

Dear Friends,

What a great week at the Texas Capitol! We voted on our first bills on the House floor this week, heard many important bills in committee and I laid out over 10 bills this week myself. We also celebrated Collin County Days and I was able to meet with many constituents this week as well as honor Collin County with a resolution on the House Floor.

In the House Committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety, I introduced <u>House Bill 4598</u>. According to the National Crime Bureau, catalytic converter thefts have risen over 1200% since 2019. Chances are, you or someone you know has been the victim of a catalytic converter theft. And the theft has become an organized and increasingly violent crime. Last year, in Harris County, Deputy Darren Almendarez, who this act is named for, was shot and killed when he interrupted three men attempting to steal a catalytic converter off of his personal vehicle outside of a grocery store. Building upon the regulatory reforms made in HB 4110 last session, this bill helps give law enforcement the tools they need to crack down on this costly and dangerous crime.



I was proud to, once again, introduce <u>House Bill 1740</u> in the House Committee on Culture, Recreation and Tourism. And this session, we're going to get it over the finish line. HB 1740 is simple – it will provide free entry to all state parks in Texas to veterans, active military and gold star families. There are many studies that show the benefits of what being active and being outdoors can do for one's mental and physical health and this bill is just a small but significant way that we can say "Thank You" to these heroes.

CONSERVATIVE BILLS ON THE MOVE

This week we saw some very strong, conservative bills in committee and I wanted to highlight a few of them for you. The House Committee on Public Health heard Representative Oliverson's bill, House Bill 1686, which I'm proud to co-author. This bill will end harmful gender transition treatments in Texas. I'm thankful for all the doctors, experts and the growing detransitioner population who testified for this bill and shared the real, permanent damage that occurs when these treatments take place. We must protect Texas children and this bill will do just that. Along the same line, we heard House Bill 888 by Representative Slawson in my committee this week that will extend the statute of limitations on a health care liability claim involving certain gender modification drugs provided to and procedures performed on a minor until their 25th birthday.

THIS WEEK AT THE TEXAS CAPITOL

It was a big week as we welcomed many people from House District 67 to the Capitol for Collin County Days. I was happy for my staff and I to sit down with Allen ISD, the City of McKinney, and the City of Allen.









I was proud to recognize many people from Collin County in the gallery, along with my colleagues from the House floor.



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Floor Schedule:

Monday: Convene at 2pm
Tuesday: Convene at 10am
Wednesday: Convene at 10am
Thursday: Convene at 9am

Rep Leach Authored Bill Hearings:

<u>House Bill 1962</u> – April 3 <u>House Bill 3159</u> – April 4

(more likely to be announced later today)

Have a great weekend friends!

All My Best,

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Jeff Leach

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