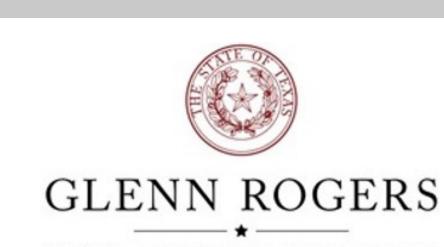
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#### TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE District 60

Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Eastland, Hood, Palo Pinto, Shackelford, Stephens

#### Friends,

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I am proud to share that our office has been busy! I am happy to hear from my constituents and want to help in any capacity that I can. Our office has worked on casework and has helped resolve numerous issues for the great people of House District 60.

Recently, we have had several people visit our office. Brenda Madore and Gordon Warren from Ranger College paid my office a visit, and got to watch me in action in committee and on the floor. I was also honored to have some Eula students stop by during their spring break to learn about their state legislature.

On Wednesday, March 10th, HR 149, a resolution honoring and memorializing the life of Teresa Thomas of Granbury was unanimously adopted by the House. She was known as a dedicated teacher in Granbury who genuinely cared for her students and colleagues. Teresa was deeply devoted to her children and grandchildren, making sure her loved ones were taken care of. Like many parents, Mrs. Thomas was the caregiver of her adult son who suffered from a mental illness, whom she was caring for until her passing. HR 149 recognizes the life of Ms. Teresa Thomas, and sheds light on the support needed for the families impacted by mental health conditions.

Today, Friday March 12th, is the last day to file legislation. Currently I have filed 32 bills, Joint Authored 2, and Coauthored 9.





House Committees began conducting committee hearings with

invited testimony the first week of March.

Left photo: Representative Rogers speaking at the Sons of the Republic of Texas event in

Right photo: Representative Rogers with Eula ISD students Keely and Payden Miller.

The Transportation Committee has convened once and heard from multiple state agencies that the committee has jurisdiction over. The committee heard from the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI), Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

The House Committee on Pensions, Investments, and Financial Services has met twice. Once to hear from the credit unions and finance authorities, and the once to consider comments from the agencies that facilitate retirement and pension programs.

These state organizations presented instructional testimony, as they are neutral resources for the legislature to call upon. Hearing from these agencies on their projects and programs will be instrumental moving forward as we start considering bills.



## **Recent Bills Filed**

### **HB 2257**

Concerns have been raised about the availability of school security personnel and about the effect of potential shortages on emergency response times for incidents involving schools, particularly in rural areas of Texas. HB 2257 seeks to address these concerns by allowing a district to design a plan for a veteran or qualified law enforcement officer to provide campus security on a volunteer basis. **HB 2762** 

During the recent winter storm many water treatment facilities lost power. In some regions, power was restored for 30 minute intervals; however, by the time the facility would have their system powered back up the power would cut off again. HB 2762 would allow water facilities to be included in the same priority level as hospitals. Maintaining power at these facilities would reduce the repairs and delays for consumers to receive potable water.

## **HB 2763**

In rural areas, people heavily rely on their local radio station to receive their news. During the blackouts people were not able to watch the news and turned to their radio, however, the radio stations lost power as well. HB 2763 seeks to address this by adding news and radio stations to the same critical level as hospitals, fire and police stations etc. **HB 2765** Many high schools now weight dual credit courses as it relates to class rank. This does not

materially impact students in urban areas who are served by community colleges with large tax bases. Those institutions can provide dual credit courses for no tuition. However, students served by small and medium rural community colleges with limited tax bases, in many cases, must pay tuition and fees. For families struggling to make ends meet this is prohibitively expensive and low socio-economic students participate in dual credit courses at a lower rate than their more affluent counterparts. HB 2765 creates a statewide implementation of state funded grants to all medium and small peer group community colleges to provide rural high school students with higher education opportunities. **HB 2804** When the mineral estate rights are severed it can result in a decrease in the value of the

surface property. In some cases, the landowner can protest the impediment from mineral activity on the surface estate during the appraisal process. The Comptroller's Office has a Decreased Value form that a landowner can fill out to avoid the protest process each year. HB 2804 requires a Decreased Value form to be given to the landowner with their notice. **HB 2807** Deputy Kenneth Maltby died in the line of duty on FM 570. Deputy Maltby had a long and

successful career at the Eastland County Sheriff's Office, that was cut short on October 6th, 2016. HB 2807 renames a portion of FM 570 to "Deputy Kenneth Maltby Memorial Highway" to honor his life, family and community that he served.

# Our Capitol office in Austin is open Monday-Friday 8-5, and my staff

**My Office** 

and I are ready and available to hear from you! Currently, the Capitol is open to the public. There are free COVID-19 testing sites located at the north entrance. If you ever find yourself in Austin, call my office to set up a time to visit.





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