



GENE WU

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ DISTRICT 137



Issue 41

NEWSLETTER

June 2019

With the 86th legislative session adjourned until the next biennium, I wanted to thank you for allowing me to represent you and House District 137 in the Texas Legislature.

It was an exciting 140 days in Austin, but I couldn't be happier to be back home in the district with my constituents



Gene with the hardworking staff of House District 137

I am hosted a town hall at the BakerRipley Gulfton Campus to breakdown what happened during session.

The Sharpstown Americana Celebration returns to host a fireworks display at PlazaAmericas!

The Chinese Community Center has recently expanded its facilities.

I was happy to attend the Houston Pride Parade to celebrate our LGBTQ community.

It is an honor to serve and represent you in the Texas Legislature. Please reach out to my office at any time.

Sincerely,

In This Issue...

- Elections Matter!
- Town Hall
- Fireworks in Sharpstown
- New Facilities @ CCC
- Houston Pride

Elections Matter!



Thanks to the 2018 midterm elections, Democrats in Texas gained a dozen new seats in the House which helped to create a greater need for bipartisanship compared to sessions passed.

Democrats held important committee chairmanships alongside Republicans, and there was an increased focus on moderate issues important to all Texans, such as reforming how we finance our public schools, disaster planning and relief, and making sure our state agencies are properly funded and performing efficiently.

86th Legislative Session

The 86th legislative session started back in January and came down to a close at the end of last month.

I'm proud to say that we were able to accomplish many of the tasks we set out to do back in January. School finance reform was a big win for us here in HD 137. As many of you know, HISD has been paying hundreds of millions back to the state as a part of a flawed recapture formula. We were able to fix this formula, and HISD has significantly lowered their recapture rate, allowing them to keep those millions, and reinvest them back in our students.

We were also able to secure over a billion dollars in disaster recovery and flood planning money, something our city and state desperately needs as we are still recovering from Hurricane Harvey.



Gene with his wife Miya on Sine Die (the last day of the legislative session)

We did a lot of great work, but there were also some things that need improvement. Please be on the lookout for an in-depth newsletter which will completely detail our session coming in the mail this fall.

Town Hall



Gene breaking down the 86th legislative session

My staff and I hosted a town hall this month giving a wrap-up of the 86th legislative session. The event was held at the BakerRipley Gulfton Campus, where my district office is located.

We discussed a wide variety of topics, from breaking down the budget and my work on the appropriations committee, to disaster recovery funds, and my work with juveniles and foster kids.

I am very thankful to everyone who joined me. If you were unable to join, and have any questions about what went on during the session, please reach out to my staff at any time.



Summer Fun

The Sharptstown Civic Association paired up with The Southwest Management District to put on a great fireworks celebration for our neighborhood!

This free family event with live music, a parade, and food, was a ton of fun for the whole family.

Thank you to SCA and SWMD for bring back this amazing event for our neighborhood!

New Facilities at the Chinese Community Center

The Chinese Community Center opened a new playground for their daycare this month, as well as a new teahouse.

It was a pleasure joining them to celebrate their new facilities, and I hope that more of my constituents are able to take advantage of this wonderful organization in our district that has a ton of great programs to offer.

If you're interested in learning more, you can visit their website here: <https://ccchouston.org/>



Gene joining the little ones at CCC to celebrate the opening of their new playground

Houston Pride Parade



The Houston Pride Parade started on Allen Pkwy and marched through downtown to city hall

This month our city held the annual Pride Parade celebrating our LGBTQ community.

I was honored to attend, not only because I am an ally to our LGBTQ community, but also because it is one of the most fun events going on in our city!

This session I was proud to have served as a member of the first LGBTQ Caucus in the Texas House, and will continue to stand as an ally and an advocate for equal rights for everyone.