



Serving the counties of District 2:

Kaufman, Navarro, Rockwall, Van Zandt and parts of Dallas, Ellis and Collin County

Special Session Coming to an End

But the Texas Senate Is Still Working for You

The end of the First Called Special Session of 2025 is in sight, but the Texas Senate did its job by passing all 16 items on the Governor's list. Unfortunately, House Democrats fled the state, leaving their duties, families, and constituents in the lurch. The Senate remained in the Capitol, committed to delivering results for Texans.

Texans expect their elected legislators to get the job done—and that is exactly what the Senate did. I came back to Austin because our work is not finished. Whether it is cutting your property taxes, protecting the unborn, or making sure we are better prepared for the next extreme weather event, I will never stop fighting for you and your family.

To that end, I am proud to report that we in the Senate moved to pass a bold slate of legislation focused on safety, smart policy and investments, and accountability.

These bills represent just a snapshot of the legislation we have successfully passed out of the Texas Senate during the first called special session—each designed to strengthen our state, protect our communities, and uphold our shared values. From natural disaster readiness to defending life, these measures reflect a broad range of priorities for Texans. [SB 1](#) enhances natural disaster preparation and recovery efforts, while [SB 2](#) improves flood emergency communications and [SB 3](#) directs relief funding to flood-prone areas in the Hill Country. [SB 4](#) updates congressional district lines in compliance with statutory and constitutional parameters, and [SB 5](#) bans unregulated synthetic THC products to protect youth and communities from dangerous substances. [SB 6](#), the Defense of Unborn Children Act, reaffirms Texas's commitment to life, and [SB 7](#) protects women's privacy in public facilities and sports. Education reform is advanced through [SB 8](#), which eliminates the STAAR test to restore local control, and [SB 9](#) delivers property tax relief for families. [SB 10](#) provides greater protections and support for victims of human trafficking, while [SB 11](#) strengthens election safeguards by clarifying the Attorney General's role. [SB 12](#) bans taxpayer-funded lobbying by local governments, and [SB 13](#) promotes investment in critical water infrastructure. Property rights are defended through [SB 15](#), which combats deed fraud and title theft, while [SB 16](#), the Judicial Omnibus bill, streamlines court operations to better deliver justice across Texas while adding Rockwall and Ellis County courts for Senate District 2. Together, these measures showcase the Senate's commitment to protecting Texans, securing our freedoms, and building a stronger future for our state.

While [SB 14](#) was passed by the Senate, I voted **against** this bill because I believe secrecy in government should be limited to issues involving national security, not a tool to protect bad actors. All government records should be accessible to the public when requested. Transparency and accountability in government are cornerstones of a free society, and they should never become casualties of government action. The public has the right to know how their government operates, and limiting access to records—regardless of the subject—undermines that principle.



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Unfortunately, if the House does not move on these items by Friday, October 15th, the Governor intends to call us back for a second special session to address them again.

Stay Engaged: Your voice matters. If you have thoughts on any of these bills, reply to this email or contact my office. Together, we are building a stronger, safer, and freer Texas. **Promises Made are Promises Kept.**

For Texas and Liberty,

– Senator Bob Hall
Texas Senate District 2



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EMINENT DOMAIN UPDATE

Protecting Your Property Rights

Texans deserve clear and consistent protections when it comes to private property. Right now, a provision in state law may allow cities to seize land outside their jurisdiction—or even partner with other government entities to do so.

It is wrong for a government entity to take property from individuals who have no recourse in voting them out and keeping them accountable to their actions.

That is why I filed SB 70: to ensure that no city or political subdivision can use eminent domain beyond its boundaries.

This bill is about accountability and protecting landowners from government overreach.

EAST TEXAS WATER UPDATE

Defending Our Water & Property Rights

The Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer is critical to East Texas—but recent filings for permits could threaten its future. Overuse risks water shortages, higher costs, and harm to agriculture and local ecosystems.

To protect our communities, I filed SB 57, 58, and 59 to:

Require regional approval for large groundwater transfers

Limit excessive groundwater export permits

Protect landowners' rights to responsibly access water on their property

Texans deserve strong protections for both water and land—and I will keep fighting for them.



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ELECTIONS UPDATE

Election officials are already busy getting up to speed for the coming election season. During the recent Regular Legislative Session, I authored Senate Bill 2753, which achieved some major wins for the integrity and security of our elections. This new law:

Overhauls early voting in Texas by removing the four-day gap between early voting and Election Day — similar to at least 20 other states;

Allows local counties to determine which voting locations they want opened during early voting;

Provides that zero and tally tapes are run and printed before the start of voting and when the polls are closed on election day, resulting in a more secure tabulation procedure;

Allows for the continuous use of a single set of machines; and

Becomes effective when the Secretary of State (SoS) determines the procedures are in place for implementation, but no later than 2027.

Bill drafters from the Texas Legislative Council worked closely with the SoS, who is charged with the proper conduct of elections, to ensure that counties will have the necessary direction and processes needed to implement this legislation.