



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DAN FLYNN
 DISTRICT 2



Representative Flynn and his Capitol Staff, Ashlei Leck and Jenni Franks.

The State of Texas
 House of Representatives

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Dan Flynn

State Representative • District 2

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Dear Friends,

Thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve the people of House District 2. I am honored to represent all the citizens of Hunt, Rains, and Van Zandt Counties. When the 80th Texas Legislature met for the Session, my colleagues and I were faced with the challenge of strengthening immigration laws, transportation conflicts, property tax cuts, and Texas' evolving natural resources. I am very pleased to report that the Legislature was successful in meeting these challenges and am proud to have been a part of this historic time for Texas!

Among other bills, I am proud to have co-authored a bill that enables senior citizens and the disabled to participate in property tax reduction. Further, I supported policies to ensure that the TAKS test will be replaced, the Trans-Texas Corridor will be revised, and Texans will be legally allowed to use force to protect their homes. Finally, I joint-authored a bill that allows an elective course in public schools covering the Bible.

My legislative package was very dedicated to the people in Northeast Texas. I am excited and proud to tell you about the bills that I authored and passed - including steroid testing for student athletes, limited liability/consumer protections for propane companies and consumers, protecting the Second Amendment Rights of foster families, and incentives for capital investment firms to come to Hunt, Rains, and Van Zandt Counties.

As always, it is my honor and privilege to serve you and may God bless you and this great state of Texas!

Sincerely,

Dan Flynn

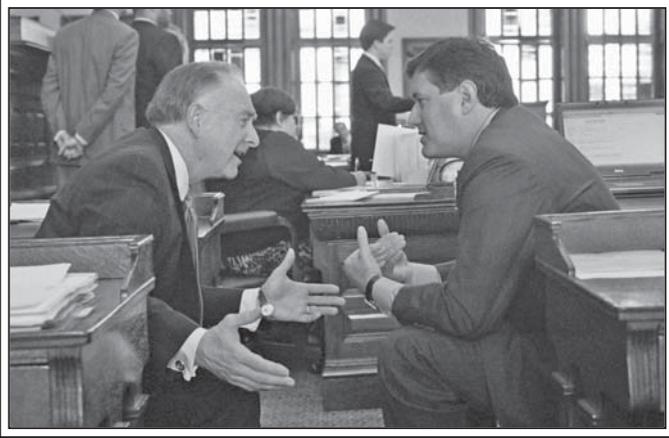


Sunset Advisory Commission
Committees:

Vice-Chair, Financial Institutions, State Affairs
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The State's Budget for 2008-2009



Representative Flynn works hard with other members to make positive changes for Texas.

The Legislature passed the state's \$150 billion budget for 2008-09 with incredible compromises between both chambers and a very conservative undertone. The budget, as passed, remains fiscally conservative and its growth remains within the growth of inflation. I am proud to be part of a majority that ensures such government expenditures have grown only three percent on average. This budget, passed in a time of record surpluses, will nonetheless show similar fiscal discipline.

The budget includes pay raises for teachers and state employees, \$100 million in funding for teacher excellence in higher education. It fully funds Medicaid and CHIP caseload growth, provides a huge boost for Texas' struggling trauma care hospitals, and includes significant new funding for homeland security efforts on the border and elsewhere.

HB 1 allocates a record amount to fund education, increasing the percentage of state funding in that area dramatically. Another bill, HB 2, will spend \$14.2 billion to subsidize local property tax cuts.

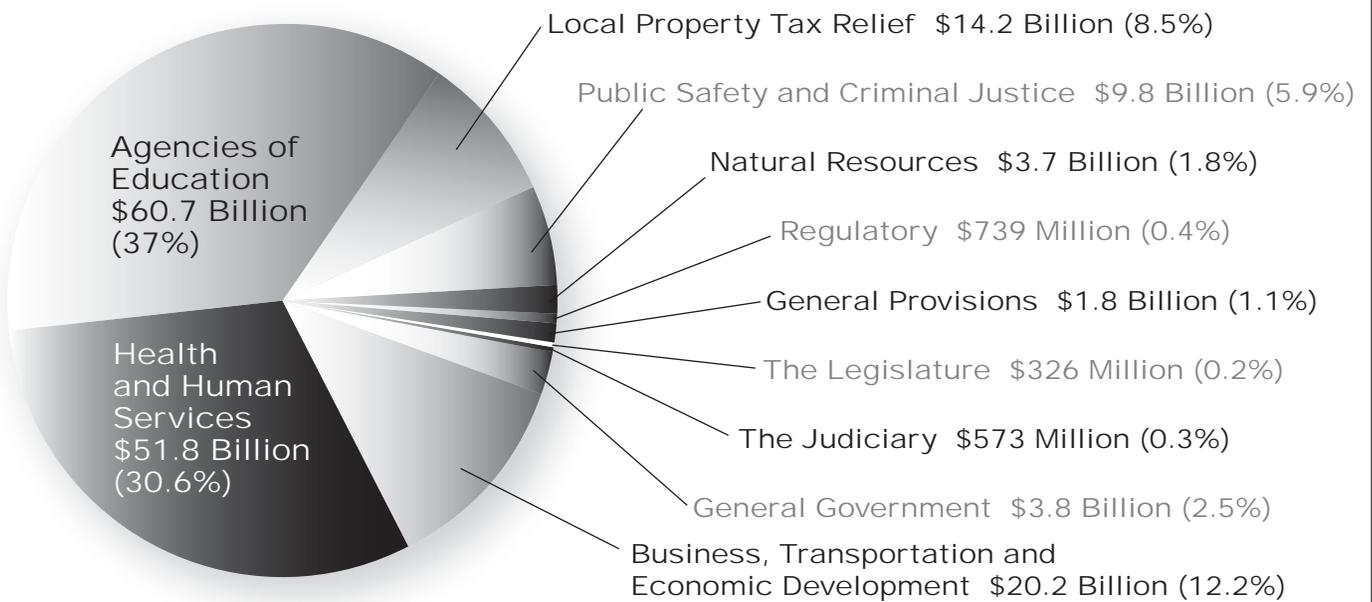
Most importantly, the legislature avoided the temptation to splurge with its record surplus, instead sending the surplus where it belongs – back to the taxpayers. Members refreshed the state's rainy day fund and left billions of dollars unspent. That money – \$3.5 billion – will be set aside to help pay for the 2006 property tax cuts, which are just now kicking in.



