

**TRAVIS
CLARDY**
TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

— LATEST NEWS & EVENTS —

Recent News



This week the House Committee on County Affairs heard House Bill 1247, our Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital bill, which would allow the hospital to employ physicians directly . Our efforts were substantially bolstered by the great many people in our corner. I was honored to have the expressed support of over 20 doctors from our District as well as the Texas Organization of Rural & Community Hospitals, the Texas Hospital Association, and the Texas Association of Business as we made our case for this very important local issue. We even received a very impassioned letter from a doctor in Oregon who stated that the only reason she chose to practice in the Northeast was because Nacogdoches Memorial could not provide the incentives and job security she needed to stay. Examples like this illustrate why our state should maintain its commitment to sound economic principles. We must competently utilize the tools of the free market to let capitalism work its natural wonders and yield the best services; for it is only when we restrict ourselves that we obstruct the pathway to unfettered growth and success.

There are those who have expressed concern that our bill could compromise the independent medical judgment of doctors and lead to an environment where the hospital tells the doctor how to treat the patient. I share these concerns and believe that we should take every step to protect the doctor-patient relationship. That is why H.B. 1247 was designed to ensure that the doctors we hire can meet the specific needs of each patient without administrators telling them how to practice medicine. I believe that doctors know what's best for their patients and I want the best doctors coming to our District.

These are the reasons why I believe in Tim's vision for Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital and why I choose to fight for H.B. 1247.

Congratulations to the Douglass Boys' Basketball Team in the State playoff game last Saturday. They did not win, but they fought hard in their first appearance to the UIL State Championship.

Good luck to the Stephen F. Austin Lumberjacks Mens' Basketball Team as they play Southeastern Louisiana tonight at 5 PM in order to win their 5th trip to the tournament title game!

Coming Up

In the next week, we will begin to analyze and debate the state budget. Also, the plan to fund our state water needs, authored by Chairman Ritter, will be coming up for a floor vote in the next few weeks.

To keep up with what's going on in your Capitol please check my state [website](#). Also, you can keep track of legislation, bill analyses, witness lists, and committee hearings from both the House and Senate sides [here](#).