

Dear Friends,

I hope you and your family have stayed warm during this winter weather! I was able to make it down to Austin on Monday before the weather got too bad so while it wasn't a normal week at the Capitol, it was still a productive one.

I was especially grateful to connect online with over 60 retired educators from our District on Wednesday. We discussed the issues important to them and I reiterated my strong commitment to support our active and retired teachers.



HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW IN TEXAS

As session rolls on, I wanted to make sure you were aware of the process of how a bill becomes law and how you can register to receive real-time updates on bills that are important to you.

The 140-day legislative process has many steps. From the introduction of a bill to its delivery to the Governor's desk, check out this flow chart so you know how a bill becomes a law in Texas. For even more information on this process, visit house.texas.gov/about-us/bill/.

How a bill becomes a law in Texas Introduction BILLS CAN BE INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE, A LEGISLATOR MUST FILE A BILL WITH THE CHIEF CLERK FIRST, A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF Committee THE BILL IS READ ON THE HOUSE FLOOR, AND IT IS THEN REFERRED TO A COMMITTEE. IN COMMITTEE, MEMBERS LISTEN TO TESTIMONY AND DISCUSS ISSUES THAT PERTAIN TO THE BILL. IF A MAJORITY OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS Floor Action APPROVE, THE BILL MOVES TO THE HOUSE FLOOR. THE BILL IS READ FOR A SECOND TIME AND THE BILL IS THEN DEBATED. AMENDMENTS MAY BE ADOPTED TO CHANGE THE BILL IF THERE ARE **Bill Sent to** ENOUGH VOTES. A BILL OR RESOLUTION MUST Governor PASS ON SECOND AND THIRD READING BEFORE IT GOES TO THE SENATE CHAMBER FOR IF THE BILL IS APPROVED BY BOTH THE HOUSE AND APPROVAL. SENATE, IT GOES TO THE GOVERNOR'S DESK FOR HIS SIGNATURE, OFFICIALLY MAKING THE BILL LAW. THE GOVERNOR HAS 10 DAYS TO VETO THE BILL OR ALLOW IT TO BECOME A LAW WITHOUT SIGNATURE.

I also encourage you to visit <u>Texas Legislature Online</u> and follow the steps to help track bills you are interested in during the Legislative Session. By signing up for legislative alerts, you have the opportunity to receive real-time updates as bills move throughout the lawmaking process. It is an incredibly useful tool available to the public and is one that we highly recommend to constituents.

We expect committee assignments to come out any day now and as soon as they do, I'll be sure to update you!

Until then, I hope you have a great (and warm) weekend!

All My Best,

Jell Jak

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