



Dear Friends,

We're in the home stretch – which means that we're celebrating some great victories, shaking off some tough losses and navigating through the challenges and hurdles (and surprises) that the final days of the session seem to always present.

It's at this point in session that we are beginning to know which bills will likely make it to the Governor's desk and which ones likely will not. There are still many important bills that passed the Texas House and are awaiting hearings and votes in the Senate – including many important criminal justice and healthcare reforms that we worked very hard on for the past several months in our Chamber, as well as other bills relating to the strengthening of our economy and the safeguarding of our fundamental liberties and freedoms. Rest assured, my fellow legislators and I are doing all we can to push, scratch and claw to make sure these bills get a hearing and a vote in the Senate. That includes some bold (and perhaps risky) legislative maneuvers that I've led over the past 24-48 hours. Make no mistake: I am fully confident and expectant that the House and the Senate will come together and collaboratively address the huge challenges and seize the great opportunities that we have before us and deliver great victories on your behalf.

Speaking of GREAT victories...

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

TEXAS HEARTBEAT ACT: Earlier this week we celebrated perhaps the greatest Pro-Life legislative win in the history of Texas (and possibly the United States) when Governor Abbott signed into law the Texas Heartbeat Act, a bill that I was very proud to Joint Author and aggressively support. The Texas Heartbeat Act is different than other "heartbeat bills" that you've likely read about. It is uniquely and strategically drafted, creating new legal and legislative opportunities for us to boldly advance the cause of life not only here in the Lone Star State, but nationwide. Thousands and thousands – if not untold millions – of lives will be saved by this important effort. And I thank those of you who labored and prayed with us – some for many months and years - to get it over the finish line.



PPP LOAN PROTECTIONS: At the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, many small businesses struggling to make ends meet and keep their workers employed and paid were able to apply for and receive federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans. These loans were a lifeline for small businesses but the unknown tax burden associated with those loans caused some unintended setbacks for the very people who they were designed to benefit. Thankfully Governor Abbott signed House Bill 1195 into law and those small businesses can now rest assured that the PPP loans they received will not be taxed, allowing them to continue to rebuild and recover from COVID-19.

COMING UP: Over the next several days, as we approach *Sine Die*, be assured that I and my team will be working around the clock to get important legislation over the finish line. I am confident that by the end of session, we'll have had one of them most productive, conservative and transformative legislative sessions in the history of the State of Texas. I really mean that... and I'll continue to do everything I possible can to make it so.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

This past Tuesday I held a Telephone Town Hall to connect with my constituents, neighbors, and friends in HD67. Although I was at the Capitol, I was able to speak directly with thousands of constituents about a number of important topics such as election integrity, criminal justice reform, our response to the winter storm, the protection of our fundamental liberties and freedoms, and more. Thank you to everyone who joined us — and especially to those who asked such great questions. As always, if you missed it or we weren't able to get to your question, please feel free to reach out to me and my team and we'd be happy to connect with you.



OFFICER MAXWELL'S PATROL STORIES!

Just yesterday, I enjoyed briefly stepping off the House floor to meet with friends from back home, including Justin Delacruz, Allen Police Officer and CEO of the non-profit Patrol Stories. He stopped by to share what's happening with this great program and to show me his new children's book – The Adventures of Officer Maxwell and K9-Cruz. Officer Delacruz started Patrol Stories as a way for Police Departments to engage with their citizens through fun, educational, entertaining, and interactive experiences. Always good to see a friendly face in Austin!



God bless you, and God bless Texas!

All My Best,



Jeff Leach

District Office
550 S. Watters Road
Suite 280
Allen, TX 75013
(972) 908-3358 Phone

Capitol Office
Room GN.9
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0544 Phone

The Texas House of Representatives is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment of the provisions of services. In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, if you require reasonable accommodations during the application process, please call (512) 463-0865.