers to see who is responsible for any rise in property taxes.

★ *2nd Amendment* ★

The 86th Legislature took great strides in strengthening your second amendment rights. This session we passed legislation that would prohibit Home Owners Associations from restricting firearms and prohibited “no firearms” clauses in leases. We also restored the rights of places of worship to decide whether licensed carry is permitted on their premises. The Legislature also took steps to allow permitless carry for those evacuating from and returning to a disaster area.

★ *Pro-Life Initiatives* ★

A top priority for the Legislature was continuing to protect the life of unborn Texans. The Legislature dedicated over \$60 million to crisis pregnancy centers and to provide for alternatives to abortion. We also prohibited government from conducting transactions of goods and services with abortion providers and ensured that abortion providers would not receive taxpayer money.

★ *Disaster Preparedness* ★

In the wake of Hurricane Harvey, there was a great deal of focus on preparedness and response. We knew Texas needed to be even more prepared for unexpected disasters in the future. The Legislature created a property tax exemption for people affected by declared disasters in an effort to ease the financial burdens of Texans in their darkest hours. We also made sure to improve infrastructure and regional planning efforts to mitigate, control, and recover from floods, and we eased regulatory burdens that slowed response time and debris removal to ensure we keep Texas families safe.

★ *Limiting Government* ★

As Texans, we know the importance of small government and individual freedom. Because of these deeply held beliefs, the 86th Legislature passed a fiscally responsible budget that keeps state spending under the constitutional spending limits. We also defended private property rights by ending forced annexation statewide and banned the predatory use of red light cameras in Texas. These initiatives extend freedoms to taxpayers that they deserve.

To check the status of bills from the 86th and previous Legislatures, you can visit <https://capitol.texas.gov/>

For in-depth analysis of bills that passed out of the Texas House of Representatives, you can visit <https://hro.house.texas.gov/>

For additional information and history on the Texas Legislature, you can visit <https://lrl.texas.gov/>

★ REPRESENTATIVE KACAL'S VOTING RECORD ★

LEGISLATIVE ISSUE	REP. KACAL VOTE	EXPLANATION
School Finance Reform	YES	Rep. Kacal voted to reform the school finance system and to provide a raise for our public school teachers. Over \$6.5 billion additional dollars will go to educating Texas students (HB 3).
Property Tax Reform	YES	Rep. Kacal voted to increase transparency, to give the public more tools to make informed decisions about their property taxes and to empower voters to stop rapidly raising property tax values (SB 2).
Funding Teacher Retirement System	YES	Rep. Kacal voted to increase the state contribution to TRS and to provide a 13th check to retired teachers over the biennium (SB 12).
Protecting the Second Amendment	YES	Rep. Kacal voted to strengthen the state's authority to prevent cities from creating frivolous gun regulations (HB 3231).
Protecting Life	YES	Rep. Kacal voted to prevent tax payer dollars from being used to fund abortion providers (SB 22).

★ CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT VOTING GUIDE ★

Proposition 1 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 72 “The constitutional amendment permitting a person to hold more than one office as a municipal judge at the same time.”
Proposition 2 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 79 “The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of additional general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board in an amount not to exceed \$200 million to provide financial assistance for the development of certain projects in economically distressed areas.”
Proposition 3 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 34 “The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for a temporary exemption from ad valorem taxation of a portion of the appraised value of certain property damaged by a disaster.”
Proposition 4 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 38 “The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of an individual income tax, including a tax on an individual's share of partnership and unincorporated association income.”
Proposition 5 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 24 “The constitutional amendment dedicating the revenue received from the existing state sales and use taxes that are imposed on sporting goods to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Historical Commission to protect Texas' natural areas, water quality, and history by acquiring, managing, and improving state and local parks and historic sites while not increasing the rate of the state sales and use taxes.”
Proposition 6 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 12 “The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to increase by \$3 billion the maximum bond amount authorized for the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas.”
Proposition 7 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 151 “The constitutional amendment allowing increased distributions to the available school fund.”
Proposition 8 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4 “The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the flood infrastructure fund to assist in the financing of drainage, flood mitigation, and flood control projects.”
Proposition 9 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 95 “The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation precious metal held in a precious metal depository located in this state.”
Proposition 10 <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 32 “The constitutional amendment to allow the transfer of a law enforcement animal to a qualified caretaker in certain circumstances.”

For more information and resources for voting in Texas, visit VoteTexas.gov.