



From the office of
Texas State Representative - Dan Flynn

THE FLYNN REPORT

July 31, 2004

Greetings constituents, supporters and friends:

July was one of those months when we never seemed to slow down. There was a continuous stream of issues being presented, worked and discussed. At the end of the month I stopped to survey the issues worked and feel we moved forward on most of them.

With July 4th coming on a weekend it gave us an opportunity to participate in several of the celebrations throughout the district and it was enjoyable to be a part of events in Van Zandt County and Hunt County on this important celebration of our nation's freedom and independence.

During the month I was able to visit in the offices of Mayor Dick Owens of Wolf City; and Mayor Ben Kinder and his associates in Hawk Cove.

The U. S. Equestrian Drill Association's National Championships were hosted by the city of Canton once again. This major event brought thousands to Van Zandt County from all over the nation and not only provided a major economic impact on the county, but also brought publicity to the area which will continue to attract prime events.

The Friends of the National Rifle Association held their annual banquet during the month in Canton as well raising more money and enjoying their largest crowd ever.

It is always a privilege to work with Congressman Jeb Hensarling as we honored the Blackwell House Museum during the month of July.

The work on plans toward reworking Public School Finance continues as legislators met on more than one occasion in Austin in the month of July. It now seems improbable the Governor will call another special session to consider public school finance. There just does not seem to be a consensus on the method for revamping the tax code. On the other hand after spending many hours with many business leaders and educators I believe a large number of both are willing and eager to work together for the common goal of excellence in education for students and teachers that both parents and taxpayers will appreciate.

I continue to receive letters and emails from those that want the legislature to restore the \$1000 in supplement to teachers for insurance and terminate the fee the districts were

paying for managing health care. That bill that passed out of the House in the special session earlier this year did both. Unfortunately the minority party and special interest groups killed that bill in the Senate. I also received a number of letters that included the same quote. I am including that quote as follows:

“I am disgusted with the pressure you are placing on my child, the teachers and the other students to pass the TA KS tests. My daughter gets a migraine and throws up every time. It seems as though that is all the teachers have time for (YOUR TEST)”.

This of course is ‘not my test’ however; that issue was also addressed and killed by the same groups during the special session. As you can see many issues loom very large to many and all seem to have their importance. I continue to believe the legislature will come up with a solution that will be acceptable whether it is in another special session toward the end of this year or in the next regular session quickly approaching in January 2005.

I ended the month by attending the ALEX Conference in Seattle, Washington where Texas Legislators met elected officials from all over the nation. We were able to study and work on pertinent issues that will prove helpful in the coming months.

Economic issues in the rural areas continue to be the subject of much discussion. Committees are examining needs in regards to health care, infrastructure, economic development and housing. They are studying the challenges and opportunities in rural areas from an economic development standpoint and their unmet needs in these rural communities. Senator Bob Deuell is serving on the Senate Committee that will make recommendations for promoting investment in growth industries in rural areas.

The Texas Association of Regional Councils believes the approach for rural development will be on a regional basis. We believe this will assist in bringing local governments together so they can accomplish more. Jim Ray of the Regional Councils said the lack of capital continues to be a problem in rural counties and the effort will be to attract entrepreneurs to invest and maintain retail businesses. This should and can be a boost to our area.

I guess no one agrees with elected officials all of the time and I do not agree with our President George W. Bush on every issue. I do agree with him on tax cuts, family values, life issues, the war on terrorism, supporting our military, going against the International Criminal Court and the Kyoto Protocol, and going into Iraq without the approval of the United Nations. I believe he is doing an outstanding job on the war and economic issues here at home.

I feel strongly we must as a nation work together to preserve the Judeo Christian principles on which our forefathers founded this great nation. It is our duty and responsibility to preserve these truths for future generations and we best do that by voting. I encourage each of you to prayerful support our men and women in harms way and our leaders as they make tough decisions to guide our nation.

Visit our web site www.daflynn.com and click on the links that will allow you to view updates on news, issues and photos and if you know someone who is not receiving our report please forward this email to them and let them know they can sign up.

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**.

God bless you and God bless Texas,

Dan Flynn
State Representative, District - 2

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