



# NEWS FROM THE CAPITOL

## REPRESENTATIVE JIM MURPHY

### A Note from Jim...

There are only 26 days left in the 82nd Session! Our calendar is getting longer, and more bills are passing through the House to the Senate. Major statewide bills are now on the calendar, most recently being the Fiscal Matters bills (which impact our budget, fees, taxes) by Chairman Pitts that will be heard this week.

I have been working the Calendars Committee to get the last of my bills placed on the House calendar. Please check the House calendar timeline below to see the key dates in the days ahead.

Feel free to continue to call or email your opinions, especially now that the major issues are headed to the floor. I value your input and it really helps me to know the desires of my constituents when I vote on these bills.

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### Legislation Update...

#### [Redistricting House Map \(HB 150\)](#)

The House passed the House Redistricting Plan, HB 150, last week. The map is the best among several submitted to ensure a fair and legal representation of the 2010 census of our population across the state. Unfortunately, Harris County will lose one House seat but our neighboring counties will gain. In order for District 133 to meet the new average of 170,000 population per district, we must grow by approximately 12,000. Therefore, District 133 will extend further west on our new map.

#### [Recreational Use \(HB 1943\)](#)

We can use your help to pass House Bill 1943 which will allow the public the recreational use (hike and bike trails) of property owned by utility companies. Utility companies are willing to open up this substantial amount of land for public use. HB 1943 will relieve any liability they incur by doing so and open up more recreational areas for use by the public and at substantially lower costs.

If you would like to support this bill which has passed out of committee and is cur-

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*Rep. Murphy honoring the Texas Association of Realtors board members from the dais*

Capitol Office  
P.O. Box 2910  
Room EXT E2.606  
Austin, TX 78768-2910

Phone: 512-463-0514  
Fax: 512-463-8715

### Resources

- [Visit Our Website](#)
- [Schedule an Appointment](#)
- [House Website](#)
- [Track Legislation](#)
- [Legislative Budget Board](#)
- [Sunset Commission](#)
- [How a Bill Becomes Law](#)
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If you would like to support this bill which has passed out of committee and is currently sitting in Calendars, please contact the [Calendar Committee members and Chair Todd Hunter as soon as possible](#).

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## **My First Bill to the Governor (HB 2581/SB 638)...**

My first bill has passed the House and Senate is on its way to the governor's desk. House Bill 2581 will allow the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to provide unemployment insurance credits for a company that has been merged or acquired. This bill will save companies and our state money. I want to thank Senator Mike Jackson for working with me on this bill.

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## **We Want to Honor You...**

We would like to recognize you with a House Resolution! Do you have a student who is a valedictorian? How about a momentous birthday or anniversary? Doesn't that Eagle Scout of yours need to be applauded? Please email me the details to [District133.Murphy@house.state.tx.us](mailto:District133.Murphy@house.state.tx.us) so we can recognize you from the House floor and/or present a resolution marking your special occasion.

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## **Upcoming Important Deadlines...**

**May 12th** – last day for House to consider 2nd reading on House Bills and House Joint Resolutions

**May 20th** – last day for the House to consider local House Bills on 2nd & 3rd reading

**May 24th** – last day for the House to consider 2nd reading on Senate Bills and Senate Joint Resolutions

**May 25th** – last day for the House to consider local and consent Senate Bills on 2nd & 3rd reading

**May 27th** – last day for the House to consider Senate Amendments

**May 29th** – last day for the House to adopt Conference Committee Reports

**May 30th** – last day of the Session (Sine Die)

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