

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ERIC JOHNSON

CAPITOL REPORT

FALL 2010



Dear Neighbor:

On April 20, 2010, I had the great honor of being sworn in as the state representative for District 100 in the Texas House of Representatives. This first newsletter as your elected representative in Austin serves to introduce myself and my wife, Nakita, to you and also to invite you to get in touch with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you might have related to state government.

I was born and raised in District 100, having grown up in West Dallas and Oak Cliff with family roots in the district dating back to the 1940s. I believe it is my job in the Texas House of Representatives to ensure that all of our children have access to a quality public education, to create more well-paying jobs in the Dallas area, and to protect our senior citizens. I am ready to work tirelessly in Austin on these and other issues of importance to you and your family!

In the coming months, as the 82nd Texas Legislature approaches, voicing your opinions, ideas, and concerns about issues facing our community and our state to your elected representatives is critical; one of the easiest ways for you to provide this all-important feedback is by responding to the survey included in this newsletter.

Please enjoy this newsletter and share it with your family, neighbors, and friends in our district. As always, feel free to contact my office anytime regarding any state matters. It is a tremendous honor to represent you in the Texas House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "EJ".

Eric Johnson
State Representative
District 100

Estimados Vecinos:

El 20 de Abril, 2010 tuve el gran honor de ser elegido el representante estatal por el distrito 100 en la Cámara de Representantes de Texas. Este primer boletín como su elegido representante en Austin sirve para presentarme y mi esposa Nakita, y también es para invitarles a ustedes a ponerse en contacto conmigo con sus preguntas, preocupaciones, o ideas sobre el gobierno estatal.

Yo nací y pase mi juventud en distrito 100, específicamente en el oeste de Dallas y Oak Cliff, y mi familia ha estado en el distrito desde los años cuarentas. Creo que mi responsabilidad en la Cámara de Representantes de Texas es en apoyar al sistema de educación pública, crear más puestos de empleo en Dallas y en proteger a nuestros cuidanos de mayor edad. Estoy listo para trabajar sin descanso en Austin en estos cuestiones y en todos que son importantes para usted y su familia.

En los meses que vienen, en que se reúne el 82 asamblea del Legislatura de Texas, es esencial que ustedes dan voz a sus opiniones, ideas, y preocupaciones para que sus epresentantes entienden su perspectiva, la más fácil manera de hacer eso es en regresar la encuesta que está incluido con este boletín.

Por favor, disfrute este boletín y compártalo con su familia, vecinos, y amigos en el distrito. Como siempre, póngase en contacto con mi oficina con cualquier cuestión estatal. Ser su representante en la Cámara de Representantetes de Texas es un honor tremendo.

Saludos Cordiales,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "EJ".

Eric Johnson
Representante Estatal
Distrito 100





SERVING THE PEOPLE



SMALL BUSINESS SUMMIT

After hearing from many small business owners about the challenges they have had in accessing capital to grow their businesses, Representative Johnson hosted the District 100 Small Business Summit at UTD's Callier Center on July 22nd. Over fifty business owners from District 100 received information from the Small Business Administration, the City of Dallas Department of Economic Development, and organizations such as the Plan Fund on loan programs and other services available for small businesses. If you would like updates on future events for District 100 small business owners or more information about resources for business from participating organizations, please email ocie.kazee@house.state.tx.us or call 214-565-5663.



Representative Johnson with District 100 business owners at his Small Business Summit.

LEGISLATIVE TOWNHALL WITH SEN. WEST:

Representative Johnson will be hosting a Legislative Town Hall Meeting with Senator Royce West on December 14, 2010 at 6:30 pm. The Representative and Senator West will begin by speaking about the challenges facing our state and how they will work to address them in the upcoming 82nd session of the Texas Legislature. Following the remarks, Representative Johnson and Senator West look forward to opening up the floor and learning more about the concerns of their constituents and answering their questions about their work in Austin. The Legislative Town Hall is scheduled to take place at The Diabetes Health and Wellness Institute at the Juanita J. Craft Recreation Center, 4500 Spring Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210. For more information, please email ocie.kazee@house.state.tx.us or call 214-565-5663.

PRIORITIES FOR THE 2011 SESSION

Improving public education in District 100 and throughout Texas is Representative Johnson's top priority. Strong schools that produce more high school and college graduates are critical to bringing more jobs into our community, increasing economic development, and improving the quality of life in District 100.

One of the great challenges that our schools face is finding enriching programs for students after they leave the classroom for the day. Through Representative Johnson's own work in Dallas' public schools, he has seen the tremendous difference that mentoring and tutoring programs can make in a student's life. In Austin, he plans to introduce legislation that seeks to expand the availability of these critical after school programs in District 100 public schools.

