

**TRAVIS
CLARDY**
TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —

Recent News



Monday, The Golden Triangle Counties hosted their Golden Triangle County Days at the Capitol. They were gracious enough to roundup the Josh Abbott Band to perform at the Austin Music Hall. Judy and I were lucky enough to snag a picture and the guys even threw up their axes with us!



I had a great chat with Judge Chris Davis of Cherokee County and Judge Bascom Bentley of the 369th Circuit when they stopped by the office on Monday afternoon.

Tuesday, Paul Sugg and Rick Thompson from the Texas Association of Counties, along with Judge Davis, were all kind enough to stay and testify in favor of House Bill 1196 in front of the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence. House Bill 1196 is a local bill for Cherokee County that would allow more local control over debt collections.

Wednesday I had my first Special Purpose Districts Committee meeting, along with two hearings for House Bills 1521 and 1213, which I filed a few weeks ago.

House Bill 1521 adds fowl to two particular sections of the Agricultural Code. By doing so, the fowl industry would be able to combat the spread of avian diseases, just as the livestock industry is able to fight the expansion of diseases within their environments. Incorporating fowl further protects and maintains Texas' poultry industry. Former House Representative Bob Turner, Executive Vice President of the Texas Poultry Federation, James Grimm, and Dr. Dee Ellis, the Executive Director of the Texas Animal Health Commission and Texas' State Veterinarian testified for this bill in front of the Agriculture and Livestock Committee.

House Bill 1213 is a bill that would allow Texas' mental health professionals the ability to disclose patient threats to their families and potential victims. We were proud to host Dr. Jim Buckingham and Susan Rushing from home to testify for the bill.

So far, all of the bills I have presented have received positive feedback and I am looking forward to them making it out of committee.

Congratulations to the Stephen F. Austin Lumberjacks Mens' Basketball Team on their winning season, and good luck to Douglass Boys' Basketball Team in the State playoff games this weekend in Austin!

Coming Up

House Bill 1302 will be brought before the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence in the upcoming weeks. This bill, named "Justin's Law" for a young boy who fell victim to a horrific crime, relates to the imposition of a life sentence without parole on certain repeat sexual offenders and places certain restrictions on employment for sexual offenders. Both Louisiana and Oklahoma unanimously passed parallel laws, and I am working diligently to ensure passage in Texas, as well. I will be proactive in the fight against these violent crimes against our children and truly believe that this bill will lessen the availability and occasion for these crimes to occur.

Resources

To keep up with what's going on in your Capitol please check my state [website](#). Also, you can keep track of legislation, bill analyses, witness lists, and committee hearings from both the House and Senate sides [here](#).