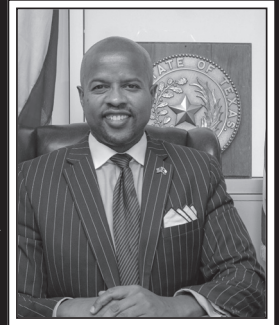




STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Ron Reynolds



District 27 Citizen Update

FORT BEND (PART) ★ SUMMER 2022

Texas House of Representatives



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It continues to be an honor to serve as State Representative to House District 27. It is a tremendously rewarding experience to work on your behalf in our community and be your voice in Austin. My door is always open to the residents of District 27, please do not hesitate to contact my office if we can be of service. For the past year and a half, I have been working hard in our community and focused on fighting to protect our precious right to vote that has been under siege, expanding economic opportunities for our small, women and minority-owned businesses, job creation, as well as tackling COVID-19 pandemic issues that continue to plague our nation.

While the Texas Legislature is currently not in session, the standing and select committees of the Texas House are meeting around the state examining important public policy issues. It is an honor to serve once again as the ranking member of the House Environmental Regulation Committee, and serve on the powerful House Committee on Energy Resources.

The 88th Legislature will convene on January 10, 2023. As we begin our upcoming session preparations, it is important to hear from you on any ideas you may have for legislation or any concerns that you need addressed. Fighting for the needs of our community and the working families of District 27 are my top priority. I will be fighting for quality public education, our teachers, raising the minimum wage, climate change mitigation, protect and expand our electric grid, require paid sick leave benefits for our low wage workers, criminal justice reforms, common sense gun reforms, and equal pay for equal work.

This newsletter will provide insight on Interim House Committee undertakings, 2022 Election Information and District 27 activities. The interim provides an opportunity to travel the district, attend meetings and community events, and most importantly visit with you and your neighbors. As your State Representative, I will continue to serve with a strong voice, tirelessly advocating for the issues important to you and our community. May God continue to inspire us and to work together for a better future for all Texans!

Yours In Service,



REP. REYNOLDS WORKING HARD FOR OUR COMMUNITY

This past year, Representative Reynolds has been diligently working in the district, meeting with constituents, as well as hosting and participating in events. Meeting with you, your neighbors, seniors, pastors, small business owners, and other community and local leaders to address the needs and concerns of District 27. Speaking on career day and reading to the students at neighborhood schools is one of Rep. Reynolds favorite activities. If you would like Rep. Reynolds to speak to your neighborhood association, at a meeting or event, please reach out to his office.

Every year in early August, Rep. Reynolds is honored to sponsor and participate in several Back to School Health Fairs and School Supply Giveaways across the district. Immunizations, haircuts, school supplies and back packs will all be provided free to help our children get prepared

to start school. In November, Turkey Giveaways will help families put food on the table over the holidays, as well as Thanksgiving luncheons for local seniors will be provided. Please look for these future event dates that will be advertised on social media and email communications will be sent out to the community.

Please save the date for the **District 27 Annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive. This event will take place on December 9, 2022 from 11 AM - 1 PM at 2440 Texas Parkway, Missouri City, 77459.** Join us for food, fun and holiday cheer. Toys and bikes that are collected at this event, provide for over 500 underserved Fort Bend families whose children may not otherwise receive gifts over the holidays.



Rep. Reynolds enjoys serving and visiting with District 27 seasoned citizens.



District 27 Annual Holiday Party and Toy Giveaway

2022 ELECTIONS

October 11, 2022 | Last Day to Register to Vote in General Election

October 24 – November 4, 2022 | Early Voting in General Election

November 8, 2022 | General Election Day

REP. REYNOLDS CAPITOL INTERIM WORK

During the 87th Legislative session, Rep. Reynolds was appointed his first time to serve on the powerful House Committee on Energy Resources and his sixth time to the House Committee on Environmental Regulation. During the interim, when the legislature is not in session, each committee is charged with examining important issues, reviewing the implementation of laws passed during the session, and how they will impact our state in the near future.

The Committee on Energy Resources has 11 members, with jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to: (1) the conservation of the energy resources of Texas; (2) the production, regulation, transportation, and development of oil, gas, and other energy

resources; (3) mining and the development of mineral deposits within the state; (4) the leasing and regulation of mineral rights under public lands; (5) pipelines, pipeline companies, and all others operating as common carriers in the state; (6) electric utility regulation as it relates to energy production and consumption; (7) identifying, developing, and using alternative energy sources; (8) increasing energy efficiency throughout the state; (9) the coordination of the state's efforts related to the federal designation of threatened and endangered species as it relates to energy resources in the state; and (10) the following state agencies: the Railroad Commission of Texas, the Texas representative for the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, the Office of

Interstate Mining Compact Commissioner for Texas, the State Energy Conservation Office, and the Office of Southern States Energy Board Member for Texas.

