



**DONNA CAMPBELL, M.D.**

TEXAS STATE SENATOR  
DISTRICT 25

For Immediate Release:  
Tuesday, January 29, 2013

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## **CAMPBELL HAPPY TO SEE GOVERNOR TAKING ROLE ON ISSUES CRITICAL TO CENTRAL TEXAS**

Austin – Senator Donna Campbell, who recently earned key assignments to the Transportation and Education Committees, applauded Governor Perry for taking a leadership role on these issues, as well as his proposal to provide tax relief to Texans, in the Governor's State of the State Address at the Capitol Tuesday.

"I salute Governor Perry for laying out a conservative vision for Texas. When we have less government, lower taxes, and more freedom, there are more opportunities for our families, our businesses, and our children," Senator Campbell stated.

In calling for tax relief, the governor reemphasized the need to keep the economy growing and prioritized investment for essential functions of government. Perry urged lawmakers to use \$3.7 billion from the Economic Stabilization Fund, or Rainy Day Fund, to "support critical water and transportation systems across our state... and ensure both water and traffic will continue to flow in Texas for generations to come."

"The Rainy Day Fund deserves to be protected, but I do think there's an opportunity to invest some of those dollars in non-recurring expenditures like improving and expanding our roads without relying on future taxes or tolls," Senator Campbell said. "Of course, the first priority is always to target inefficiencies. Budget talks require budget hawks."

At 42% of the budget, we must not only have an efficient education system, but provide parents and students with as many quality options as possible. The governor also called for more choice in public and higher education, including the creation of more charter schools, which are already in high demand across the state and offer a tuition-free alternative to a student's neighborhood school. He additionally advocated for the creation of scholarship programs to give students a choice in their education, especially for those locked into low-performing schools.

"We have good teachers, good parents, and good schools, but somewhere the process is not working for many of our students, whether they are dropping out or graduating unprepared for college," the senator stated. "It was encouraging to hear the governor talk about increasing school choice and making access to a first-rate education a priority."

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