Dear House District 93,

Greetings! My name is Matt Krause and I am your state representative for House District 93.

It has been a pleasure to serve you in the Texas Legislature striving to make our great state even better. During the 83rd Texas Legislative Session, my colleagues and I worked to do just that and passed several bills into law, affecting our district and our state. We passed legislation to address key issues in our state, especially education, and transportation, and water. This newsletter serves to give you information on a few of these laws that were passed so that you may be better informed on what your Legislature did in the first half of 2013.

Also included in this newsletter is important information in regards to the requirement of a photo ID when you vote, such as which photo IDs are acceptable, how you can get an acceptable ID, who needs to use them, and how to update your voter registration.

If you have any questions on legislation or if you have ideas on how we can better serve House District 93, please contact my Capitol office at (512) 463-0562 or the district office at (817) 847-4900.

Sincerely,

Matt Krause
State Representative
House District 93

Committees: County Affairs • Special Purpose Districts
In 2011, the Texas Legislature passed the voter ID law (SB 14) that requires voters to have photo identification when casting a ballot in person. The law was held up in the judicial system until the U.S. Supreme Court issued its opinion in Shelby County v. Holder. As a result, all litigation was dropped against the law and voters are now required to present an ID to be permitted to cast a ballot in person.

With the exception of the U.S. citizen certificate, the identification must be current or have expired no more than 60 days before being presented at the polling place.

Election Identification Certificates are available from DPS for eligible voters who do not have any of the other approved forms of ID. There is no fee for an Election Identification Certificate. More information is available at: [www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/electionID.htm](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/electionID.htm)

This photo ID requirement is only for voters casting a ballot in person. Registered voters age 65 and older and those with a disability may vote by mail in any election.

Election officials are encouraging voters to update their voter registration to reflect the names of their IDs. Voters may use IDs that do not exactly match the name on their voter registrations if the names are substantially similar but will have to sign an affidavit stating they are the same person.

Voters may look up their registrations at [Votetexas.gov](http://Votetexas.gov). If their name is not an exact match, they can update their voter registration online through Votetexas.gov or call 1 (800) 252-VOTE for more information.
EDUCATION

Senate Bill 2 (SB 2): Since 1995 public charter schools have served many students in Texas. Laws have not been updated since 1995, though, to increase the cap on the number of charter schools and the regulations that govern them. SB 2 provides a progressive scale to raise the cap over the years and to overhaul the laws relating to authorizing, governing, and establishing charter schools in Texas.

House Bill 5 (HB 5): During the 83rd Legislature there was a strong desire to bring much needed reform to our public education system. HB 5 provides many of those reforms:

- Transforms the current structure by creating a single diploma (from 3) and enabling students to pursue their own interests through diploma endorsements.
- Reduces the emphasis on testing by decreasing the number of end-of-course exams required for graduation. This gives students more instructional time in the classroom instead of more days spent on high-stakes standardized tests.
- Institutes school ratings that provide a clearer understanding of a school's overall performance.
- Updates current law concerning public school accountability, assessment, and curriculum requirements for high school graduation.

OTHER NOTABLE BILLS

HB 500: Temporarily decreases the rates of the franchise tax, providing a $1.1 billion cut in taxes for small businesses.

SB 21: Requires individuals who apply for unemployment benefits to undergo a drug test. Only applicants who fail a pre-screen test and work in certain identified industries will be tested. Those who refuse the drug test or fail such tests won't receive unemployment insurance benefits until they pass the drug test at least 4 weeks after the initial test.

SB 8: Enhances the state's ability to detect and prevent fraud, waste, and abuse in Medicaid and the health and human services system, thus ensuring that public funds are used for services on individuals that truly need them.

HB 2268: Under federal law, law enforcement agencies don't need a warrant to access a person's emails if they are older than 180 days. HB 2268 raises the bar on the state level by requiring state and local law enforcement officers to get a warrant before they can access a person's emails - regardless of how old they are, providing a needed protection for Texans' electronic privacy.

HB 291 - Places restrictions on the use of drones by law enforcement for surveillance purposes. This requires law enforcement to get a warrant when using drones for surveillance, giving a much needed protection against civil liberties violations as drones are used more prevalently in law enforcement.

SB 398 - Ensures that the NCAA will continue to be eligible for the state's Major Events Trust Fund. By amending current law this continues to allow the Cotton Bowl (in House District 93) to be a location used for BCS games for many years to come.

Representative Krause speaking on the House Floor

Representative Krause with Representative Sylvester Turner
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State Representative
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District 93 • How Can We Help?

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MATT KRAUSE
State Representative

District 93 Map