The committee is currently monitoring the agencies and programs under the Committee's jurisdiction and overseeing the implementation of relevant legislation passed by the 87th Legislature. They are conducting active oversight of all associated rulemaking and other governmental actions taken to ensure the intended legislative outcome of all legislation. The committee is assessing the efforts made by the Railroad Commission and the Texas Energy Reliability Council to weatherize infrastructure and ensure reliability of the natural gas delivery system during times of disaster. They are examining ways to increase the production of oil and gas within the state and are reviewing state and local regulations that could directly impact the exploration or production of oil and gas, and make recommendations for increasing Texas' energy independence. The committee is exploring options for expanding the state's underground natural gas storage capacity, including using excess storage capacity for carbon capture opportunities and the creation of a strategic natural gas reserve for the state. In addition, they are evaluating innovative and emerging energy sources. Lastly, they are identifying and making recommendations to address legislative or regulatory obstacles to the use, development, and deployment of viable innovative and emerging energy sources.

The Committee on Environmental Regulation has nine members, with jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to: (1) air, land, and water pollution, including the environmental regulation

of industrial development; (2) the regulation of waste disposal; (3) environmental matters that are regulated by the Department of State Health Services or the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; (4) oversight of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality as it relates to environmental regulation; and (5) the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission.

Currently the committee is monitoring the agencies and programs under the Committee's jurisdiction and are overseeing the implementation of relevant legislation passed by the 87th Legislature. They are conducting active oversight of all associated rulemaking and other governmental actions taken to ensure the intended legislative outcome of all legislation. The committee is evaluating the allocation of TERP funds for effective air pollution reduction programs and are reviewing which existing programs are over or under-subscribed and identifying unrealized opportunities that would further program goals.

In addition, they are reviewing recent passage of the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law No. 117-58), specifically funds that may bolster efforts to clean up polluted sites and plug wells and how federal funds can be used to complement state efforts on well plugging and pollution clean-up. The committee is also monitoring newly adopted and proposed federal regulations that could directly impact economic development, manufacturing, and industrial activities that fall within the jurisdiction of the committee, including regulations adopted or proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency.

PREPARING FOR THE 88TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Our country and this state are faced with an evolving epidemic of gun violence. We continue to lose innocent and unnecessary lives to mass shootings and acts of gun violence in our neighborhood schools, churches and grocery stores. Just 3 months ago on May 24, 2022, a 18-year-old male with an AR-15 assault rifle, fatally shot nineteen students and two teachers and wounded seventeen other people at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. Rep. Reynolds will continue to file and support legislation governing the sale, distribution and possession of firearms. Specifically to prevent the mentally ill and criminals from purchasing guns, as well as banning assault-style weapons and high-capacity magazines.

For a second consecutive session, Rep. Reynolds will file legislation to establish a "Red Flag Law" in Texas, which is using court orders to confiscate firearms from people who are deemed by a judge to pose an extreme danger to themselves or others. Rep. Reynolds will also file legislation to raise the age from 18 to 21-years-old to purchase an assault weapon in Texas. In addition, legislation will be filed to close the "notorious gun-show loophole", this will require gun dealers who are selling a firearm at gun show to conduct a background check on the purchaser; this is already current law for a sale of a firearm at retail stores.

Rep. Reynolds will continue to author bills and support measures on criminal justice reforms. Some important reforms were made last session, but legislation will once again be filed to end Qualified Immunity for law enforcement. This court-created rule limits victims of police violence and misconduct from holding officers accountable when they violate a person's constitutional rights.



Top Photo: Rallying with Texans to end gun violence and reform our gun laws. **Bottom Photo:** Rep. Reynolds welcomes the Missouri City Mayor's Youth Commission to the State Capitol

◀ Article continues from previous page.

PREPARING FOR THE 88TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A robust economy gives Texans the freedom and opportunity to thrive and succeed. Supporting our low wage workers and working families of District 27 remain a top priority. Legislation will be filed next session to raise the minimum wage to \$15/hour and provide paid sick leave to help our low wage workers. In addition, legislation will be authored to require equal pay for equal work for women in the workforce.

Reynolds believes that healthcare is a fundamental human right for all Texans, and not a privilege reserved for those able to afford it. For the 4th consecutive session, legislation will be filed to expand Medicaid for our working poor that have no health coverage.

Environmental injustice, including the proliferation of climate change, systematically impacts communities of color and low income communities. Rep. Reynolds will once again author bills that provide for climate change mitigation, reduce the carbon footprint and address the environmental justice issues in our neighborhoods.

As Fort Bend continues to lead the nation in growth, Rep. Reynolds looks forward in continuing to work with local city and county officials to craft and pass legislation that will provide economic development tools needed to support the exploding population and suburban sprawl in our communities, as well as address the specific needs and concerns of our citizens.

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
RON REYNOLDS



Rep. Reynolds distributing groceries to families in need



Rep. Reynolds honored to be at the ribbon cutting of Legacy Community Health Clinic in Stafford