Representative Johnson also plans to work in the Texas House to make sure that Texans have the good government that they deserve. The state of Texas needs to hold its elected officials to the highest ethical standards, and to that end, he plans to introduce legislation that ensures that Texas government is more open to our citizens and that those who abuse the public trust face serious consequences for their actions.



Representative Johnson at the May 15th grand re-opening of the Mattie Nash-Myrtle Davis Recreation Center, located in the West Dallas portion of House District 100.



COMMUNITY



REP. JOHNSON IN THE COMMUNITY

Representative Johnson has been busy meeting with non-profit organizations and their leaders who are working to improve our community to learn how he can best serve the people of District 100 in Austin. Below are some of the many organizations with which Representative Johnson has met.

The Family Place

Ferguson Road Initiative

AIDS Arms - Peabody Health Center

Jubilee Park and Community Center

Westmoreland Heights Neighborhood Association

UNIFY South Dallas

Buckner Terrace Homeowners Association

Metrocare Services

Dallas Children's Advocacy Center

Citizenship Through Media Arts

Mental Health America of Greater Dallas

Dallas NAACP

United Way of Metropolitan Dallas

Exline Park National Night Out

Buckner Terrace National Night Out

Jubilee Park National Night Out

Piedmont-Scyene National Night Out

Ferguson Road Initiative

Oak Cliff Lions Club

Sierra Club



Representative Johnson and his mother, Alice Johnson, in the Capitol on the day he was officially sworn in as state representative in House District 100 by Texas House Speaker Joe Straus.

Project Student Leaders

Park South YMCA

Advocates for Community Transformation

Voice of Hope Ministries

Friends of Fair Park

Dallas After School Network

If you have a community event that you would like Representative Johnson to attend, please email ocie.kazee@house.state.tx.us or call 214-565-5663.

MENTOR/TUTOR OPPORTUNITIES

In 2009, Representative Johnson launched West Dallas C.A.M.P. (Community Ambassador Mentoring Program) to pair West Dallas elementary school students with mentors in order to help them become productive members of society. The program is a partnership between C.F Carr Elementary, People Empowerment Project, and Big Brothers Big Sisters. After a very successful first year, C.A.M.P. is now looking for more mentors so more students can participate.

Representative Johnson and the participating organizations have been working hard to find new mentors. They have already hosted a recruiting luncheon this fall where several community members signed up to serve as mentors. C.A.M.P. is still looking for more mentors; it's not too late to sign up! C.A.M.P. is also looking for businesses to serve as community partners by encouraging their employees to serve as mentors. If you are interested in these opportunities, please contact Diana Aguirre at daguirre@bbbstx.org or 972-573-2383.



District 100 students on a visit to the Capitol.



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ERIC JOHNSON

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

★ TEXAS CAPITOL REPORT ★

Capitol Office

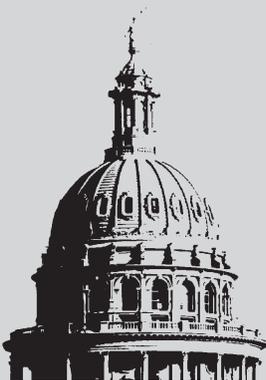
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 (214) 565-5663



FOLLOW THE LEGISLATURE



Follow The Legislature

- Texas Legislature Online www.capitol.state.tx.us
- Texas House Online www.house.state.tx.us
- Bill Status Hotline 1-877-824-7038
- E-mail notification www.capitol.state.tx.us
 (click on My TLO)



SURVEY



Your feedback is important to Representative Johnson so he can best serve your interests in Austin. Please take a moment to fill out the following survey.

1. Texas faces a significant budget shortfall in the upcoming legislative session, and undoubtedly cuts to important state programs will be proposed. Which areas should Representative Johnson work hardest in to prevent funding cuts? (Circle up to three)

Employment Services, Public Schools, Public Colleges and Universities, Children's Health Insurance, Corrections, Public Safety, Vocational Training Programs, Economic Development, Senior Services, Medicaid, Child Protective Services, Other _____

2. Do you support using revenue from expanded gambling enterprises to help close the state's budget gap?

Yes No Undecided

3. Do you support restrictions on the interest rates and fees charged by payday and auto-title lenders?

Yes No Undecided

4. Do you support a bill that would strip state elected officials of their pensions if they are convicted of a felony for abusing their office?

