

ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas House of Representatives



January 27, 2017

Friends,

I hope each of you had a good week. Including today, there are 122 days left in the 85th legislative session. In the first days of the legislative session, House members are filing legislation and working on issues they feel are important to their districts and the state. With 150 members of the Texas House who run for re-election every two years, there are many changes and shifts that must be considered when organizing each new session. The Speaker of the House will soon make committee assignments and begin referring bills to committee based on topic. Once bills are referred to committees, committee chairman will begin holding public hearings to give people the opportunity to voice their opposition or support of legislation.

If you would like to see what bills have been filed and to follow their progress, please visit www.capitol.state.tx.us.

Ethics Reform

Ethics reform is an important issue that lawmakers are aiming to address this session. I filed HB 508 this session to end what is often referred to as the revolving door between the legislature and the lobby. Currently state lawmakers may go straight from their jobs representing constituents to the special interest lobby. If my bill passes, there will be a required "cooling off period" where legislators are barred from lobbying for a session after they leave office to help ensure your representative is working for you right up until the last day they are in office.

In addition to the legislation I filed, Senator Van Taylor has filed a comprehensive ethics reform package in the Senate and State Representative Charlie Geren has filed similar legislation in the House. I look forward to working with my colleagues to help make government more ethical by making it harder for elected officials to cash in on their public office and requiring more disclosure of potential conflicts of interest.



I enjoyed meeting with the Garland City Delegation along with the Garland Parks Board that came up this week to advocate for our city. From left to right: Ed Seghers, David Parrish, Eric Anderson, Councilman BJ Williams, Mayor Doug Athas, Molly Bishop, Don Starkey, Margaret Lutch, and City Attorney Brad Neighbor.



I enjoyed visiting with Israeli Parliament Member Sharren Haskel and our discussion on counter terrorism and economic development issues along with Julie Linn, former Sen. Florence Shapiro, Rep. Sarah Davis, Rep. Cindy Burkett, Rep. Jodie Laubenberg, and Rep. Stephanie Klick.



I enjoyed speaking to Phillip Floyd of Plano and Hank Mulvihill of Richardson when they visited the capitol to discuss the financial planning industry.

It is an honor to serve as your State Representative. Please continue to communicate your views on issues that are important to you.

Sincerely,

Angie Chen Button

If you would like to be added or removed from this mailing, please e-mail
Angie.Button@house.texas.gov