

# Senate District 24 Capitol Update: District Bills on the Move

We officially began the last month of the legislative session today. With only 28 days left, I am proud to have several bills moving through the process and hopefully bound for the Governor's desk soon!

# Securing our Border and Prosecuting Criminal Actors

This session, I was proud to Vice-Chair both the Senate Committees on Border Security and Criminal Justice, giving me a unique position to pass impactful legislation aimed at securing our border and enhancing prosecution tools against criminal enterprises. Just last week I passed two bills, SB 1248, *relating to the prosecution of the offense of smuggling of persons*, and SB 1884, *relating to identification of and sanctions against certain foreign actors*. These bills increase the criminal penalty for smuggling persons to a 10-year minimum and create a Texas Engel List that will allow the state to have a record of foreign criminals that have acted against the state.

## **Military Residency for Public School Admissions**

Just today, SB 1008, providing military families an extended period to provide proof of residency for schools, was sent to the Governor's desk! Hopefully soon I will be able to report it being signed into law. It was a privilege to work with Representative Buckley on this issue that will support our military families moving to Texas.

## **General Legislative Updates**

I'm proud to be working on over 50 pieces of legislation that will better SD-24 and the State of Texas. These bills cover several important topics from health care to property taxes to protecting our children. I encourage anyone that is interested in the legislative process to visit capitol.texas.gov to keep up to date with any bills of interest to them. My office is also always happy to assist you with understanding the legislative process or a bill's progress.

## **Constituent Services**

As we prepare to transition into the interim, I want to remind everyone that my office is able to help with state agency issues; including child support, SNAP, Medicaid, TXDoT, and several others. Please do not hesitate to connect with my office if you are having trouble communicating with an agency, or have had a long wait in your processing. If my office can't help, we will direct you to someone who is able to assist better.

Committee on Border Security Vice Chair Committee on Criminal Justice Vice Chair CAPITOL OFFICE: ROOM E1.808 P.O. Box 12068 Austin, Texas 78711 Committee on Education Committee on Finance Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs