



Dear Friends,

Happy Friday to you and yours!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The bill filing deadline is behind us — and I'm happy to report that I officially authored and filed 47 pieces of legislation this session, all on issues that are important to you and your family, our businesses, our community and the entire state. From healthcare to education, taxpayer protections to public safety, safeguarding our fundamental liberties and freedoms, investing in infrastructure, ensuring our courts are open and accessible and strengthening the Texas economy, I and my team are working hard to be your effective advocate and voice in the Texas House. To review those bills for yourself — and to track them throughout the legislative process, you can click this link: [87th Legislature Bills by State Representative Jeff Leach](#)

Our days at this point in session are filled with bill layouts, committee hearings, meetings with fellow legislators, stakeholders, experts and, of course, communications with YOU, the people I am elected to serve. I want to thank everyone who either is taking part in the legislative process along with us, including many who have traveled to the Capitol to testify on a bill in person or who have registered testimony in our new online Texas House Public Portal. I remind you — the Texas House is your House ... and you and your voice are always welcome and needed in the legislative process.

This past Monday I had the privilege to layout a bill that is near and dear to me to the House Committee on Culture, Recreation and Tourism. An idea brought to me by my good friend, constituent and veteran Matt Foster, [House Bill 1341](#) has a great, great purpose. If passed, this bill will provide free entry to each of Texas' beautiful State Parks for all active military, veterans (regardless of service-related disability rating) and first responders, including our firefighters and police officers. These are the men and women who serve on the front lines, protecting us, protecting our communities and our homes ... frequently putting their very lives on the line to protect us and preserve our freedoms. This is a small token but a big expression of our gratitude to them for all they do for us,.

Also, last week I filed [House Bill 3775](#) which would protect taxpayer dollars by curtailing outrageous public employee severance packages, commonly known as "golden

parachutes,” especially when there has been termination of that official because of misconduct. It is high time that government officials stop padding their own pockets at the expense of the Texas taxpayer. Terminated public employees, especially those entangled in scandal, should not receive excessively hefty severance packages while taxpayers struggle. Bottom-line: hardworking Texans deserve better.

BIG CHANGES!

COVID-19 Vaccine Update: In addition to front-line healthcare workers and people over the age of 65, those that are between 50-64 years of age as well as school and licensed child care personnel are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. To find out more and to see if you are eligible to receive the vaccine, please visit [this website](#).

Likewise, Collin County has many locations set up and ready to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. To find the one nearest you and request an appointment, please visit [this website](#).

Drivers License Waiver Period Ending:

The grace period for expired driver's licenses and ID cards ends on April 14, 2021. DPS encourages customers who need to renew their license and ID cards to schedule an appointment at their local driver's license office. If your driver's license has expired after April 15, 2021, you may request a temporary license until your appointment date. For details on renewing your Texas driver's license, go to:

<https://www.dps.texas.gov/section/driver-license/driver-license-services-extensions-waivers-and-covid-19-information>

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT!

Richardson and Plano top the list of best neighborhoods to buy a house in Texas!

According to an article in the Dallas Morning News, 7 of the top 10 best neighborhoods to buy a house in Texas were in Richardson and Plano. The study bases its ranking on the quality and stability of the housing market as well as taxes, crime rates, and school quality. We already knew we lived in the best area but it sure is nice to have a study that proves it! You can find a full list of the best neighborhoods [here](#).

Collin County Association of Realtors

Even though I wish we were seeing each other in person more often, I'm thankful that there are online platforms that allow us to get together each and every day. Yesterday I was able to speak with the Collin County Association of Realtors from the Capitol about important issues affecting Texas homeowners, including property rights, taxes, schools and cracking down on overzealous, out-of-control HOAs. It's always great to connect with all my friends back at home and I look forward to being together soon in person!



Plano Sunrise Rotary Club

This morning I was honored to speak to the Plano Sunrise Rotary Club. I gave a quick legislative update and was able to answer questions from the group. My favorite part of being your State Representative is being able to interact with YOU, the constituents that I have the honor of serving in the Texas House.



God Bless you, friends. And God Bless Texas! As always, call or e-mail me if I can serve you in any way.

All My Best,

Jeff Leach

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