



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Ernest Bailes

Serving House District 18:
Liberty, San Jacinto, and Walker Counties

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Dear Neighbors,

As I travel throughout our District, I am reminded of the traditional values which are important to us in HD 18.

I think about Thanksgiving and all the bounty we will enjoy this week. I also remember that not everyone has family and friends to gather with. Some are without a warm home or a table filled with good food.

Some will be alone by choice, but not all. Throughout HD 18, many organizations and churches work year round to fill the void for those in need.

As I think about the blessings of serving others, I think back to a conversation where I was remind that too often government has taken on the roll of provider. Those words are quite true.

This Thanksgiving, my hope and prayer is that we rekindle the desire to serve others, not just during this holiday season but throughout the year.

**God Bless You All and
God Bless our Great
State of Texas**



Ernest

Thankful for Legislative Accomplishments in HD 18

As we pause to celebrate Thanksgiving, we are reminded of how great our blessings are in HD 18.

I am honored to represent your interests and work to ensure the things which are important to you are addressed in Austin. I want to share with you a short list of the many, many legislative accomplishments we made this past session. A brief recap:

THANKFUL for working through budget demands to pass a balanced, 2-year budget with NO tax increases.

THANKFUL to stand strong for public education by saying NO to unfunded mandates and making great strides in reducing testing and returning local control back to our districts.

THANKFUL to help protect our men and women in law enforcement through the creation of a statewide Blue Alert system.

THANKFUL to work together with other strong pro-life legislators to protect life while also answering taxpayers calls to say NO to taxpayer funding for abortion services.

THANKFUL to provide ad valorem tax relief for the surviving spouse of a first responder who is killed in the line of duty.

THANKFUL to provide avenues for employment for teachers with specialized knowledge and skills to help students be work-force ready upon graduation.

THANKFUL to say YES to reducing high permit fees charged to law abiding citizens who own guns legally; dropping fees from \$140 to \$40.

THANKFUL to protect landowners and tax payers by saying NO to using tax dollars to fund private rail.

THANKFUL to stand side by side with retired firefighters as they fought for what they earned.

THANKFUL to protect our religious leaders by saying NO to being forced to disclose their sermons upon the government's request.

THANKFUL to ban sanctuary cities by saying NO to those

who are ignoring our immigration laws.

THANKFUL to support our Texas' retired teachers by assuring long term stability for their pension plan.

THANKFUL to stand strong for our Veterans and say NO to cutting benefits which they have so rightly earned.

THANKFUL to make headway on many other issues including ethics reform, voter fraud, CPS reform to protect young lives, caps on state government spending, and municipal annexation reform.

THANKFUL that more than half of the bills we authored passed the House and Senate and were signed by the Governor.

THANKFUL for the people of HD18 who reach out to share with me their priorities and concerns so that I can make sure their voices are heard in Austin.

Working together, we can ensure HD 18 grows and thrives.

THANKFUL!

The blessing of strong giving communities speaks volumes about the character of who we are in HD 18. Thank You to Those Who Give.

Happy Thanksgiving!

In and Around the District



Recently, HEB opened their newest location in Huntsville. HEB also invested in the community by donating \$100,000 to local organizations that serve the Huntsville area. Welcome HEB.



The Shepherd Public Library is currently undergoing repairs after the damage left by Hurricane Harvey. The library is hoping to reopen its doors in January.



The Liberty-Dayton Chamber of Commerce held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the newly renovated McDonald's in Dayton. The Dayton McDonald's provides over 100 jobs in our local community.

Spotlight of Service



Angels in Action in Coldspring is a group of nearly 2 dozen volunteers. Their passionate hearts come together to handwrite words of encouragement and make blankets for cancer patients who live locally and across the U.S. This organization serves those suffering with cancer, and their families, by offering their time and resources for encouragement, comfort, and hope through our Lord Jesus Christ. They also offer personal assistance through visits, meals, phone calls, cards, and a listening ear.

For you, We are Thankful

An Update



Kuddos to the Plum Grove Volunteer Fire Department for drying out, dusting off, and rebuilding. Even as their fire department, and many of their own homes, took on water during Hurricane Harvey, they were out taking care of their neighbors. Today, they have made the most of a really bad situation and have their facility back up and running. I applaud their hard work and dedication to the people they serve.

Thank You Plum Grove VFD

Staff Contact

Nick Raymond-Chief of Staff
nick.raymond@house.texas.gov

Jordyn Senkirik-Legislative Aide
jordyn.senkirik@house.texas.gov

Jennifer Manuel-District Director
jennifer.manuel@house.texas.gov

District Email

district18bailes@house.texas.gov

District Office

936-628-6687- Phone

Physical Address

10501 Hwy 150, Suite B
Shepherd, TX 77371

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1116, Shepherd, TX 77371

**Satellite Offices in
Liberty and Walker County**

Capitol Office

512-463-0570- Phone

512-463-0315- Fax

Physical Address

1100 Congress Avenue,
Room E1.316
Austin, TX 78701

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 2910,
Austin, TX 78768