

Dear Friends,

It's not over. Yesterday, for a second time this week, [SB 14](#) – the bill that will ban gender modification on minors in Texas – was temporarily blocked by a parliamentary tactic called a point of order. But we will pass this bill this session. And I will continue to be on the front lines in this important fight. Our children are worth it.

BILLS TO SUPPORT OUR VETERANS AND ACTIVE MILITARY

Yesterday, the Texas House overwhelmingly passed my bill, [HB 1740](#) which will provide free entry to Texas State Parks for active military, gold star families, and veterans—regardless of service-related disability rating.

These are the people who either have been or currently are on the front lines, protecting us, protecting our communities, our homes, frequently putting their lives on the line to protect our freedom serving our country – or in the case of gold star families, have had a family member pay that ultimate price.

Many don't come home or end their careers whole, whether it's a physical or mental disability. Research shows that outdoor activities have a beneficial effect for those suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and on general psychological well-being; improving mood, anxiety, depression and stress.

Likewise, [HB 671](#) passed unanimously this week which will establish a Veterans Suicide Prevention Campaign which will provide veterans with the information and resources they need regarding suicide prevention. Our military families deserve our full support and I'm proud to have voted for this important bill.

PASSED IN THE TEXAS HOUSE

There are so many bills being passed each week so I'm going to give you a quick rundown on a few other important bills that were voted through the Texas House.

- ✓ [SB 10](#): Provides a much needed cost-of-living adjustment and supplemental check for our retired teachers.
- ✓ [HB 19](#): Creates the Texas Business Court which would allow lengthy and complicated business cases to be heard in a single court rather than a non-specialized court, increasing the efficiency of businesses in litigation and keeping Texas the best place to do business.
- ✓ [HB 1605](#): Provides a rigorous curriculum vetting process to ensure that only high quality and grade level appropriate materials are used in Texas classrooms. Teachers will also be provided greater professional development tools.
- ✓ [HB 5](#): Strengthens economic development in our communities.
- ✓ [HB 17](#): Prohibits rogue district and county attorneys from pushing their political agendas by adopting and implementing policies that limit the prosecution of criminal laws set by the state.

TEXAS ARMED SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Beginning today, my office is now accepting applications for the Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program (TASSP), an educational scholarship opportunity for a deserving Texas student aspiring to serve through military service. I am extremely honored to be able to play a small role in this process by nominating a deserving leader from our community.

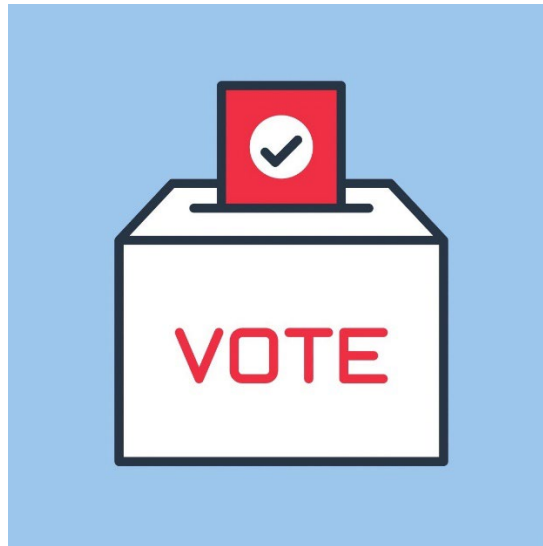
In order to be considered for a TASSP award, a student enrolling in higher education directly from high school must meet two of the following four academic criteria at the time of application:

- ✓ Be on track to graduate, or has graduated high school and complete the curriculum requirements of the Distinguished Level of Achievement Plan, or the International Baccalaureate Program (IB);
- ✓ Have a high school GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale;
- ✓ Achieve a college readiness score on the SAT (1070) or ACT (23);
- ✓ Be ranked in the top one-third of the prospective high school graduating class.

To learn more and how to apply, please reach out to my District Director, Julie Atkinson, at Julie.Atkinson@house.texas.gov.

ELECTION DAY IS TODAY

The polls are open until 7pm today, so while you are out running your Saturday errands, make time to stop by and vote in these crucial local elections. You can find voting locations through [this link](#).



THIS WEEK AT THE TEXAS HOUSE

I loved having Rhett Manders page for our office on the House Floor this week! He picked an exciting day to be there and really got to see what happens behind the scenes. Rhett has big plans to be a Supreme Court Justice someday and I know he can achieve anything he puts his mind to! Thanks for serving in YOUR Texas House, Rhett!



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Floor Schedule:

- Monday: Convene at 10am
- Tuesday: Convene at 9am
- Wednesday: Convene at 10am
- Thursday: Convene at 10am
- Friday: Convene at 9am

All My Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Leach". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeff Leach

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