

Capitol Update

SENATOR BRANDON CREIGHTON



84th Legislative Session

Dear Friend,

Happy Easter weekend from my family to yours. You'll be happy to know we had yet another successful week at the Texas Capitol. Below are a few highlights.



Under the Dome

Fireworks Tax Repeal (SB 761): I'm excited to start my tenure as state senator with a tax repeal for small businesses. On Tuesday, I passed my first bill as a state senator. Senate Bill 761 repeals the additional two percent tax on almost 1,500 businesses that sell fireworks in the state of Texas. The Fireworks Tax is a tax on top of state and local sales tax. By eliminating it, we are simultaneously reducing the tax burden placed on the shoulders of firework vendors and making our tax collection more efficient. I will work to continue to find ways to eliminate taxes on small businesses in our state.

Constitutional Right to Hunt & Fish (SJR 22): On Wednesday, my Right to Hunt & Fish constitutional amendment passed in the Texas Senate. Some may ask why there is a need for this type of action; but with recent lawsuits across the country successfully denying citizens certain hunting rights, our Texas heritage is threatened and needs protection. I'm eager to work with Rep. Trent Ashby (R-Lufkin) to get this common-sense legislation passed in the House and on to the voters for approval in November.



Honoring Veterans (SB 193): On Wednesday, Senate Bill 193 passed the Texas Senate. One of my top priorities is to recognize and honor our veteran's for their incredible acts of valor. This bill creates a specialty license plate for recipients of the Soldier's, Navy & Marine Corps, Airman's and Coast Guard Medals. These medals are the highest commendation for acts of valor in a non-combat situation. Those who have displayed this level of heroism should be honored so we may better reflect on their bravery and sacrifice for our safety.

In 2001, 28 Soldier's Medals were awarded to personnel who risked their lives to assist during the attack on the Pentagon on September 11. Other recipients include: Collin Powell (Soldier's Medal) for rescuing two fellow soldiers from a helicopter crash during his second tour of duty in the Vietnam War; and, President John F. Kennedy (Navy and Marine Corps Medal) for his service as Commanding Officer of Motor Torpedo Boat PT-109 during World War II.

In the News

- Ducking Child Support by Becoming a "Contractor", *Texas Tribune*
- Beaumont officials do not want more sex offenders, *Houston Chronicle*
- Texas promotes great outdoors with constitutional amendment, *KXII-TV CBS 12 Texoma*

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!