

# Glenn Hegar

## 2008 Interim In Review

Dear Friends,

*I am often asked, "What do you do when the Legislative session is over?"*

*As you know, the Texas Legislature convenes for 140 days every other year. The period between each Legislative session, called the interim, is an important period that I spend helping solve constituent's problems, monitoring state agencies, and preparing for the next session. I am pleased to offer you this brief update of some of my interim activities.*

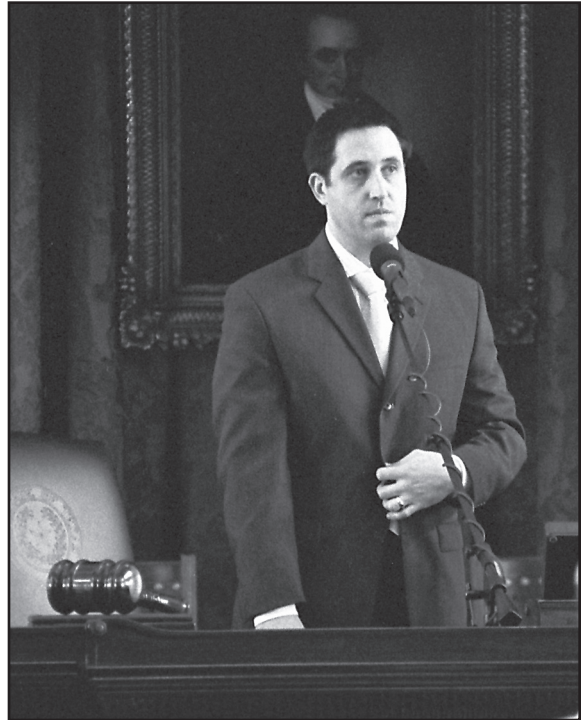
*Each interim, the Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House issue a list of special topics to be studied in-depth by each of the committees. They also appoint select (or special) committees to focus on specific areas of study. Since the legislative session ended, my colleagues and I have traveled around our state, listening to both invited and public testimony and examining issues important to all Texans.*

*I also spend much of my time assisting constituents with questions or concerns they may have about state government and its many agencies. This involves a great deal of travel across the many miles of Senate District 18 to tour facilities, give speeches, and attend a wide range of local meetings. Visiting with and listening to district residents is an especially important part of being an elected representative. I gain valuable information and insight each time I visit with the people whose interests I represent in Austin.*

*In the upcoming legislative session, I anticipate a wide variety of issues being addressed, including the creation of a new state budget. Some of the most pressing issues that must be addressed when the Legislature convenes in January 2009 include transportation policies, rising property taxes, public school finance, insurance costs, and protection of our water resources.*

*Finally, because we are a citizen legislature, I have been busy working in the fields farming my rice and corn crops. I have also worked hard to fit in some quality time with my wife Dara and daughter Claire, as well as our five month old twins, Julia and Jonah.*

*As your State Senator, I am honored to serve you and be your voice in our State Capitol. It is important that I continue to hear from you about issues that are of interest to you. My staff and I are here to serve you.*



*Senator Glenn Hegar presides over the Texas Senate during the final days of the 80th Legislature. He is standing in front of a portrait of Texas colonist Stephen F. Austin. Austin is just one of the nineteen counties that Senator Hegar represents in the 18th District.*



Sincerely,

Glenn Hegar

# 2008 INTERIM REVIEW

## Sunset Advisory Commission

In January of 2008, Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst appointed Senator Glenn Hegar as Vice Chairman of the Sunset Advisory Commission. Senator Hegar's appointment made Texas history, marking the first time that a freshman member of the Texas Legislature has been appointed Chairman or Vice Chairman of this powerful commission.

In 1977, The Texas Legislature created the Sunset Advisory Commission to identify and eliminate waste, duplication, and inefficiency in government agencies. The Commission conducts thorough reviews of nearly all state agencies, gathering information from the agency itself, members of the public, interest groups, and professional organizations. Each review is a three to eight month process, and after conducting the review, the Commission determines whether the state agency should be eliminated, reformed, consolidated with another agency, or kept intact. Agencies that are found to be duplicative or unnecessary are abolished after a one-year "wind-down" period. Typically, twenty percent of all agencies reviewed are abolished. The remaining agencies that undergo review will often have a range of changes made to the agency to make it more efficient and effective, yet ultimately more responsive to those the agency serves- Texas taxpayers. To date the Commission has saved taxpayers well over \$700 million.

