

Our community is still dealing with the impact of last week's storms, so please keep looking out for one another. Some key information on where to get help is included below.

The 85th Legislature doesn't convene until January, but I want to be sure that you and your fellow residents of Senate District 4 have a good sense of what my team and I are doing on your behalf in Austin and in the District. I hope you enjoy this update. Feel free to share it with a friend or email me at Brandon.Creighton@senate.state.tx.us if you have a question or concern.

### IN THE CAPITOL

#### Water Issues

As a member of the Senate committee with jurisdiction over water in Texas, I've been taking part in hearings discussing surface water permitting, interbasin transfer of water and flood control. As it has since the beginning of civilization, water continues to be THE key resource affecting people's lives and I'm glad to be part of these conversations that'll help Texas keep moving forward.

### **Property Tax Reform**

One of my top priorities is accomplishing meaningful reform for the taxes we pay on our residences and places of business. It's not government's inclination to tax less, but, on the Senate Select Committee on Property Taxes, we're fighting to make it sensible by exploring proposals to change the process of contesting rising appraisals and looking closer at placing restraints on local government spending.

### **Texas Ports**

Our ports (both our coastal & inland hubs) are essential to our state's economic vitality, so I'm honored that Lt. Governor Patrick chose me to chair the Senate Select Committee on Texas Ports. We're in a fact-finding phase with the ports and their customers to ensure we move people and cargo smoothly so our economy keeps expanding, jobs are created, and that consumers ultimately have the products and services they expect.

## **Obama's Transgender Bathroom Edict**

President Obama thumbed his nose at the 10th Amendment again with his edict denying school leaders the freedom to protect young students with single-gender bathrooms and locker rooms. We're going to fight this. Please let me know your thoughts on the issue.

### IN THE DISTRICT

Yet Another "Storm of the Century'



Our neighbors across the district are dealing with a bona fide disaster. Visit http://www.etrviewoutage.com/external/mobile\_tx.html for the most current information on power outages.

Click <u>here</u> for information on road closures, shelter location, emergency public information, 2016 flood recovery info, preparedness training, residential and business damage assessment or call 936-523-3900. (As always, for police, fire or medical emergencies: dial 911.)



#### **Mothers Are Jewels Luncheon**

It made me proud to honor my mother as a speaker at the Family Time Crisis & Counseling Center in April. Those folks do great work helping women and children in crisis and this lunch focused on all of the hardworking moms who give unconditional love and support expecting nothing in return.

# Oak Ridge North City Council Meeting

I was honored to present a Senate Proclamation to Oak Ridge North Chief of Police Andrew T. Walters who was also receiving one of the town's Hometown Spirit Awards. Chief Walters represents the best Texas law enforcement has to offer and we are blessed to have him.



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