

Capitol Update

SENATOR BRANDON CREIGHTON



84th Legislative Session

Hello from your Texas State Capitol!

My staff and I are working tirelessly to lay the groundwork necessary for a successful session for the people of Senate District 4. This week, there were a few major events in the State Capitol and our Capitol office.

Under the Dome

Transportation Funding: We passed our first pieces of legislation out of the Senate. SB 5 and SJR 5, authored by Senator Robert Nichols, will dedicate the first \$2.5 billion of the money raised from our motor vehicle sales tax toward building and fixing state highways. The next \$2.5 billion would go toward the state highway fund. If passed by both chambers, SJR 5 will be put before the voters in 2016 for approval.

Tax Relief Week: Senate Finance held two days of hearings all on bills that would provide tax relief for Texans across the state. One of the taxes on the chopping block is the Franchise Tax and I had the opportunity to present my Franchise Tax reform bills SB 186, 330, 331 and SJR 23 before the committee this week. Our state needs meaningful tax reform to reduce the impact of the Franchise Tax. Texas is continually named the number one state to do business and these bills will keep that momentum moving forward.

Second Amendment Rights: Last month, we had the opportunity to hear the voices of Texans from across the state on their stances on SB 11 and 17, Campus Carry and Open Carry, during a Senate State Affairs hearing and both bills successfully passed out of committee. Currently, twenty-three states allow CHL-holders to carry on college campuses and forty-four states allow some form of open carry. Our state deserves better than the restrictions New York, Illinois, and California hold on their citizens. Our committee votes to pass both SB 11 and 17 represent a victory for the law-abiding citizens of Texas who deserve the right to protect themselves and their families.

Legislators may continue to file bills until the bill filing deadline on March 13, 2015. To search legislation, visit the Texas Legislature online at www.capitol.state.tx.us.

Golden Triangle Days

Thank you to the great folks from Jefferson and Orange Counties who made the trip to their State Capitol in celebration of Golden Triangle Days. This vibrant and forward-reaching region has made a significant contribution toward America's success story. Both Senator Nichols and I were pleased to have a strong delegation present in the Senate gallery.



Montgomery County 9-11

It was a pleasure to recognize the Texas Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) and members of Montgomery County 9-1-1 as we observed 9-1-1 Day at the Capitol. 9-1-1 is the nationally recognized number to call in the case of an emergency with over 500 public safety answering points serving our citizens on a daily basis. The Texas Chapter of NENA represents the telecommunicators, directors, planning professionals and industry service providers who are essential to emergency assistance. Thank you for your service to Texas!



Creighton Press

- March 2 - [Senator Creighton Joins Fellow Senate Republicans in Standing Against Medicaid Expansion](#)
- March 4 - [Senators Creighton and Taylor Author Legislation to Strengthen Schools and Empower Parents](#)

In the News

- Texas lawmaker spurs debate on business tax, *KXAN-TV NBC 21*
- Right to Hunt & Fish (Part 1), *Texas Wildlife Radio Show*
- Right to Hunt & Fish (Part 2), *Texas Wildlife Radio Show*
- Troopers, big crowds as Texas lawmakers take up gun rights, *Associated Press*
- Dan Patrick reveals how he wants to pay for tax cuts, *Austin American Statesman*

Get Social

One of the simplest ways to keep up with our office and all that occurs at the Texas State Capitol during legislative session is following us on social media. We will be posting updates regularly, so please take a moment to 'LIKE' us on Facebook, 'FOLLOW' us on Twitter, or subscribe to our YouTube page!