Some of the state agencies currently under review include the troubled Texas Department of Transportation, the Texas Youth Commission, the Texas Department of Public Safety, and the Texas Department of Insurance.

A full list of agencies under review can be found at <http://www.sunset.state.tx.us>.



Vice Chairman Hegar questions a witness during Sunset Commission meeting.

## Environmental Flows Advisory Group

Senator Hegar, a member of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and an emergent voice on Texas water policy, was appointed to the Environmental Flows Advisory Group by Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst. The nine member panel will conduct public hearings and study policy implications for balancing the demands on the water resources of the state resulting from a growing population and the requirements of our river, bay, and estuary systems in Texas. The Advisory Group will look at items including granting permits for in-stream flows dedicated to the environmental needs of our bays and estuaries. This is vitally important for Senate District 18, which includes five major rivers and encompasses 1,325 county bay shoreline miles.



Senator Glenn Hegar confers with Senate Natural Resources Committee Chairman Kip Averitt and Lt. Governor David Dewhurst about protecting Texan's water rights.

The Advisory Group appointed a Scientific Advisory Committee and defined the geographical extent of each river basin and bay system in the state. Of particular importance to Senate District 18, the Advisory Group will be appointing the stakeholder groups for the Colorado and Lavaca Rivers and associated bays, as well as the Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission and Aransas Rivers and associated bays in 2009.

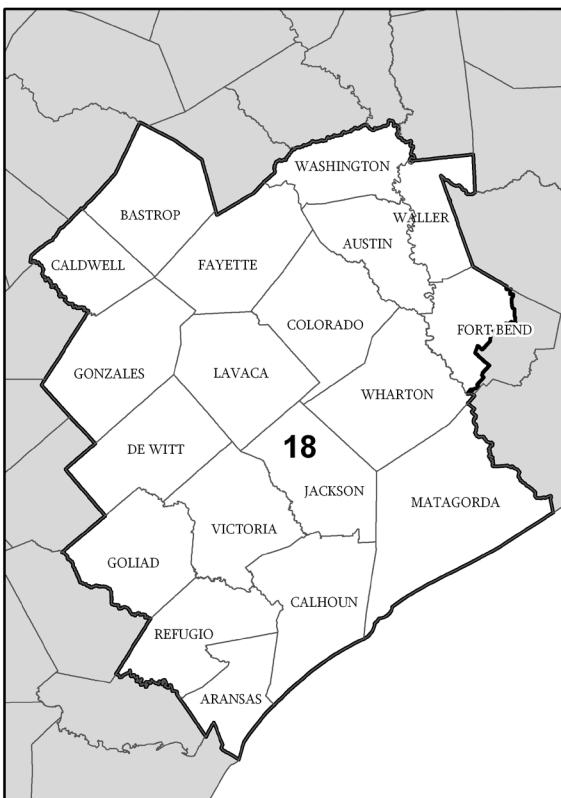
Senator Hegar encourages those who wish to volunteer or nominate someone to serve on Basin and Bay Area Stakeholders Committees to visit [http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water\\_supply/water\\_rights/eflows/group.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water_supply/water_rights/eflows/group.html) to find applications and nomination forms.

## Natural Resources Sub-Committee

Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst's list of interim charges for the Senate Natural Resources Committee covered 11 broad policy areas. As a result of Senator Hegar's hard work and leadership on state water issues during the last legislative session, he was named Chairman of a subcommittee for two of these policy areas. Senator Hegar's subcommittee is charged with studying the need for regional water quality standards and to review the progress and effectiveness of the newly enacted Edwards Aquifer Authority Recovery Implementation Plan.

The subcommittee's study of the need for regional water quality standards will focus on the Edwards Aquifer and Barton Springs recharge zones. Water quality standards are important considerations for this area because of the reliance on drinking water from the aquifer and the rapid population increases expected over the next 20 years. Careful and thoughtful management of this vital resource is essential while overly burdensome regulation will likewise be harmful to the local economy and local taxpayers. The subcommittee will pair those findings with a review of the Edwards Aquifer Authority's Recovery Implementation Plan (RIP), a scientific process to achieve a consensus agreement among all stakeholders by balancing water use and development with the recovery of federally listed species. During the 80th Legislative Session, Senate Bill 3 outlined some of the procedures for the Edwards Aquifer RIP, including deadlines for reporting back to the legislature. The RIP is an interdisciplinary approach that incorporates policy formation, scientific research, habitat restoration, education, and other activities as defined by the participants.

