



From the Desk of
Representative
Dan Flynn



The Flynn Report

November 12, 2004

Greetings constituents, supporters and friends:

With the elections over I look forward to focusing all my energies on the challenges of the coming 79th Legislative Session that will begin January 11, 2005. Once again I am honored to be given the opportunity to serve as your State Representative for House District 2 and the people of Texas for another two years. I thank you for this vote of confidence and pledged to serve to the best of my ability to represent your needs and concerns.

During the 78th Session I served on the Committees of County Affairs, General Investigation and Financial Institutions. Speaker Tom Craddick honored me by appointing me to serve as Vice Chairman of the Financial Institutions Committee. Since each session begins anew I will not know what my assignments will be until the Speaker makes those assignments after we are sworn in and the Speaker for the 79th Session is elected. I have pledged my vote to Speaker Craddick and look forward to serving under his able leadership.

I anticipate that the two major issues in the 79th Session will be public school finance and healthcare both of which will impact us all. There will also be many local and social issues that will be considered. I will continue my practice of sending **The Flynn Report** via email on a regular basis to keep you informed and I welcome your input as issues come to light and will be happy to provide any of your requests for additional information. If you are not receiving **The Flynn Report** and would like to or would like for others to receive it you need only call any of the numbers listed below with your email address. Your input and comments are important.

The 78th Legislature realized that when times get tough, just like Texas families, we needed to look at our budget and find out what we can cut back and what we can do without. As we prepare for the 79th Legislative Session it is past time to reduce property taxes and give Texans meaningful homeowner's tax relief. When we consider public

education reform we will increase the state's share of funding as we work to provide a quality education for every student and meet the needs of our teachers. I heard from you about the desire for school prayer and the pledge of allegiance in our public schools. During the 78th regular session I co-authored the bill that put a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance back in our schools. There is a will within the House to solve the challenge of financing public schools.

While the election of our President George W. Bush has been discussed and rediscussed I believe it is worth mentioning the facts. He is the first incumbent president to increase his majority in both the Senate and the House and to increase his own vote (by over 3.5 million) since Franklin D. Roosevelt. He is also the first president to win more than 50% of the popular vote since 1988. (Bill Clinton failed to twice; in 2000 Mr. Bush fell short of a plurality by half a million.) The President received more than 59 million votes, breaking Ronald Reagan's record of 54.5 million. President Bush increased his personal percentages in almost every state in the union.

In the latest surveys a large influential group showed to emerged - that of a traditional, church-going electorate that leans conservatively on social issues and strongly backed Mr. Bush in his victory. Even in our time of war and economic hardship exit polls indicate that Americans said they were motivated to vote for President Bush because of moral values as much as anything else. I have reminded my colleagues that this is vital for us to remember as we move towards the next regular session of the Texas Legislature.

It is my belief the Legislature along with Governor Rick Perry will continue to protect the business climate in our state and promote economic growth as one of the most important issues. As we all know a sound and prospering economy fuels the engine that funds education for our children, builds roads, protect our citizens, provides health care and government services to those in need and paves the way for tax relief for all Texans.

Site Selection Magazine, the world's foremost publication for business expansion and relocation, has named Texas the top state in the nation to do business. In its annual ranking of state business climates, *Site Selection Magazine* ranked Texas first, moving ahead of three-year leader North Carolina, as the top business climate in America.

The rankings are based on pro-business measures taken by states, actual capital investment, recent business expansion activity and a survey of corporate executives who were asked to rank the top 10 states based on ease of doing business, overall business costs, and related factors (Texas was ranked #1 by corporate executives across the country). The magazine also noted that Texas is also investing heavily in education despite a \$10 billion budget shortfall that was eradicated in the last Legislative Session – without raising taxes.

My staff and I welcome your input and your questions. You can reach us in our offices 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**.

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

God bless you and God bless Texas,

Dan Flynn
State Representative, District - 2

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