Representative Flynn gathers with other East Texas House Members to discuss the State's Budget. Flynn was intent on keeping the state living within its means while putting away funds for future property tax reductions.



2008 - 2009 Budget





Reforms to Improve Texas and House District 2



House District 2 enjoyed its most successful Session yet, thanks to Representative Flynn's dedication and reasonable yet aggressive approach to protecting his constituents.

Select Bills from Flynn's Legislative Package

House Bill 73, Identity Theft Bill: Criminalizes the act of fraudulently obtaining a person's telephone records - an act which is commonly used by private investigators to expose a person's personal calls, and then often sold to third party identity theft companies, used to telemarket and steal identities for financial gain.

SB 8, Steroid Testing Bill: Requires mandatory, random steroid testing of high school athletes.

HB 1170, Propane Consumer Safety/Limited Liability Bill: Protects propane companies from frivolous lawsuits by stating that if you modify your propane tank and cause damages, the propane company cannot be held liable if in fact it was not negligent. Requires propane companies to post consumer warnings of the danger and injuries that modifying an LPG tank can cause, and that calling a professional is recommended.



Rep. Flynn speaking at the front microphone on the floor of the Texas House of Representatives.

SB 322, Second Amendment Protections to Foster Families: prohibits the State from removing foster children from lawful gun owners who serve as foster families to children in need.

HB 1741, Investment in Rural Texas: brings private capital investment companies into Texas and sets up a tax-credit program for qualified investment companies should they invest in certain business in needy, underserved areas. Helps entrepreneurs, small start-ups, and rural areas gain an edge in the business world and brings money to needy areas.

HB 4082, Hunt County Court at Law: creates a second Hunt County Court at Law.

HB 4139, Van Zandt County Court: creates a County Court at Law in Van Zandt County

HCR 136, Recognizing the Ghostriders: designates the Ghostriders as the official Drill Team of Texas - a rodeo drill team from Canton.



Key Bills that Flynn Joint and Co-Authored



Religious Freedom in Texas: Representative Flynn helped author three significant bills concerning religious expression and freedom. House Bill 1034 added the words "under God" to the Texas pledge. House Bill 1287 allows an elective course on the Bible to be offered in Texas schools. House Bill 3678 permits students to voluntarily express religious freedom viewpoints in public schools, and to add to a discussion on art, literature, science, or other subjects in which the free expression of religious views has previously been excluded. All three bills were signed by Governor Perry and are now effective.

Senior Tax Cut Bill: House Bill 5, Joint-Authored by Representative Flynn, is the enabling legislation that authorizes senior citizens and the disabled, with frozen taxes, to receive the same property tax reduction other Texas taxpayers received in the special session (2006). This bill was signed by Governor Perry and is now effective.

Mortgage Fraud Protection: House Bill 716, Joint-Authored by Representative Flynn provides prosecutors, agencies and law enforcement the tools necessary to fight fraudulent conduct in the mortgage lending process. With foreclosure rates on the rise and abusive tendencies in the mortgage industry, this bill is a forward step in the process to protect homebuyers. This bill was signed by Governor Perry and is now effective.



