

THE SENATE OF TEXAS



LOIS W. KOLKHORST

STATE SENATOR  
DISTRICT 18

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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AUSTIN - In a joint session of the House and Senate today, Governor Rick Perry gave his farewell speech to the two chambers and a packed gallery. The two chambers also took action by canvassing the vote totals for the Governor and Lieutenant Governor elections in November.

State Senator Lois W. Kolkhorst served on the Senate Canvassing Committee, where she officially canvassed the vote. Senator Kolkhorst was appointed to the Canvassing Committee during the opening day of the 84th Legislative Session.

Meeting during today's joint session of the Texas Senate and Texas House of Representatives, Kolkhorst and the Senate Canvassing Committee joined the House Canvassing Committee to review and verify the official returns from the general election. They were assisted by the State Auditor's office and the Secretary of State, who were present for the canvass.

"Open and fair elections are vital to maintain a free society," Kolkhorst said. "As someone who has stood against voter fraud for over a decade, it was a great honor for me to be a part of the canvassing process for our Governor and Lieutenant Governor."

After the canvassing and the approval in joint session, Governor Rick Perry, the longest serving governor in Texas history, addressed the session.

"In Texas, it's not about where you come from, it's about where you are going." Perry said. "There's a reason more people move to Texas than any other state... it's the land of unlimited opportunity to find a job and raise a family. We are the new frontier of freedom and opportunity, I'm proud to call Texas my home. Be true to Texas always and she will be true to you."

"Today was truly a historic moment for Texas government," Kolkhorst said. "We saw the end of an era in state politics and the beginning of a new one. The only governor I have ever served under has been Rick Perry."

The Senate Canvassing Committee was chaired by Senator Charles Schwertner (R-Georgetown), along with Paul Bettencourt (R-Houston), Sylvia Garcia (D-Houston), Larry Taylor (R-Friendswood), Carlos Uresti (R- San Antonio) along with Kolkhorst. The House Canvassing Committee was chaired by Representative Tan Parker (R- Flower Mound), along with Representatives Geanie Morrison (R-Victoria), Byron Cook (R-Corsicana), Dan Flynn (R-Canton), Eric Johnson (D-Dallas) and Sergio Munoz Jr. (D-Mission).

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