



The Texas Pledge of Allegiance:

"Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

Items of Interest

1. 83rd Legislative Session
2. Town Hall Meeting- January 26, 2013
3. State of the Economy
4. Meet Team

Did you know?

- ★ The King Ranch in Texas is bigger than the state of Rhode Island.
- ★ Margie Neal (1875-1971) of Carthage was elected Texas' first woman senator.
- ★ Texas is the only state to enter the United States by treaty instead of territorial annexation.

We're on the Web!

Rep. Jim Murphy

[House Website](#)

[Texas Legislature Online](#)

[Capitol Office](#)

Phone: (512)463-0514
Toll Free: (855)597-0662
Fax: (512)463-8715

P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Dear Friends,

The 83rd Legislative session is off to a great start!

After being sworn in, the House re-elected Joe Straus as Speaker of the House. The House also approved the rules resolution for the upcoming session which established the procedures for how we operate on the House floor and also created four new standing House committees. The Border and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee has now been changed to the Committee on International Trade and Intergovernmental Affairs. Also the committee on Pensions, Investments, and Financial Services has split into two separate committees. They include the Committee on Pensions and the Committee on Investments and Financial Services. The final committee created for this session is the Committee on Special Purpose Districts. In another exciting new addition to our committee structure is a permanent sub-committee on manufacturing which was created as a part of the Small Business Development committee.

During the interim I was appointed by the speaker to chair the House Committee on Manufacturing. We visited three cities in three days in order to collect information on what Texas can do to increase the capability for manufacturing in Texas. You can find the Interim Report from the Manufacturing Committee to the 83rd Texas legislature [here](#).

I am focused on creating and helping pass legislation based on issues that are important to House District 133. We encourage you to inform us on what is important to you. Our constituent suggestions and concerns have had an impact in guiding our policy decisions. We invite you to log onto our award winning website to track bills, monitor hearings, and watch floor debates. www.house.state.tx.us

Please save the date for our upcoming town hall meeting. The meeting will be held in the **Memorial High School Auditorium on January 26th at 10:30am**. The address is 935 Echo Lane, Houston, Texas 77024.

Best Regards,

State of the Economy

This month the Comptroller's office released the Biennial Revenue Estimate (BRE). The BRE is a formal estimate of funds expected to be available from revenue sources of the next two years. For 2014-15, the state is expected to have \$101.4 billion in funds available for general-purpose spending. This represents a 12.4% increase from the previous amount of funds available for 2012-13. This is a great example of the policies enacted from the previous session that have greatly contributed to the growth of our state.

The Houston Business Journal recently released an article announcing the City of Houston as one of the top 10 cities in the United States to find a job. Houston also leads the nation in job growth. Houston added 121,600 private-sector jobs between November 2007 and November 2012. That ranks the city number 1 out of the nation's 102 largest markets. As representative of District 133, I will continue to work hard to ensure that your concerns will be addressed during this session.

Articles

[Houston continues to lead nation in job growth](#)
[Houston on list of 10 'Best Cities to Find a Job'](#)

Meet Team Murphy

Molly Quirk, *Chief of Staff*



Molly is a graduate of the University of Texas where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Government. She has worked as a staffer in the legislature since 2002 and has led Team Murphy since 2007. Molly.Quirk@house.state.tx.us

Jason Briggs, *Policy Analyst*



Jason is a graduate of Texas A&M University where he received Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. He has worked as a staffer since 2010 serving as campaign and session staff. Jason joined our team in August. JasonT.Briggs@house.state.tx.us

Kait Roth, *Scheduler/Legislative Aide*



Kait is a graduate of Texas A&M University where she received a Bachelor of Science in Sociology. She has worked as a staffer since 2010 serving in both the House and the Senate. Kait.Roth@house.state.tx.us

Ethan Caudillo, *Legislative Assistant*



Ethan, of Sugar Land, Texas, is a junior at Texas A&M University. He is pursuing a degree in sport management with a minor in sport administration. He was chosen from the Aggie Public Policy Internship Program (PPIP) to be a part of our team. Ethan.Caudillo@house.state.tx.us

Sarah Aimad, *Legislative Assistant*



Sarah, of Sugar Land, TX, is a senior in the Honors College at the University of Houston. She is in the process of completing dual degrees in political science and economics. She was hand-picked to work for Team Murphy from the 2013 Hobby Fellows and is excited to learn more about the inner workings of the Texas State Legislature. Sarah.Aimad@house.state.tx.us

Robby Teas, *Legislative Intern*



Robby, of Katy, Texas, is studying Geography at the University of Texas at Austin. He enjoys playing string bass in the University Orchestra and is thrilled to be a part of Team Murphy. Robby.Teas@house.state.tx.us

Avery Beach, *Legislative Intern*



Avery, of Keller, TX, is a senior at The University of Texas. She is in the process of completing dual degrees in both business honors and finance. She spends her time running and being actively involved in her sorority, Delta Gamma. Avery.Beach@house.state.tx.us

Sloan Braband, *Legislative Intern*



Sloan, of District 133, is a freshman at The University of Texas. He has been a part of the Murphy team since September and is eager to learn more about the legislative process in Texas. Sloan.Braband@house.state.tx.us

Deanna Harrington, *District Director*



Deanna worked in Washington D.C. during college, met her husband and they settled in Houston where they have three children. She continues to be active in our community and is excited to serve HD 133 by being out and about in the District. Deanna.Harrington@house.state.tx.us

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