Yes No Undecided

5. Do you support immigration laws that would require police and public schools to investigate immigration status?

Yes No Undecided

6. Would you support legislation that would require individuals to present a picture ID in order to be able to vote?

Yes No Undecided

7. Do you support increased state funding for after-school programs?

Yes No Undecided

8. Do you support greater restrictions on the use of eminent domain?

Yes No Undecided

9. Do you support legislation that would allow people who have a misdemeanor drug conviction to have their record cleared after a period of time if they commit no other crimes?

Yes No Undecided

10. Rank these issues in order of importance: (10 - Most important to 1- Least important)

Public Education___ Healthcare___ Job Creation___
Tax Rates___ Eminent Domain___ Immigration___
Crime/Public Safety___ Transportation___
Environment___ Voter ID___

HOW TO RETURN YOUR SURVEY

1) Detach this page from the newsletter, place a stamp on the pre-addressed page, and mail the survey to Representative Johnson's office.

2) Fax the survey to (214) 565-5668.

3) Scan and email the survey to:
District100.Johnson@house.state.tx.us

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Representative Johnson will have the opportunity to award three \$1,500 scholarships to high school seniors from District 100 who are graduating in the spring of 2010. Applicants will be required to submit:

- An official transcript
- A declaration of good standing in school
- Three letters of recommendation (at least one from a faculty member at his/her current school)
- A cover letter
- A 400-500 word essay on how his/her college education will be used to better Texas or his/her local community in the next fifteen years

The deadline for applications is January 12, 2011. For more information email ocie.kazee@house.state.tx.us or call 214-565-5663.

JUBILEE PARK UPDATE

Representative Johnson met with several residents of House District 100's Jubilee Park neighborhood who were concerned about DISD's plans to take their homes through eminent domain. After their meeting, Representative Johnson wrote a letter to DISD administration expressing his concerns about DISD's failure to explore alternatives to eminent domain and the lack of transparency in the process. DISD has informed the District 100 residents that DISD will drop its eminent domain suits against these residents.

For assistance with issues related to state or local government, always feel free to contact Representative Johnson's office at 214-565-5663.

HELPFUL NUMBERS FOR CONNECTING WITH STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

| | | | |
|---|----------------|--|-----------------------|
| City of Dallas | 311 | Texas Department of Insurance | (800) 252-3439 |
| City of Mesquite | (972) 288-7711 | Texas Department of Transportation | (800) 558-9368 |
| Dallas County | (214) 653-7011 | Public Utility Commission | (888) 782-8477 |
| Dallas ISD | (972) 925-3700 | Driver License Renewal | (866) 357-3639 |
| Mesquite ISD | (972) 288-6411 | Texas Tomorrow Fund | (800) 445-4723 |
| Dallas County Schools..... | (214) 944-4545 | Roadside Assistance | (800) 525-5555 |
| Governor - Information Line | (800) 843-5789 | Crime Stoppers | (214) 373-TIPS (8477) |
| Comment Line..... | (800) 252-9600 | Legal Services for Seniors | (800) 622-2520 |
| Voting and Election Information | (800) 252-8683 | Report Child Abuse | (800) 252-5400 |
| Comptroller | (800) 252-5555 | Aging and Disability Services | (800) 252-9240 |
| Attorney General | (800) 252-8011 | Nursing Home Complaints | (800) 458-9858 |
| Consumer Protection Hotline | (800) 621-0508 | Adult Protective Services | (800) 252-5400 |
| State Employees Retirement System | (877) 275-4377 | Child Support | (800) 252-8014 |
| Teacher Retirement System | (800) 223-8778 | Crime Victims | (800) 983-9933 |
| Texas Education Agency | (512) 463-9734 | Texas Department of Criminal Justice | |
| Texas Department of State | | (Offender Status Line) | (800) 535-0283 |
| Health Services | (888) 963-7111 | Medicaid Information | (800) 252-8263 |
| Texas Workforce Commission | (800) 832-2829 | CHIP | (800) 647-6558 |

SWEARING IN TRIP TO AUSTIN

Representative Johnson will be sworn in as a member of the 82nd Texas Legislature on January 11, 2011. He will be chartering a bus to transport constituents from Dallas to Austin to witness the ceremony.

The ceremony begins at noon, so the bus will leave promptly at 5 a.m. from the District Office to make sure that everyone arrives in Austin on time. Seating in the House chamber is very limited, so the ceremony will be viewed in the Capitol auditorium to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to see Rep. Johnson take the oath of office.

Following the ceremony, everyone is invited to tour the Texas Capitol or the LBJ Library and Museum before boarding the bus at 5 p.m. to return to Dallas.

To learn more about how to reserve a seat on the bus, please email ocie.kazee@house.state.tx.us or call 214-565-5663.



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 STATE REPRESENTATIVE ERIC JOHNSON
 TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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