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THE SENATE OF TEXAS



LOIS W. KOLKHORST

STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 18

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senator Kolkhorst Appointed to State Budget Writing Committee

AUSTIN - Texas Lt. Governor Dan Patrick has appointed five Senators to serve on the powerful budget conference committee tasked with producing the final version of SB 1, the state's nearly \$250 billion spending bill. SB 1 is the only piece of legislation lawmakers must pass during the legislative session.

The Senate team will be led by Senate Finance Chair Jane Nelson (R-Flower Mound) and includes Senators Lois Kolkhorst (R-Brenham), Joan Huffman (R-Houston), Robert Nichols (R-Jacksonville) and Larry Taylor (R-Friendswood). The House of Representatives will soon appoint their respective conferees.

"I am honored to have been selected by Lt. Governor Patrick for this serious responsibility. Our state budget matters to every Texan and I will work hard to see that we maximize every dollar," said Senator Kolkhorst. "I am fully committed to negotiating with our House colleagues as we work together to craft a fiscally responsible state budget that is both conservative and compassionate."

The conference committee is responsible for funding the state's priorities with a balanced budget that reconciles the differences that currently exist between the Senate and House proposals. As a senior member of the Finance committee and budget writing veteran, this will be Kolkhorst's sixth time to serve on the state's influential budget conference committee.

"I know that Chair Nelson and Senators Huffman, Kolkhorst, Nichols and Taylor will make sure our state budget reflects our commitment to conservative principles including keeping the budget within population growth times inflation," said Lt. Governor Dan Patrick. "Their continued hard work will ensure that the Texas economy remains one of the strongest in the United States and a force in the rest of the world." ###