

From the office of  
Texas State Representative - Dan Flynn

## **THE FLYNN REPORT**

Newsletter  
*February 29, 2004*

Greetings constituents, supporters and friends:

During the month of February I have continued to work with our state leaders and to monitor the on-going efforts of Public School Finance Reform. Currently, activist groups, businesses, school leaders and elected officials continue to discuss and research ideas to improve our system. In a meeting with House leadership this month it appears there are 5, 6 or perhaps even more ideas of serious consideration but nothing final. There continues to be strong speculation that Governor Perry will call a special session sometime in late spring. I will be meeting with business leaders, school administrators and teacher groups during the next few days and will welcome their ideas and input. **There is a will to solve this challenge and I believe we will make a giant step forward within the coming months.**

This month I traveled across Van Zandt County with Congressman Jeb Hensarling introducing him and showing him our wonderful county. It was a grand success as many of you came out to meet him in Wills Point, Canton, Grand Saline, Van and Edgewood. My thanks to County Judge Jeff Fisher, Commissioners Ron Carroll and Rickey LaPrade and Justice of the Peace Don Kirkpatrick for helping make the arrangements.

I was also honored to spend time with our Congressman Ralph Hall as we attended alongside events in Rains County and Hunt County. He even made a special visit to Greenville attending the grand opening of our Greenville District Office.

Former State Representative and founder of the Patriot Academy, Rick Green, spent a week in the district speaking and visiting with many of you. We were fortunate to have him as our special guest and speaker at the Hunt County Republican Lincoln Day Banquet held in Greenville, which was an outstanding success. He was the special speaker for the Van Chamber of Commerce Banquet, and spoke to the young people at TeenMania in Van. A special thank you to Dr. Keith McFarland, President of Texas A&M Commerce, who allowed Rick and me to speak to several government classes at the University. Patriot Academy is a truly remarkable opportunity for young people to participate in the legislative process. If you would like to know more about the Academy or know a young person you would like to attend the Academy log on to [www.patriotacademy.com](http://www.patriotacademy.com).

I was also privileged to tour many parts of East Texas with our great Chair and Vice Chair of the Republican Party of Texas, Tina Benkiser and David Barton. We visited in many homes and business where they shared their vision for America, Texas and the Republican Party of Texas for the coming years. We found this team to be pro-active

taking great strides in promoting the conservative message, unifying the Party, strengthening business and efficient government. We are privileged to have Tina and David as our leaders in Texas.

Committees continue to meet on Water Policies and to gather information for water policy initiatives in preparation for the next regular session. Testimony is being given as it relates to the management and policy concerning ground and surface water and defining the role of groundwater conservation districts (GCDs). Our Senator Bob Deuell serves on the Senate Committee that is studying this important issue.

Another issue that is very important is the Massachusetts Supreme Court that has just ordered its Legislature to legalize same-sex “marriages.” It appears that things have gotten out of control. Some judges think *they* – not the people – run this country, and this judicial activism has just reached an all-time high. Realizing they could not win a vote in any state, homosexual activists have done an end-run around the people.

We are observing their plan to have homosexual couples from every state fly to Massachusetts, get married, and then go back and force recognition of their “marriage” on all states through liberal judges. We are also seeing the out-of-control California mayor of the City of San Francisco marrying same sex couples. Fortunately, President Bush is backing a Federal Marriage Amendment, which would stop judicial activism on marriage. It would protect marriage nationwide – as a union between a man and a woman. Even as we here in Texas have just passed the Defense of Marriage Act it is possible the institution of marriage will either be lost or saved in the next few years. **It will depend on you and me – the people.** The time to act is now. We must support President Bush as he moves to save marriage and the traditional family, as we know it.

As you can tell this has been a very busy month. I want to remind you that you are always welcome to visit our web site [www.daflynn.com](http://www.daflynn.com) to click on to links that will allow you to view updates on news, issues and photos.

My staff and I welcome your input and your questions. You can reach us in our office located in the Capitol extension: E1.324. Mailing address: **P. O. Box 2910, Austin, TX, 78768** phone number **512/463-0880**.

**Canton District office** is located in The American National Bank Building in Canton on Highway 243: **P. O. Box 999, Canton, TX, 75103** phone number **903-567-0921**.

**Greenville District office** is located in The Paul Mathews Exchange Building, Suite 802, 2500 Stonewall, Greenville phone number **903-455-0971**.

Email: **[dan.flynn@house.state.tx.us](mailto:dan.flynn@house.state.tx.us)**.

God bless you and God bless Texas,

Dan Flynn  
State Representative, House District 2

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