



Weekly Capitol Report Newsletter

Week 8 - March 7, 2025



A Note from Rep. Dean

The House is continuing to refer bills to Committees. Energy Resources, on which I sit, met for our first hearing on Monday and I chaired my first Insurance Committee hearing on Wednesday.

Also this week, we welcomed the East Texas Chamber Delegation to Austin, celebrated Mardi Gras on Tuesday with friends and my staff and my birthday on Wednesday.

As I touched on last week, the Manufacturing Caucus is still continuing to grow with 72 members joining the effort to highlight advancements in the industry as well as spotlighting Caucus member's bills that will be helpful.

As always, my staff and I are here for you. Please let us hear from you!

God Bless,
Jay Dean

Legislative Update

This week, I filed another bill.

HB 3619 - Protecting the surface land owner when the Railroad Commission plugs an orphan well on the property.



Special Interest: Lake O' the Pines and other area's lakes

Metroplex cities are trying to buy water rights from Lake O'

the Pines and other area's lakes.

What you need to know:

- Sale of Water Rights is permanent! East Texas would lose control and ownership of our own water!
- The depletion of Lake O' the Pines threatens downstream bodies like Caddo Lake.
- Please sign the petition below and encourage your local elected officials to speak out against this sale!

Sign the Petition!

Throughout the past few weeks, my staff and I have continued to monitor and meet with many stakeholders to protect East Texas' most valuable natural resource!

Special Visitors

This week, my office welcomed some very special visitors from House District 7



Nursing professors and students from ETBU and UT Tyler
Visiting the Capitol for Nurses' Day.



Bo Rogers of Longview

Visiting the office and his daughter. Emma is from Longview, is a junior at UT, and is working full-time for our office this session.



Kelly Hall and Keith Lloyd with Longview Chamber of Commerce

Visiting the Capitol with the East Texas Chamber Delegation.



Toni Jones of Kilgore

Branch manager for Kilgore's Credit Union and Kilgore Chamber S.T.A.R. Award recipient.

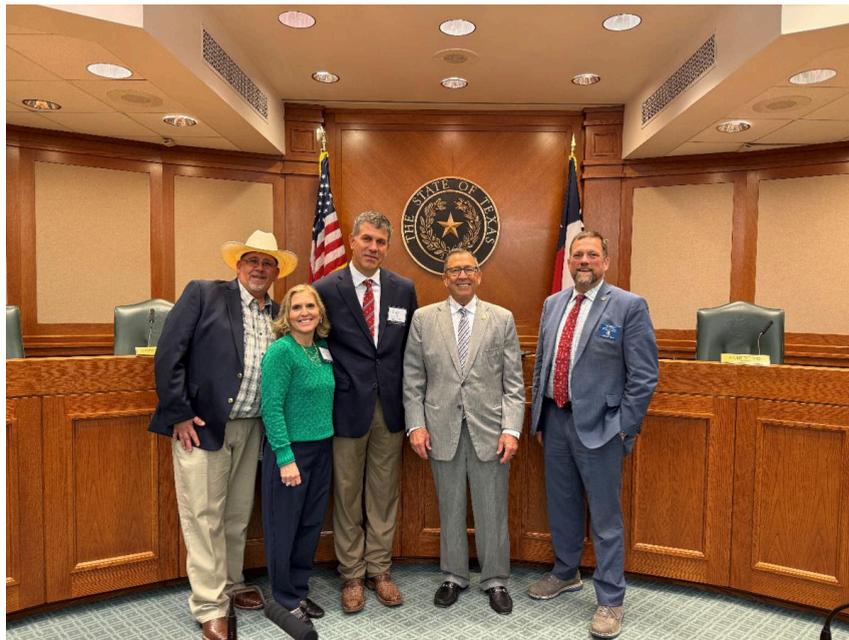


**Dr. Tucker Woods and Dr. Lance Potter of Longview
with colleagues**

Visiting the Capitol with Texas Chiropractic Association



Dr. Joycelyn Williams Thomas of Longview
Visiting the Capitol for Psychologist Day



Constable Jim Weatherall, the Honorable Gregg Greer, and Mrs. Jan Greer of Harrison County and the Honorable Tim Bryan of Gregg County
Visiting the Capitol with Justices of the Peace and Constables Association.



Shelly Smith
Visiting the Capitol with Buckner.

Weekly Highlights





East Texas Chamber Delegation

This week, the East Texas Chamber Delegation gathered in Austin. The delegation hosted breakfast and a panel discussion for me, Senator Hughes, and Representatives Hefner and Alders. We talked about the strength of East Texas Leadership in the current House and Senate and how we are working together to advance East Texas development and protect our resources and communities.

I am always thankful for the opportunity to catch up with old friends and colleagues who visit with the delegation each year. I am proud to represent the great people of East Texas.

Committees



House Committee on Insurance

The House Committee on Insurance oversees a broad range of policies, including health, property, casualty, and business insurance.

Under Chairman Dean's leadership, the Committee will hear bills addressing critical issues of insurance affordability and effectiveness. The Committee will also oversee the state agencies of Department of Insurance and the Office of Public Insurance Counsel, impacting Texans' access to and affordability of insurance.

I am honored to have been appointed this Chairmanship by Speaker Burrows. My commitments for this session are:

1. How to reduce the cost of insurance for our state and its residents
2. Identify the state and federal regulations and mandates that are driving up the cost of insurance.
3. Identify ways to eliminate waste and fraud that has been rampant for too many years.
4. Identify ways to deliver insurance more effectively and efficiently without the layers of bureaucracy that providers and consumers experience.
5. Increasing transparency for patients and consumers.

That's it. I plan to keep it simple and be a voice for the Texas Insurance customers. Now let's get to work.



House Committee on Energy Resources

I am also serving on the House Committee on Energy Resources, which oversees the oil and gas and other energy sources in Texas. The Committee's work will allow me to utilize my lifetime of experience in the oil and gas industry while supporting one of the backbones of our great State's economy.

Stay tuned for weekly updates on the events of each Committee Hearing as we start to hear bills and testimonies soon.



Manufacturing Caucus

This session, I was selected to lead the House Manufacturing Caucus. Unlike Committees, Caucuses do not hear bills, but instead are a work group to allow members to work together to support particular interests. As Chair of the Manufacturing Caucus, I hope to advance additional manufacturing jobs right here in Texas and enhancing our State's marketplace. Did you know, on average, each manufacturing job created in Texas provides 5 additional jobs in our communities?

Our Caucus is steadily growing (72 members now!) who are committed to joining the effort to highlight advancements in the industry as well as spotlighting Caucus member's bills that will be helpful.



I want to hear from you!

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