



Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you and your family doing well! There was a lot happening down at the Capitol this week including the announcement of committee assignments by Speaker Phelan.

I am honored to continue my service as Chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence and also looking forward to serving on the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence. The House Committee on Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence oversees the judicial system in Texas as well civil procedures and laws. The House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence is charged with overseeing criminal law and procedure as well as probation, parole and the penal code.

It is not lost on me the tremendous responsibility I have to lead the House Judiciary Committee to ensure the Texas Justice system is fair, open, transparent and reliable and a beacon for the rest of the Nation. I look forward to locking arms and working diligently with my House colleagues and Committee members to strengthen the rule of law and to protect the Constitutional rights, freedoms and liberties of the Texans we are elected to serve.

To learn more about these committees or the other 32 committees and 2 select committees, visit [this page on the Texas House website](#).

THE FIRST 60 DAYS OF SESSION

Did you know that the Texas Constitution limits the business conducted by the Legislature during the first 60 days? The first thirty days of each legislative session are devoted to the introduction of bills and resolutions. Legislators may also act upon emergency appropriations and any emergency matters submitted by the Governor to the Legislature. During the succeeding thirty days, the various committees of the Texas House will hold hearings to consider bills and resolutions and other matters. Once the first sixty days elapse, legislators

are able to act upon bills and resolutions through debates on the House floor, votes, and sending legislation to the Governor's desk.

THIS WEEK AT THE TEXAS CAPITOL

We had another busy week in our office meeting with constituents, advocacy groups and other legislators as we continue to develop policies and file bills.

I was especially grateful to welcome back the students from Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic School in New Braunfels. This group of students is smart and quick-witted and they show us why the future of Texas looks bright!



I also had the privilege of meeting with some members of Prison Fellowship. These men (and women) minister to people who are incarcerated, advocate for justice reform, care for prisoners' families, and prepare prisoners for reentry. I'm proud of the work they are doing, and I'm amazed by their strength and passion for their calling.



It was great to speak at Texas Public Policy Foundation's Right on Crime Event as well. As Chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence as well as serving on the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence, I see firsthand the importance of creating an environment in Texas where those that have served their time – who have paid their debt to society – can re-enter the workforce and rejoin their families in a manner that builds up our communities and reduces recidivism. I'm eager to lock arms with my fellow legislators to help tear down some of the bureaucratic red tape that is a hindrance to this cause and pass legislation that provides second chances for well-deserving Texans.



As always, my door is open and I would love to see you down in Austin. Please stop by anytime!

All My Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jeff Leach'.

Jeff Leach

Capitol Office
Room GN.11
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 463-0544 Phone

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