



Your District 45 Weekly Update

Hey y'all!

Keeping my constituents in the loop is of the utmost importance to me. Scroll through this week's newsletter to stay informed!

For a better Texas,

Erin Zwiener

State Representative -- District 45

Hays & Blanco Counties

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Click [here](#) to sign up for our office newsletter!

The Main Story

House Bill 3 School Finance Reform Bill Rolled Out

State Representative Erin Zwiener remains cautiously optimistic about the direction of school finance reform after the layout of **House Bill 3** this week. House Bill 3 by Chairman Dan Huberty is an omnibus school finance reform bill that is receiving broad bipartisan support.

“I am encouraged. I’m thankful the Texas House chose to include only serious proposals in the school finance bill,” said State Representative Zwiener. “I have some concerns about how it will affect some of the school districts I represent, whether the bill provides adequate funding for special education, and how it will impact educator pay. I am having ongoing conversations with my superintendents, Chairman Huberty, and members of the Public Education Committee. Over the next 82 days, I am going to continue to work with stakeholders and my colleagues in the House to get this done and get it done right.”

The bill invests an additional **\$9 billion** into our public schools and increases per pupil funding by **\$890** from **\$5,140** to **\$6,030**. In addition to increasing the basic allotment, the bill establishes funding for **full-day Pre-K** for low income

communities and reduces recapture rates, also known as the Robin Hood, which will provide much-needed **relief to local property tax payers**.

Get Involved

Thank you to everyone who signed up to join our Legislative Action Team! In case you missed the call to action, please read the message below!

As March approaches and more opportunities for constituent involvement in the policy-making process pop up, I want to make sure that your voice is being heard. **What are you passionate about? What issues affect your day-to-day life? What do you want to see happen this session?**

Our **Legislative Action Team** is a place for you to share your answers to those questions with me. **Sign up to join the Action Team [here!](#)**

Recent Photos





Clockwise from top left: Laying out my first bill, HB 1044 Buda Aquifer Storage & Recovery, in front of the Natural Resources Committee; speaking at a meeting on the Kinder Morgan Pipeline in Buda put on by Commissioners Mark Jones and Debbie Gonzales Ingalsbe; a reception with our local San Marcos leaders, and our Texas State legislative action team talking about education and health care.

In the Works

State Representative Erin Zwiener filed a bill to require an environmental assessment prior to the construction of a natural gas pipeline. House Bill 2277 will help make transparent whether a proposed project will damage the environment and help direct mitigation plans.

“I think most people are shocked when they find out pipeline companies aren’t required to do an environmental assessment before they begin construction,” said Representative Erin Zwiener. “These pipelines are massive infrastructure projects that have the potential to damage ground water, wildlife habitat, and streams. The public deserves to know the full environmental impact before companies take private land and start digging.”

HB 2277 is the first of many bills the Representative plans to file to increase public oversight and accountability for the construction of large pipelines.



Upcoming Events

Texas Night Sky Festival

March 30th & 31st | 6:30pm-8:30pm

Dripping Springs Ranch Park

Click [here](#) to learn more!

Recent Articles

[San Marcos joins growing list of local governments opposed to Kinder Morgan's Permian Highway Pipeline](#)

[Texas Is One Of Only 14 States That Haven't Expanded Medicaid – Despite Strong Public Support](#)

[Hays County officials move toward providing countywide polling locations on Election Day in November](#)

[Aquifer storage bill could flow through state capitol](#)

A green rectangular graphic with white text and icons. At the top, "HB 2277" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below it, in a smaller white font, is the text: "HB 2277 would require companies to conduct an environmental impact study before construction of a pipeline. This bill would allow the public to know the full environmental impact before companies start digging." In the bottom left corner, there is a white icon of a notepad and a pencil. In the bottom right corner, there is a white hexagonal badge with a black border containing the word "Filed!" in a bold, white, sans-serif font.
