Friends,

The temperature is heating up and summer will be upon us in no time. As the 2011-2012 school year wraps up, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the graduating seniors on your academic success and wish you all the best for your future. An education can open so many doors for you. I would also like to take this opportunity to express how proud I am of my nephew, Dalbert Chen, he is graduating from RISD’s Berkner High School at the very top of his class. The public school system has done so many wonderful things for me and my entire family. Educators, thank you so much for all you do for our state!

Elections

Many of you have asked questions about upcoming elections. I will do my best to address some of the more frequent questions my office has received. For the most current and complete information concerning elections, please visit http://www.sos.state.tx.us/.

Local Elections

Local elections will be held May 12th. Ballot information varies from city to city but can be found by visiting http://www.dalcoelections.org/.

Primary Elections

Democratic and Republican primary elections will be held on May 29th. Early voting for the May 29, 2012 Primary Election runs Mon. May 14th - Fri. May 25th. The last day to apply for ballot by mail for the May 29, 2012 Primary Election (received, not postmarked) is Tues. May 22nd, 2012. If you have any confusion about where to vote, the Secretary of State’s website will be helpful.

Bogus Email Regarding May 12th Local Elections

The May 12th Election is for local elections only, there is no statewide proposition on the ballot. Recently, questions about a statewide constitutional amendment election involving the homestead
property tax exemption have arisen as the result of a bogus email in circulation highlighting false information.

The source of the email is not known, nor is the motive for circulating it to voters. If you receive an email claiming such a proposition is on the ballot, please disregard it and do not forward it to help stop the spread of this false information.

Voter Identification

In past newsletters I spoke of the efforts the Texas Legislature made to protect the integrity of your vote. Unfortunately, as a result of the Department of Justice’s refusal to allow the implementation of SB 14 (Voter I.D. bill), it will not be applied to the current election. The same rules that applied the last time you voted as far as identification were concerned, still apply.

Around the District

April has been a very eventful month around HD 112. The Richardson Coalition Real Heroes Awards Reception was a great event. Thank you for all of the wonderful volunteers in the community that make Richardson such a wonderful place. I enjoyed attending the Leadership Awards Dinner, hosted by the RISD Excellence in Education Foundation. I was invited to speak at the 2012 Raindrop Turkish House Spring Festival which raised funds for tornado relief for the DFW area. I was honored to be the keynote speaker at the Irving International Women's Consortium Dinner where I emphasized the importance of being a responsible citizen in this great country. I was glad to be a part of these two wonderful events. The Richardson Retired School Personnel "Meet and Greet" was very informative and full of wonderful people.

I really enjoyed the UT Dallas Outstanding Alumni’s Awards Dinner in Richardson. UTD has done a great job to nurture leadership in our region on a global level. It was terrific seeing so many friendly faces at the 23rd Annual Taste of Garland sponsored by Garland Crime Stoppers. Both the 3rd Annual Rowlett Allies Dinner where Mayor Gottel spoke of Rowlett’s future plans for economic growth and the 33rd Annual Rowlett Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner were really great events that gave me the opportunity to visit with the great constituents of HD 112 and to hear about their concerns. Earlier this week I attended the Hope Clinic Prayer Breakfast. This wonderful group of physicians, nurses, and volunteer health care professionals give unselfishly of their time to provide a high level of quality services to the working poor population and children in our community.

This month I hosted my quarterly roundtable meetings on April 20th and 21st. We had 12 roundtables during these two days. It was a wonderful couple of days where constituents were able to share with me what is happening in the district, discuss each roundtable's respective interim charges, and get more insight on how I can help our community at the state level. We are so happy to have citizens from Rowlett and Sachse join with our Garland and Richardson constituents to share perspectives from all of House District 112. We will hold our last two roundtables, Neighborhoods and Multicultural, next week on May 11th. Below are some photos from my roundtables and other events I went to around the district.
Here I am with my Technology Roundtable members. Back row left to right: Doug Moore, Andres Ruzo, Dr. Thomas Linehan, Hubert Zajicek, Representative Button, Rick Spurr, Michael Kopp, Solyman Ashrafi, Bill Sproul, and Don Tuttle. Front row left to right: Dr. Kenneth O, Dr. Joseph Picken, Dr. Dennis Robbins, J. Bankston, and Robyn Kelley.

I enjoyed meeting Jimmy Mansour (to my right) and Bill Gimson (to my left) from the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT).
I was honored to present this resolution to the Richardson City Council, congratulating the City of Richardson for being named the most bike friendly city in the Metroplex in 2011 according to Bike Friendly Oak Cliff. This is one of the many reasons Richardson is such a wonderful place to live and do business. Next to me is Richardson Mayor Bob Townsend. Sitting above from left to right are: Richardson City Councilman Kendal Hartley, Richardson City Manager Bill Keffler, and Richardson Mayor Pro Tempore Laura Maczka.

I also presented a resolution to the Rowlett City Council this Tuesday, congratulating the City of Rowlett’s Police Department for being recognized as a finalist for the 2011 International Association of Chiefs of Police/Cisco Community Policing Award. Furthest to my right is Rowlett Mayor Todd Gottel and to my left next to me is Rowlett Police Chief William F. Brodnax.
It is an honor to serve as your State Representative. Please let me know if I can ever be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Angie Chen Button

If you would like to be added or removed from this mailing, please e-mail Angie.Button@house.state.tx.us.