



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 16, 2017

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

Merek Gamble, [merek.gamble@senate.texas.gov](mailto:merek.gamble@senate.texas.gov)

---

## **SENATOR CREIGHTON'S PRIORITY BILLS STATUS AT END OF SESSION**

---

### *Pro-Life Insurance Act, Property Tax Reform and Annexation*

Austin – The House version of Senate Bill 8 (House Bill 214), sponsored by Senator Brandon Creighton (R-Conroe), was signed into law by Governor Greg Abbott. The new law follows 25 other states which require elective abortion coverage to be purchased through separate, supplemental coverage.

"The Legislature has affirmed the preference of promoting pro-life values in the state," said Senator Creighton. "Both chambers have spoken and I was proud to work with Representative John Smithee on this important legislation. "

"As a firm believer in Texas values I am proud to sign legislation that ensures no Texan is ever required to pay for a procedure that ends the life of an unborn child," said Governor Abbott. "This bill prohibits insurance providers from forcing Texas policy holders to subsidize elective abortions. I am grateful to the Texas legislature for getting this bill to my desk, and working to protect innocent life this special session."

Senate Bill 6 was also signed by Governor Abbott. Senator Creighton was a co-author of this legislation which reforms the authority of municipalities to annex territory and allows for a vote by citizens affected by proposed annexation.

"This was a promise I made when I first ran for office," concluded Senator Creighton. "It was important to me to ensure my constituents have a vote before being annexed. "

The Property Tax Reform & Relief Act failed to pass during the special session. The Senate passed meaningful legislation three times this year. Senator Creighton was again appointed this week to a conference committee to resolve differences in the bill between the two chambers. Unfortunately, the House Leadership failed again to appoint conferees and then adjourned Sine Die which killed the bill and resulted in zero relief from the outrageous property tax system we have in Texas.

"I am disappointed in the House leadership for leaving the job early," said Senator Creighton. "I have asked Governor Abbott to call a second special session so the Legislature can reform property taxes. My goal is to accomplish significant property tax relief for my constituents and the people of Texas."

###

*Senator Brandon Creighton represents Senate District 4, which encompasses Chambers, Jefferson and parts of Montgomery, Harris and Galveston Counties.*