## Senate District 18 Map



# 2008 INTERIM REVIEW

## Senator Glenn Hegar in the News

*During the interim, Senator Hegar has spoken out on many issues facing Texas and Senate District 18. The following opinion/editorials written by Senator Hegar have appeared in newspapers across Texas and demonstrate that he will never be silent when he feels that state leaders are working against the interests of Texans.*

### Delisi Appointment maintains Status Quo at TxDOT

**Sunset Advisory Commission Vice Chair says he is a “NO” vote on Delisi**

*This op/ed by Senator Glenn Hegar first appeared in Texas newspapers May 2, 2008.*

On Wednesday, Texas Governor Rick Perry announced he had appointed Deirdre Delisi, his former Chief of Staff, as the new Chairman of the Texas Transportation Commission, which oversees the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). As of today, I will not vote to confirm her appointment in the next Legislative session.

Ask almost any Texan, especially those who have the need to travel frequently on US Interstate Highway 35, about our Texas transportation system and they will tell you that many of our roads have extreme congestion, while other construction projects have experienced significant cost overruns. Last year, TxDOT notified the public that they had experienced a billion dollar accounting error, and had spent millions of dollars in an effort to persuade Texans that we need to pursue the proposed Trans-Texas Corridor even though the legislature had just passed a two-year moratorium on public private agreements. Next legislative session will be a critical time as we work to ensure that TxDOT can once again gain the trust of Texans and to overcome the low opinion of what was once the most respected highway department in the nation.

In the Legislature, relations with TxDOT are also at an all-time low. Lawmaker’s questions and concerns about the Trans-Texas Corridor, the agency’s policies, funding schemes, budget, and construction priorities have oftentimes been met with contempt and disdain by TxDOT officials. The result is that many legislators, including myself, have lost confidence that TxDOT and its past policies are working in the best interests of Texas taxpayers.

That is why I had high hopes that Governor Rick Perry would use the vacancy created by the untimely passing of former Transportation Chair Ric Williamson as an opportunity to appoint someone to lead the commission who would work to change the status quo, reach out to lawmakers, and work cooperatively with the legislature to address the concerns of the citizens we represent. I view Ms. Delisi’s appointment as a squandered opportunity. It appears that rather than choose someone to head the commission who will reach out to lawmakers and work cooperatively with legislators, the governor instead has chosen a political “yes man” with little or no practical experience involving transportation issues other than carrying out the Governor’s myopic vision that relies solely on building more toll roads and selling our highway infrastructure to the highest bidder, usually a foreign owned company.

I currently serve as the Vice Chairman of the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission. In 1977, the Legislature created the Commission to identify and eliminate waste, duplication, and inefficiency in government agencies. The 12-member Commission is a legislative body that reviews the policies and programs of more than 150 government agencies every 12 years. The Commission questions the need for each agency, looks for potential duplication of other public services or programs, and considers new and innovative changes to improve each agency’s operations and activities. Currently, the Texas Department of Transportation is undergoing its 12-year Sunset review.

I also serve as a member of the Senate Nominations Committee, the committee that will have to vote to confirm Ms. Delisi’s appointment when the legislature reconvenes in January 2009. One might expect that the Governor and Ms. Delisi would have contacted all members of these key committees to discuss their plans to reform TxDOT in the Sunset process and to ask for our vote in the upcoming Nomination process. Unfortunately, like most of my colleagues, I learned about the appointment from the news media.

The Governor can certainly appoint anyone whom he sees fit, but as a State Senator who takes his constitutional “advise and consent” responsibilities seriously, I would have hoped Governor Perry would have sought out the advice of legislators before asking for our consent at this critical juncture in Texas history.

The Texas Department of Transportation’s vision statement says that the agency will work to:

“Promote a higher quality of life through partnerships with the citizens of Texas and all branches of government by being receptive, responsible and cooperative.”

The Governor’s and Ms. Delisi’s recent actions with regard to this appointment are certainly not in keeping with that vision statement, but instead reflect a vision of non-cooperation and non-responsiveness to both lawmakers and the constituents they serve.

I certainly hope that Ms. Delisi will prove me wrong. Likewise, I hope that between now and her Senate confirmation hearing next January she will attempt to change my perception that she will not be an agent of the status quo at TxDOT. If so, she may still have an opportunity to earn both my confidence and my vote, and the taxpayers of our state and those who use and depend on our vast transportation system will be well served.

