



June 30, 2020

EDITION - 16



On July 4, 1776, our forefathers, who formed the Continental Congress, adopted the Declaration of Independence to officially declare our separation from the British monarchy. America was born that day, and the world would never be the same.

Our nation was founded on the principles of freedom, limited government, equality before the law, and the opportunity for each citizen to pursue happiness - rights our Founding Fathers recognized as "inalienable rights" granted to all by God, not by government. In establishing our new nation, the Framers understood our natural rights would not be safe if they chose to establish another monarchy. Recognizing that even the best among us are far from perfect, the Framers set out to create a new, unique system of government that never allows one person or one body of government to become too powerful, thus jeopardizing our rights. Unlike other governments, America's framework is designed to protect the natural rights of our citizenry, rather than creating a ruling class to dictate the actions, thoughts, and movements of its people. In spite of our flaws and mistakes, America has prospered and achieved more while providing its citizens with more opportunities than any other nation or civilization in the history of the world.

This Independence Day, let us celebrate our unique heritage and history that has created freedom and opportunity for people not only in our country, but for people across the globe. Let us listen and learn from our history - the good and the bad -

so that those lessons may lead us to unite as Americans and stand together in support of liberty and justice for all.



STATE OF TEXAS UPDATES

Governor's Executive Orders

Last Friday (June 26), Governor Greg Abbott announced that he will pause any further action to reopen Texas, and he issued an executive order to limit certain businesses and services in an effort to reduce the spread of COVID -19. His orders include the following:

- Close all bars and other establishments that receive more than 51% of their gross receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages. These businesses may, however, remain open to offer delivery and take-out services, including alcoholic beverages, as authorized by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.
- Dining services for customers at restaurants may not exceed 50% of the total indoor occupancy.
- Rafting and tubing businesses must close.
- Local governments must approve outdoor gatherings of 100 or more people, with certain exceptions.

Additionally, the Governor issued a [proclamation](#) today to limit elective surgeries at hospitals in Cameron, Hidalgo, Nueces, and Webb counties adding to [his previous executive order](#) that includes Dallas, Bexar, Harris, and Travis counties.

Texas Health and Human Services Commission Receives Federal Funding for Infection Control in Texas Nursing Homes

[The Texas Health and Human Services Commission \(HHSC\)](#) along with Governor Abbott announced that Texas received \$9 million in federal funding for projects to protect nursing home residents and staff from COVID-19. Nursing facility providers may submit applications to HHSC starting July 1 to receive funds to assist with infection control resources including:

- Thermometer and temperature scanning equipment for staff and residents.
- Decontamination and disinfecting systems.
- Plexiglass barriers or portable walls to ensure social distancing and droplet protection.
- N95 fit-test equipment.
- Microbe-resistant flooring and wall coverings.

Texas Armed Service Scholarship Program

My office is currently accepting applications for the [Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program \(TASSP\)](#). Interested applicants should be constituents of Senate District 8 and send a completed application, resume, and a letter outlining future goals to my district office (604 S. Watters Road, Suite 100; Allen, Texas 75013) or by email (Angela.Paxton@senate.texas.gov) on or before July 31, 2020.

TASSP is a program created by the Legislature in 2009 to encourage students to complete a baccalaureate degree and become a commissioned member of the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, Texas State Guard, U.S. Coast Guard, or U.S. Merchant Marine or become a commissioned officer in any branch of the U.S. armed services. Each legislative office has the opportunity to award a single scholarship each year for a college student who is in an ROTC program and meets the academic performance requirement.

To apply, please visit my Senate webpage and [click here](#) for a copy of the application and instructions.

DISTRICT INFORMATION AND ACCOLADES

Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Plano earned a Level II Designation - Primary Stroke Facility. The Texas Department of State Health Services offered the hospital a two year designation as a formal recognition of its trauma care capabilities for stroke patients and to show the facility's dedication to improving, expediting, and standardizing the care of stroke patients.

Thank you, Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital of Plano for providing quality care to meet the needs of stroke victims in our community.

2020 Primary Runoff Election

July 14, 2020 is the new Primary Runoff Election date. This election was originally scheduled for May 26, 2020 and later postponed by Governor Abbott as a result of

the pandemic. Early voting runs from Monday, June 29, 2020 through Friday, July 10, 2020. For times, sample ballots, and polling locations, [click here for Collin County](#) and [click here for Dallas County](#).

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The event will be **LIVE** on
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Once the live virtual event ends, candidates will be able to view your company's information and express interest in your open positions until July 10th at 5:00pm CST.

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JULY 9
10AM-4PM

CAREER FAIR
JULY 9
10AM-4PM

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Our previous Virtual Career Fair attracted **more than 2,000 professionals** from across the North Central Texas region. Don't miss out on the opportunity to interact with, interview and hire the talent you need. Apply for your **FREE** exhibit booth by clicking the button below.

COVID-19 RELATED INFORMATION

COVID-19 Testing Sites

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) maintains a list of COVID-19 in-person and drive-thru screening and antibody testing sites. [Click here](#) to find testing locations near you.

For more information about testing, please visit [DSHS' COVID-19 Testing Information site](#).

State and Local COVID-19 Case Numbers

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is [tracking COVID-19 cases](#) and updates its site with the latest information each day.

- Texas has 153,011 confirmed cases of COVID-19 out of 1,819,189 viral and antibody tests. An estimated 81,335 individuals have recovered.
- There are 2,763 confirmed cases of COVID-19 involving Collin County residents out of 44,400 viral and antibody tests. An estimated 2,096 individuals have recovered.
- There are 20,165 confirmed cases of COVID-19 involving Dallas County residents out of 177,725 tests. An estimated 12,713 individuals have recovered.

*These numbers are as of June 28, 2020.