

State Representative Lynn Stucky

February Newsletter

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LYNN STUCKY APPOINTED TO AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK, LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES

Representative Lynn Stucky released the following statement in response to his appointment from Speaker Joe Straus to the House Committee on Agriculture and Livestock, and the House Committee on Land & Resource Management. These committees have broad jurisdiction over matters such as forestry, livestock, wildlife, annexation, and eminent domain.

"I look forward to serving on these two important committees. Growing up with an appreciation for agriculture and the land has always been important to me. Protecting private property and water rights is crucial for Texas' ability to prosper. I want to offer my thanks and appreciation to Speaker Joe Straus for placing me on these committees. It's time to get to work," Stucky said.

To see the bills referred Ag & Livestock, click [here](#).

To see bills referred to Land & Resource Management, click [here](#).

To see bills set for debate on the House Floor, click [here](#).

REPRESENTATIVE STUCKY MEETS COMMISSIONER BUSH



Pictured: Rep. Lynn Stucky, Rep. Stephanie Klick, Sen. Jane Nelson, Commissioner George P. Bush.

Dr. Lynn Stucky joined fellow legislators and staff on February 13, to tour the Texas General Land Office (GLO). There, they were greeted by Commissioner Bush who gave a short presentation about the responsibilities and roles of the GLO. While there, Representative Stucky was able to view many historic maps and handle Jim Bowie's famous knife found at the Alamo!

Today, the General Land Office manages state lands, operates the Alamo, helps Texans recovering from natural disasters, helps fund Texas public education through the Permanent School Fund, provides benefits to Texas Veterans, and manages the vast Texas coast. Rep. Stucky sits on Land and Resource Management which oversees GLO.

TEXAS LEGISLATIVE RURAL CAUCUS APPOINTMENT

Dr. Stucky was appointed Vice-Chair of the Texas Legislative Rural Caucus under Chairman Charles "Doc" Anderson. This caucus is open to members of both the House and Senate and all party affiliations. Members who represent urban/suburban areas are also encouraged to join to help understand the issues and challenges that rural areas face constantly. The first meeting was introductory, where members passed bylaws and appointed leadership positions. "As a freshman member, I am honored to be named Vice Chair of the Rural Caucus," Stucky said. "I look forward to the work ahead to address rural issues in our increasingly urban state."

Bills filed in the Texas House: 3,459

Bills filed in the Texas Senate: 1,549

BUDGET UPDATES FROM COMPTROLLER HEGAR

On February 1, Comptroller Glenn Hegar gave an update to the Republican Caucus on the budget situation. He addressed the shortfall Texas experienced with regards to the severance tax, aka the oil and gas tax. The situation is not as dire as the one we experienced in 2009, but it is down enough to create across the board cuts to state agencies, including universities. Funding for UNT, TWU, NCTC, State Supported Living Centers, and all public schools are entities that Dr. Stucky is closely watching and working with members to ensure adequate funding.

PASTOR OF THE DAY

On February 6, Pastor Tommy Nelson of Denton Bible Church travelled down to Austin to have the honor of being "Pastor of the Day" in the Texas House and speak on the South steps of the Capitol for Texas Call to Prayer Day. It was a wonderful morning where folks from all over the state came to pray for our state and national leaders as the new session begins.



Pictured: Pastor Tommy Nelson, Rep. Lynn Stucky

REPRESENTATIVE STUCKY'S CAPITOL FACT

The Texas Capitol has a great story of its origins and how the deal was struck. The Texas Legislature, in drafting the new State constitution in 1875, had set aside three million acres of public land in the Panhandle of Texas to fund the new Capitol. A syndicate based in Chicago was formed to build the Capitol and to develop the Panhandle lands that were given in exchange. This acreage would become the famous XIT Ranch, portions of which the syndicate began selling in 1901.

In 1993, the \$75 million, four-story, underground Capitol Extension was completed to the north, doubling the square footage available to Capitol occupants and providing much improved functionality. The extension encompasses 667,000 square feet, nearly twice the floor space of the original building!