

KELLY HANCOCK Texas State Senator District 9

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## Senator Hancock files Major Event Trust Fund legislation

AUSTIN-- Texas State Senator Kelly Hancock today filed Senate Bill 398 (SB 398) which amends current law regarding the Major Events Trust Fund to ensure that the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) Division I Football Bowl Subdivision, or its successor be able to qualify for incentives through the fund.

"Major sporting events like NCAA Bowl Championship Series playoff games or the Super Bowl bring an immense amount of economic benefits to our state and local economies," Senator Hancock said. "SB 398 will ensure the NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision's eligibility to compete for these funds in the future."

Currently, Texas has four separate event trust fund programs and each is designed to support different events. The Major Events Trust Fund provides host communities assurance that the cost of preparation and construction or facility renovations to attract large events can be recouped.

State and local gains from sales and use, vehicle rental, hotel and occupancy, and alcoholic beverage taxes generated over a 12-month period from certain major athletic and non-athletic events are directed into the Major Events Trust Fund to pay for expenses incurred from hosting the event.

Large and well-attended events previously supported through the Major Events Trust Fund include the 2004 Super Bowl and the NCAA's 2004 and 2008 Men's Final Four basketball championships.

"This session we are looking at pro-business legislation that will continue to drive our state and local economies forward," Hancock said. "SB 398 will encourage robust economic growth and provide numerous benefits to Texas and its communities."

Senator Kelly Hancock represents Senate District 9, which includes portions of Tarrant and Dallas Counties. Hancock currently serves as vice chairman of the Economic Development Committee. He is a member of the Senate Administration, Business & Commerce, Transportation and Jurisprudence Committees.