



# The Flynn Report

*February 13, 2009*

**Greetings Friends, Constituents and Supporters:**

The day all members and followers of the Texas House of Representatives have been waiting came when Speaker Joe Straus handed out committee assignments for the 81<sup>st</sup> Session. I was appointed to serve as the Vice-Chairman of Border & Intergovernmental Affairs Committee, as well as to serve on Pensions, Investments, and Financials Services Committee. I will also complete my appointment as a member of the Sunset Commission.

The work of the Border & Intergovernmental Affairs Committee will be especially important as we continue to confront the challenges of illegal immigration and the growing violence of the Mexican drug wars. I will also use my experience of over forty years in the financial industries and as bank regulator on the Pensions, Investments, and Financials Services Committee to deal with the serious financial issues that are at the root of our current economic crisis.

While these assignments were not my preference I will use these opportunities to work on the challenging issues that these committees will consider this session. Regardless of my committee assignments, I will continue to take a principled stand for the residents and conservative values of House District 2.

With the obvious move away from the conservative leadership and a shift towards a moderate chamber I believe we will still have the opportunity to draw a different and more responsible government than what we are seeing in Washington D.C. I will continue to work towards the best economic policy for our State to limit taxes and spending holding on to the principles that have worked to maintain what has kept Texas in the strong position we have enjoyed over the past six years.

Only seven states are entering 2009 with a balanced budget leaving forty-three reporting budget deficits this year. Members must remember that fiscal responsibility has served us well, and our actions this session must be to maintain the soundness of our state financially.

State leadership has asked the legislature to reduce general revenue and general revenue dedicated spending by 2.5 percent in the 2010 / 2011 budget. In these troubling times I agree and know we must maintain the Rainy Day Fund balance of at least five percent of the state funds spent in our next budget. I believe we must limit emergency appropriations to one-time, disaster-related needs and non-recurring expenses that are truly emergencies created by natural disasters. We must also meet the needs and correct the challenges in our state schools, prisons and senior citizens. The big unknown is if and when the state receives any of the federal stimulus funds. We must safeguard and limit the use of all of these funds to one-time expenditures and not allow them to be used to create new programs or to expand existing programs that could be ongoing after the funds are gone.

I continue to enjoy having an outstanding staff to support my efforts during this 81<sup>st</sup> session. They are lead by Jenni Franks who serves as my Chief of Staff and Legislative Director. A new member this session is Karah Carr, serving as Administrative Aid in my Capitol Office. Janice Melton continues to serve as my District Director officing in the Canton District office and Jeannie Prendergast serves Rains and Hunt Counties officing in the Greenville District office.

**To compel a man to subsidize with his taxes the propagation of ideas which he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical.**

- **Thomas Jefferson**

It remains my pleasure and honor to represent all the people of House District 2. My staff and I continue to welcome your input and your questions feel free to contact me: P. O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768. Email [District2.Flynn@house.state.tx.us](mailto:District2.Flynn@house.state.tx.us). Toll free number 1-800-734-9515.

May God bless you and our Great State of Texas,

Dan Flynn  
State Representative, District 2