Rep. Flynn's Voting Snapshot



<p>Strengthening penalties for convicted child molesters (SB 8)</p>	<p>Flynn Vote YES</p>	<p>Explanation - I am committed to protecting children from those who harm them. This bill established severe penalties for those who commit sexual offenses against young children and allows the death penalty to be pursued for a second offense. The bill provides minimum sentences of 25 years imprisonment for anyone convicted of a sexually violent offense committed against a child under 14 years of age.</p>
<p>Establishing in law that you may use deadly force to protect yourself or your property (SB 378)</p>	<p>Flynn Vote YES</p>	<p>Explanation - I believe firmly in establishing laws that give you the right to defend yourself with force against a criminal who forcibly enters your home, place of business, or vehicle. This bill provides that you no longer have a duty to retreat.</p>
<p>Amending welfare programs to require proof of citizenship be shown to receive public assistance</p>	<p>Flynn Vote YES and Authored</p>	<p>Throughout the 80th Session, there were several attempts to compel the state to verify that illegal aliens not be beneficiaries of welfare programs. I am dedicated to ensuring that taxpayer-funded programs only be available to those that respect our international border, follow our laws, and responsibly pay taxes. Unfortunately, the citizenship requirements were not added to law, and I must continue to work to ensure only legal citizens are eligible for welfare programs funded by you, the taxpayer.</p>
<p>Allowing casinos in Texas</p>	<p>Flynn Vote NO</p>	<p>The Legislature saw several attempts to bring casino gambling to Texas and expand gaming activities. I cannot support measures that will exploit our state in the name of gambling tourism and that will bring harm to the communities in which the casinos will be built. Hard and true evidence shows that the states with legal casinos have downtrodden schools, high poverty levels, and broken homes.</p>
<p>Granting illegal aliens in-state tuition</p>	<p>Flynn Vote NO</p>	<p>I opposed the notion that illegal aliens deserve to pay in-state tuition to universities, while out-of-state legal citizens are forced to pay hiked tuition rates. It seems entirely unfair to me that law-abiding citizens who wish to come to Texas for their college education are forced to pay thousands of additional dollars in tuition, while illegal aliens are permitted to pay in-state tuition. Despite my best efforts, illegal aliens are currently allowed to attend Texas universities at a lowered rate than a U.S. Citizen. I am committed to working to eliminating any benefits extended to those that live here illegally.</p>
<p>Homeland Security</p>	<p>Flynn Vote YES</p>	<p>Border security is by far one of the most important issues I dealt with this Session, as I know how crucial it is to House District 2, as well as all of Texas. I supported an initiative that allocates \$100 million for border security and sets up a border security council to ensure fiscal accountability. The money will primarily be used for suppression of drug trafficking and criminal activity.</p>
<p>Retired Teachers</p>	<p>Flynn Vote YES</p>	<p>I value the years of service teachers dedicate to the youth of Texas and the community as a whole. Because of the high esteem with which I regard retired teachers, I used my experience from past Sessions to help pass bills that restore the Teacher Retirement System to actuarial soundness and provide additional money to retired teachers. Inflation and cost-of-living has placed an unfair burden on retired teachers, so I supported bills this past Session to provide for them an thirteenth check.</p>



House District 2 Visits the Capitol!



HUNT COUNTY DAY

On March 7, delegates from Hunt County visited the Capitol and spent some quality time expressing the needs of Greenville and its surrounding areas to statewide officials. Specifically, developments to I-30, necessary court restructuring, and issues surrounding a sewage site in Lone Oak were highlighted amongst other initiatives to improve life in Hunt County.



Rep. Flynn is shown introducing locally elected officials to Speaker Craddick on the House Floor.

RAINS COUNTY DAY

Representative Flynn hosted a group from Rains County on March 27. The day was filled with informative meetings with state agencies, where information was provided in an intimate setting on issues such as rural development and State Parks. A dinner was held and Representative Flynn's Chief of Staff addressed the group, discussing water issues, unfunded mandates, and economic development.



Speaker Craddick and Representative Flynn took time to meet with the Rains County Elected officials during their visit to the House Floor.

VAN ZANDT COUNTY DAY

Van Zandt County's representatives traveled to Austin on March 14 to express to Representative Flynn its needs for Canton, Van, and the surrounding areas. Such issues as additional courts and emergency funding for roads were discussed, as well as introductions on both the House and Senate Floors.



Texas State Guard & Rep. Flynn



Representative Flynn was sworn into the Texas State Guard. The Texas State Guard provides the following services in times of emergency: shelter management, shelter control, shelter operations, medical services, assist local authorities in mass feedings, volunteer coordination, legal support, communications, and chaplain services.

Specifically, as a Lieutenant Commander in The Texas State Guard Maritime Regiment, Flynn will provide the Governor, the Adjutant General of Texas and the Commander, Texas State Guard with Mission ready, volunteer personnel for operations in the maritime, littoral, and riverine environment in support of Homeland Defense and in response to man-made or natural disasters.



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Dan Flynn

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Representative Flynn is shown receiving his Committee Vice Chairman's Gavel from Speaker of the House Tom Craddick. Flynn was appointed Vice Chairman of the House Committee on Financial Institutions by Speaker Craddick.



DAN FLYNN
DISTRICT 2

CAPITOL REPORT
ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
THE 80TH LEGISLATURE
2007 SESSION

★ **Contact Rep. Flynn** ★

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