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TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

District 60 Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Eastland, Hood, Palo Pinto, Shackelford, Stephens

Friends,

Subscribe

On Mother's Day, I remember my mother who passed away of Alzheimer's Disease. She was a school teacher, and because of her, I will always have a deep appreciation for educators. Love you, Mom! Happy Mother's Day to my wife, Mandy, the mother of my children, and to all the mom's out there.

"A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place no one else can take." - Cardinal Mermillod

RSS 3





of the wonderful educators that are enriching the minds and lives of our Texas children. I will always support our public school systems, and their employees and I look forward to passing meaningful legislation that benefits our Texas students. Last week, Governor Abbott announced that the state would

release \$11.2 billion in funding to public schools through grants

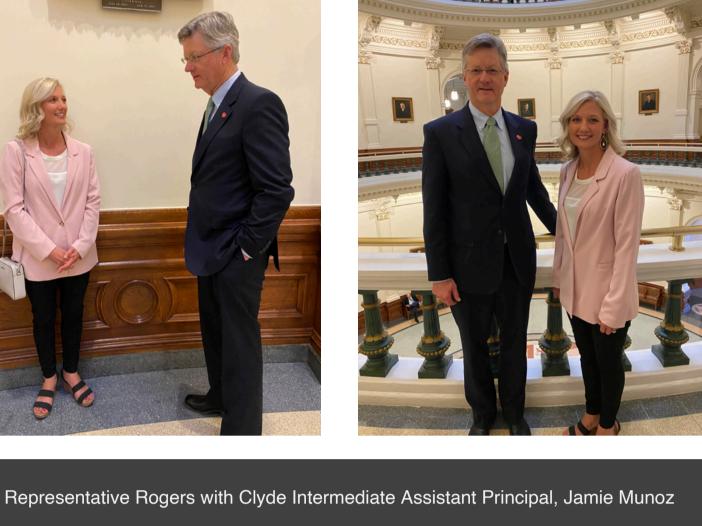
will be able to address key losses as a result of the COVID-19

administered by the TEA. With the release of these funds, schools

pandemic. I am grateful to our state leaders for working to get these crucial dollars delivered to our schools. This session, I filed HB 3507 to support our retired teachers under would grant retirees under the Teacher Retirement System a one-

the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). House Bill 3507 time supplemental payment. Providing for our retired teachers is not just about their career benefits, its about showing those who are considering a career in teaching that the state of Texas will be there for them throughout their career and their retirement.





At this time, I have laid out 14 bills before several different House

committees, and I am happy to share that all 14 bills were favorably voted out of committee! This week, I also had my first bill reach the Governor's desk!

Sent to the Governor

HB 1831

Currently, there is no allowance in statute to allow a county or

district clerk to carry over completed education hours from one year to the next. Due to unforeseen circumstances, a clerk might not be able to obtain the required 20 hours of continuing education annually. Examples of this could include a national or state emergency declaration, lack of technology to allow for virtual attendance of a class/conference, and an extended illness. The court clerks seek to have access to similar statutes as the County Commissioners, County Treasurers and Tax Assessors enjoy. HB 1831 allows clerks to carry over from the current calendar year to the following calendar year not more than 10 hours of completed continuing education hours that exceed the statutory 20 hours required annually.

Deputy Kenneth Maltby died in the line of duty on Farm-to-Market

Road 570 in Eastland County after a long and successful career

HB 2807

Passed the House

with the Eastland County Sheriff's Office. There have been calls to honor Deputy Maltby's career with a memorial highway designation in his name. HB 2807 seeks to designate a portion of that road in Eastland County as the Deputy Kenneth Maltby Memorial Highway. **HB 3387** Passed the House

Under current statute, the only legal method of dumping milk in Texas is to transfer the milk to a disposal well. This system places

an undue, expensive burden on our hardworking dairy farmers and co-ops, as the average cost to dump a truckload of milk (about 50,000 pounds) is \$3,000. During the Covid-19 pandemic and in the recent winter storm, our dairy producers were hard at work keeping their cows on their dedicated milking schedule. These dairymen were producing the same amount and at the same rate to get their product to the consumer. HB 3387 is our answer to ease the regulatory burdens on dairy farmers, benefit the environment, and save money that could be put to growing or maintaining the industry. This bill would allow the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality to adopt rules for land application of "dairy waste" to be used as fertilizer in agricultural production. In doing so, this legislation also will allow for milk to be disposed of in a wastewater lagoon provided that the risk of water contamination and quality is not impaired.

this morning at 10am to pass SB 7 and HB 1900.

Floor Update

Last night, my fellow House members and I considered legislation

on the House floor until 3am. Just a few hours later, we convened

SB 7 is the Election Integrity Protection Act to ensure that Texas will continue to have free, fair, and secure elections. HB 1900 backs the blue and will address major public safety

concerns. This bill will make sure that large municipalities do not

defund the budgets to police departments. **Pro-Life Legislation**

HB 1280: Roe v. Wade Trigger SB 8: The Heartbeat Bill





U.S. Supreme Court overturns its decision on Roe v. Wade. I proudly voted **YES** on these measures to make sure Texas is and continues to be a Pro-Life state. **Co-Authored Bills** Click <u>here</u> to see the full list HB 1927 by Schaefer (R-Tyler)

The Second Amendment enshrined the right to bear arms in the U.S. Constitution. There are concerns that state law infringes on the free exercise of that right, namely by requiring a license, which

takes time and money to obtain, to legally be able to carry a

handgun. HB 1927 seeks to reduce barriers to the free exercise of

Texans' constitutional right to bear arms and defend their lives and

Favorably Voted out of the House 87-58

Favorable voted out of the Senate 18-13

property by making it legal for individuals who are 21 years of age or older and who can legally possess a firearm to carry a handgun without first obtaining a license. The bill retains the handgun license in statute as optional to allow reciprocity with states that have not yet passed similar legislation. **My Office** Our Capitol office in Austin is open Monday-Friday 8-5, and my staff and I are ready and available to hear from you! Currently, the

located at the north entrance. If you ever find yourself in Austin, call my office to set up a time to visit. Click <u>here</u> to read my latest news column about the importance of rural Texas!

Capitol is open to the public. There are free COVID-19 testing sites

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