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Representative Dan Huberty



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Hello, again!

As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, Speaker of the House Joe Straus announced committee appointments last week and I am proud to serve you on the Public Education and State Affairs committees.

The State Affairs committee had our first meeting this week where ERCOT and the Public Utilities Commission came to speak about the rolling blackouts that occurred state-wide during the freeze several weeks ago. This is just the first of many meetings we will have and I will be sure to keep you updated about what happens. The Public Education committee has not yet met.

I was back in District 127 on Thursday for a Public Hearing about FM 2100 in Crosby, which I included in the last newsletter. The Texas Department of Transportation lead the meeting and I hope you all had the opportunity to join us.

I have had many visitors at the Capitol this week and you can read more about each of those visits in the attached newsletter. And always remember, we would love to have you come visit us at the Capitol. I am only there because of your support and would be honored to have you come see your House of Representatives in action.

Please read the attached newsletter to see what we have been up to and how you can get more involved with our office.

If you would like to learn more about any of my legislative items, events I attend or happenings at the Capitol, please contact my staff at 512-463-0520. And remember you can always follow the occurrences of the House at www.house.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

Dan Huberty
State Representative- District 127

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Humble ISD Legislative Budget Sessions

On Thursday, February 10, I joined Dr. Guy Sconzo at one of his legislative budget sessions. These meetings, which are open to the public, are used as forums for teachers, parents and the general public to find out more about the proposed budget for the next biennium. I was proud to be there to answer questions on behalf of the House.

Dr. Sconzo will continue to host these hearings throughout the Spring. For more information about these meetings, visit <http://www.humble.k12.tx.us/humbleisd/site/default.asp>.



Humble ISD Rodeo 2011

The second weekend of the Humble ISD Education Foundation fundraiser brought in the cattle, cowboys and concerts. On Friday afternoon, I attended the livestock show buyer's auction. Although I walked away without purchasing an animal, I was extremely proud to see the progress the participants had made with their livestock. Humble ISD has great 4-H and FFA programs.

Later that evening, Janet and I, with the kids in tow, braved the chilly weather to see and hear rising country star Easton Corbin. Everyone had a great time and we enjoyed sharing our box seats with Meghan Thistle and Robert & Jenn Sitton. Saturday night was just as much fun as we opened our box up to Humble ATPE President - Stacey Ward, Keith & Laura Barker, Daniel & Cherrie Ledoux, Beth Lane and Tiffany Tinelli, Texan GM Head Coach and Rodeo Sponsor, Bert Bocker and Tom Huberty, and the Huberty team of Casey Christman, Autumn Jodzio, Jessica Beemer and Kelly Miller to see Texas Country Legend Kevin Fowler.

TxDOT FM 2100 Public Hearing

On Thursday, February 17th, I joined several members of the Texas Department of Transportation at the Crosby High School Auditorium to discuss the recent incidences on FM 2100 and any future plans to prevent things like this from continuing to happen. TxDOT's Henry Quiroga was on hand, as well as several other agency employees, to assist him in laying out the plans for the much travelled thoroughfare. My goal was to bring together TxDOT, the general public and myself to brainstorm the best ways to improve FM 2100 and I feel we accomplished that. We had close to 250 community members in attendance and I appreciate their involvement in this process. As I mentioned, we will continue to work hard with TxDOT to ensure this changes go smoothly. I would like to thank Dr. Keith Moore, Superintendent for Crosby ISD, for letting us use his facilities.

My Legislation

This week I filed H.B. 1462, which requires a district- or campus-level planning and decision-making committee to include, if practicable, at least one representative with the primary responsibility for educating students with disabilities. Making sure that our special education students are represented on their campus and district improvement committees is essential in helping them get the most out of their educational experience, and this has been an issue since last session. I am honored to continue this effort in the House. I am also working on a few other small bills that will be cleaning up the statute to ensure that our state functions as efficiently as possible.

Legislation to Watch

I have been working closely with my fellow Public Education Committee members and their important bills, helping Representative Scott Hochberg with a bill that will create a more efficient and accurate accountability process in our schools. We have been working together on H.B. 233 to make sure that this issue is addressed in a way that we can improve our kids' learning experience, not just throw more tests at them. I am keeping a close eye on legislation that the Governor has identified as his Emergency Items, such as Chairman Burt Solomons' H.B. 12 on sanctuary cities, and Chairman Sid Miller's H.B. 15 and Representative Kelly Hancock's H.B. 580, both of which address a woman's right to informed consent for an abortion. Senator Patrick has been a champion on this issue with his S.B. 16, which passed out of the Senate Chamber yesterday afternoon. Protecting the rights of our mothers and our unborn children is close to my heart and a priority for me at your Capitol.

I am helping Representative Jim Murphy maintain the integrity of our voting process by joint authoring with him two bills- H.B. 1269 and H.B. 1270- which address the qualifications of deputy and volunteer voter registrars. These will ensure that the people who are collecting your personal information to register you to vote are held at the highest standards. I have also co-authored a bill by Representative Tim Kleinschmidt- H.B. 681- which further protects our Constitutional rights under the 2nd Amendment.

I am honored to be helping Chairman Solomons with his House Joint Resolution 56, which is a Constitutional amendment that would restrict the power of the Legislature to mandate requirements upon local government. This is key in maintaining local control, keeping government as close to the people as possible, and protecting them from burdensome and unfunded government mandates. Another key legislative issue this session is the burden of the federal government on states to force our citizens to purchase healthcare insurance. In the effort to allow people to make their own decisions, I am helping with several pieces of legislation, such as Representative Wayne Christian's H.J.R. 51 and Representative Brandon Creighton's H.B. 32, that prohibit the government from mandating people to buy health insurance. Freedom to choose your medical care is not something I take lightly as your Representative, and I will fight to protect that for us all.

Follow these bills and all others at <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/>.

Upcoming Events

Be sure to watch for these events:

Monday, February 21st

HARTA Legislative Meeting

9:30 AM - Humble ISD Instructional Support Center

Kingwood Tea Party Meeting

7:00 PM - Los Cucos-Kingwood

ATPE - Humble

On Monday, February 14, the Humble Chapter of the Association of Texas Professional Educators came to visit me at their Texas Capitol. They presented me with a beautiful mirror to be displayed in my office to remind me of the students of Humble ISD. I was also able to recognize the teachers from the floor of the House Chamber and was honored to have Brenda Rider, my daughter's teacher, here with the group. It is a great honor to be representing these hard-working folks in Austin.



Capitol Visitors

Thanks to **Judy Cox** of **FamilyTime** and the lovely ladies who accompanied her while joining me on Valentine's Day to spread awareness about domestic violence to the members of the Texas Legislature. Thank you for bringing me the very meaningful Valentines.

And thank you to **Christy Wittington** and her fellow librarians for coming to see me on Texas State Library Day at the Capitol. It was also great to see all of the postcards from library visitors in my district.

Save the Date: Town Hall Meetings

Saturday, March 26th

10:00 AM - Kingwood High School

2:00 PM - Newport Elementary School

On Saturday, March 26th, I will be hosting my first set of Town Hall Meetings in the district. We will be hosting two, one on the north side of the district and the other on the southeast side, to best accommodate everyone.

I hope you will be able to join us for these events. I intend to have my staff present and available to you. But if you have any questions beforehand, please do not hesitate to contact my Capitol office at 512-463-0520.

District Office Opening

Watch for more information about our District Office at 4501 Magnolia Cove, Suite 201, Kingwood, Texas 77345. Located in the beautiful King's Harbor shopping center, we hope our office will be a great place for you to come visit us. The date of the opening is yet to be determined.