### Perry Veto Fails Texas Community Colleges

*This op/ed by Senator Glenn Hegar first appeared in Texas newspapers July 23, 2008.*

Last month, Texas Governor Rick Perry misused his line-item veto power to kill over \$154 million in state funding for community college health care benefits from the state’s two-year budget, which had overwhelmingly been approved by state lawmakers at the end of the 80th Texas Legislature. Governor Perry’s veto was a devastating setback to Texas’ efforts to close the gaps in higher education. Even though the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Texas Education Agency have consistently communicated the vital role community colleges play in educating Texas’ future leaders, the Governor chose politics instead of pragmatic leadership. Adding insult to injury, the Governor is attempting to quell the gathering political storm by defending his veto by accusing community colleges of falsifying their appropriations requests.

After an onslaught of criticism from legislators, community college advocates, community leaders and educators alike, Governor Perry responded to his critics in an opinion-editorial published in several papers earlier last week. In it, Governor Perry maintains that community colleges have “circumvented” the law and continue to lean on state resources to pay for health insurance for employees who are not employed by the state.

I, like the majority of my colleagues, am dismayed by the Governor’s veto and I am shocked with his reasons for it. Having served on the Appropriations Committee when I was a member of the Texas House, I am very familiar with the process that encompasses funding for all aspects of the state’s budget, including higher education. The legislative process surrounding the budget is not taken lightly by state lawmakers and input from other legislators, state agencies, professionals in their respected fields, community leaders and the general public are all taken into account.

During the past two legislative sessions, funding for community college health care was included in the state’s budgets and both budgets were passed by the Texas Legislature and ultimately signed by the Governor. His signature on the previous session’s budgets led me and my colleagues to believe that he supported this important expenditure of state funds. Not once, during the last session did the Governor express any concern that community colleges were falsifying their appropriation requests or that the state should not be responsible for the health insurance costs for community college employees, so why did he veto this funding after the last session ended? Moreover, how can Governor Perry make such an egregious and blanket statement about all community colleges and then consciously veto funding for only the second year of the state budget?

If, as the Governor alleges, community colleges are committing fraud, why reward them by authorizing state funds for any portion of their ill-gotten gain? Why pay for the first year of funding and veto the second year of the state budget?

Community colleges here in Senate District 18 and across Texas are an important component of our higher education system and provide a pathway to a college education for thousands of my constituents. The Governor’s decision to cut this funding forces all of the state’s community colleges to find alternatives for costs that they had already fixed into their budgets. Unfortunately, those alternatives may include tuition increases, staff lay-offs, an increase in property taxes or a combination of all of the above to make up for their loss.

The Governor’s veto of these dollars runs counter to the legislature’s efforts to lower local school property taxes by \$14 billion dollars. I firmly believe that Texans deserve meaningful and lasting property tax relief. Unfortunately, the Governor’s punitive veto may force our state’s community colleges to shift the burden on to the local taxpayers by raising property taxes. This just doesn’t make sense.

For my constituents here in Senate District 18, this one strike of the Governor’s veto pen will result in the loss of over \$6 million dollars in funding for the seven junior colleges that serve our communities. The taxpayers and students of Texas deserve real solutions, not unfounded accusations. Unfortunately, both taxpayers and college bound students will ultimately suffer the price for the actions of the Governor’s ill-advised veto.



# 2008 INTERIM REVIEW

## Texas Legislative Sportsman's Caucus

Senator Hegar was selected as the new Chair of the Texas Legislative Sportsman's Caucus, a bipartisan organization dedicated to providing legislators and other interested Texans with relevant public policy information relating to a variety of wildlife, hunting, fishing, and other sportsman related issues. Modeled after the highly successful Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, and formed to provide a voice for sportsmen in the halls of state government, 35 sportsmen's caucuses exist in state legislatures throughout the country.

Senator Hegar will serve as Chairman of the caucus during the current interim and during the 81st Texas Legislature, which convenes in January 2009. He has aggressive plans for the caucus which include promoting wildlife and outdoors educational and recreational programs for children, as well as helping to ensure that the rights of Texas sportsmen are protected.

