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THE SENATE OF TEXAS



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senator Kolkhorst Delivers on Governor Abbott's Special Session Agenda

AUSTIN - Governor Greg Abbott has signed into law SB 17 and HB 7, two bills authored and sponsored by Senator Lois Kolkhorst (R-Brenham).

To address the alarming number of pregnancy-related deaths in Texas, Kolkhorst authored and passed SB 17. The legislation will extend the state's Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force and implement other policies to improve maternal health across Texas.

"Texas must remain vigilant in our effort to protect the health and safety of women. That's why I am honored to pass SB 17 with bi-partisan support in the House and Senate," said Kolkhorst. "With the Governor's signature, Texas will now be able to directly address the top causes of pregnancy-related deaths and improve maternal health outcomes in our state."

To address a growing trend in land-use restrictions, Senator Kolkhorst sponsored HB 7 which significantly curtails a city's ability to impose fees for the removal of trees on private property.

"So many of our freedoms flow from the right to own private property," said Kolkhorst. "Incredibly, some property owners who wish to remove a tree on their own land are compelled to pay a city a fee, implying that the city owns the tree. That's why I sponsored this bill, to reign in aggressive local ordinances that restrict the right to own trees on private property."

In addition to SB 17 and HB 7, other items addressed during special session were: sunset legislation, additional public school funding, retired teachers' health care, pro-life measures, do-not-resuscitate order reform and safeguards for main-in ballot fraud.

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