

**Issue 38** 

## **NEWSLETTER**

March 2019

Friends,

As we move towards warmer weather, I hope everyone is having a wonderful month.

We're over half way through the legislative session, and I've been hard at work advocating for our district.

Bills are starting to move through the committee process, and in addition to my work on juvenile justice reform, I am working hard on issues that affect our district.

My family and I had a great time at the annual Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo with my fellow legislators.

Legacy Community Health had their Capitol Day in Austin.

The annual Kite Festival will be held April 13th this year, it's a great day of free family fun!

Gene laying out legislation before the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence

It is an honor to serve and represent you in the Texas Legislature, please reach out to my office at any time.

Sincerely,

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#### Legislation For House District 137

Retired teachers have reached out to me about their need to return to service, and the limitations they face because of the strict codes the Teacher's Retirement System of Texas has in place. For this reason, I have introduced HB 2227 this session to help protect retired teachers' right to work when circumstances like medical bills or weather related events call for a return to service, without jeopardizing their benefits.

Constituents' safety and security is one of my top concerns. In order to deter the rising predatory theft referred to as "jugging", I have introduced HB 3278. Jugging is the practice involving following someone to learn their patterns, and stealing from them when they are vulnerable in places such as leaving the bank or ATM, grocery store when loading groceries, or filling up at the gas station. HB 3278 will create a criminal offense with a penalty of a third-degree felony for theft of this type.

Constituents and civic associations have voiced their concerns over cars parked in front yards. I have introduced HB 1363 which authorizes law enforcement to issue citations for parking an unattended motor vehicle in front or side yard of a residence. I have filed this bill before, and will continue to work my hardest to see it pass this session.

If you want to learn more about the bills I have introduced, click on the picture below and type in the house bill number. You can follow the bills progress through the committee process and see how members vote.

Additionally, if you are interested in coming to Austin to testify before a committee at a public hearing for any piece of legislation, please reach out to my Deputy Chief of Staff Jake Breault at <a href="mailto:jake.breault@house.texas.gov">jake.breault@house.texas.gov</a>.



#### Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo



Gene taking a photo with State Rep. Gina Calanni, U.S. Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, and Houston City Council Member Robert Gallegos

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo promotes agriculture by hosting an annual, family-friendly experience that educates and entertains the public, supports Texas youth, showcases Old Western heritage and provides year-round educational support within the community.

Since its beginning in 1932, the Rodeo has committed more than \$475 million to the youth of Texas. Students from schools in House District 137 were given the opportunity to participate in contests and events at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and are eligible to earn scholarships. Click here to learn more.

### Legacy Capitol Day

Members of the Legacy healthcare and leadership team joined me at the Capitol earlier this month for their advocacy day, and were recognized for their efforts in our community.

Legacy Community Health is an important fixture in House District 137. Legacy Community Health provides adult primary care, pediatrics, dental care, vision services, behavioral health services, OB/GYN and maternity, vaccinations and immunizations, health promotion and community outreach, wellness and nutrition, and comprehensive HIV/AIDS care.



Gene with Rep. Allen and Rep. Walle helping to honor Legacy Community Health, and all of their great work around Houston and Harris County



## 10am-1pm ALIEF NATURE CENTER 8409 1/2 Dairy View

IST, 2ND & 3RD TROPHIES AWARDED!

**On Site Registration Times:** 

Largest: 10:30 | Smallest: 11 | Unique: 11:30 | Highest: 12 | Colorful: 12:30

# ENTER YOUR KITE & WIN! FIRST 250 GET FREE KITES & COME BLAZE THE TRAIL!

Help us create a trail for the Garden & get a FREE t-shirt & goodies!







Food & drink for sale

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