Senator Hegar believes that the benefit of having sportsmen's caucuses in our national and state capitols has never been more important. The sharing of information and ideas between caucuses is a powerful force in state governments around the country—one that is focused on passing pro-sportsman's legislation and defeating attacks from the anti-gun and anti-hunting lobby. He also notes that the statewide economic impact from fish and wildlife related recreation is estimated to be a staggering \$15.8 billion when retail sales, salaries and wages, and jobs are considered. Texas is the #1 hunting, the #2 fishing, and the #3 wildlife watching state in the nation. During his term as Chairman, Senator Hegar hopes to highlight the tremendous economic impact that hunting, fishing and wildlife-related activities have on our state and to help make these resources available to more of Texas' citizens.

Senator Hegar wants the Sportsman's Caucus to serve more than just lawmakers, but also serve as a source of information for all Texans interested in protecting our wildlife resources, our precious Second Amendment Rights to keep and bear arms, as well as our vital private property rights. Texas' wonderful open spaces and excellent hunting and fishing opportunities have long been an important part of our state's heritage, but unfortunately there are those who seek to curtail or eliminate those rights. The Sportsman's Caucus can help lead the fight in educating legislators and their constituents about these threats to our Texas way of life.

The Texas Legislative Sportsman's Caucus was formed in 1993 with special emphasis on preserving Texans heritage and environment for future generations. It is affiliated with the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), which serves as the umbrella organization for launching and working with legislative sportsmen's caucuses in state legislatures. Working together, the Texas Legislative Sportsman's Caucus, the Congressional Sportsman's Foundation, and the NASC provide the ultimate protection against legislative attacks and deliver results for the advancement of sportsmens' interests in the political arena.



Senator Hegar speaks to local wildlife group in Lavaca County.

## Transportation

Two of the biggest issues for Texas transportation policy remain the Trans-Texas Corridor and long term transportation funding. Senator Hegar has been highly critical and skeptical of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and has clearly stated that he cannot support newly appointed Chairwoman Deirdre Delisi's nomination unless the agency becomes more transparent, open, and receptive to the people of Texas. A "go alone" approach is no longer acceptable and fortunately TxDOT has finally begun to listen to the concerns of the people in Senate District 18 and throughout Texas. This is a positive change, nevertheless lawmakers and Texas taxpayers must remain vigilant in our attention to the agency's actions in order to ensure that these recent actions truly mark the beginning of a new era for TxDOT. While the commission's recent announcement that TxDOT will make use of existing right of ways for I-69/TTC was certainly a relief to many landowners, many questions remain about comprehensive development agreements, including these: how will I-69/TTC potentially bypass areas in which the existing right of way is not sufficient, how will the initial toll rates be set and what will the methodology be for toll rate escalation, and how can we ensure meaningful public involvement in these extremely important decisions? Addressing these questions, as well as other issues surrounding transportation funding and the Trans-Texas Corridor, is one of Senator Hegar's highest priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

The Sunset Commission's comprehensive and well received TxDOT report recommends sweeping changes designed to restore the public and legislature's trust in the agency. The report has detailed recommendations that target key areas such as project planning, public involvement, contracting functions, and most importantly, the restoration of the public trust. The Sunset Commission's report recommends abolishing the Transportation Commission and replacing it with an appointed Commissioner of Transportation, who would be subject, without delay or exception, to approval by the Senate every two years. Many variations of this idea have been submitted for consideration such as a single elected Commissioner, an elected Commissioner under whom appointed regional Commissioners serve, and other similar iterations. All of these ideas will be given careful consideration, and the idea most broadly supported by the membership of the Sunset Advisory Commission will become a part of the bill brought before the legislature and ultimately submitted to the governor to be signed into law. The report also focuses on the need for TxDOT to improve the transparency of project planning so that the public has a full understanding of what the agency intends to do with each project. The recommendations offered would require TxDOT to compose and update a unified statewide transportation plan detailing the source of funding for each project and a timeline for its completion, as well as define statewide transportation goals and measure progress toward those goals.

Fortifying TxDOT's public involvement policies is the third issue addressed in the report. TxDOT would be required to improve the navigability of its website and to formally track and analyze complaint data, as well as share information between departments to ensure recognized mistakes are not needlessly repeated and make certain best practices are utilized. Improving the oversight of TxDOT's major contracting functions is a vital recommendation contained in the report. The suggestion would require the Contract Advisory Team, a four member team made up of representatives of the Comptroller's Office, the Attorney General's Office, the Department of Information Resources, and the Governor's Office, to review TxDOT's comprehensive development agreements because of their complexity and the significant financial risks they pose to current and future Texans. The Sunset report is a roadmap that outlines a path that can be followed to return TxDOT to the place it once held as the finest state transportation agency in the nation. For those interested, the report can be read in its entirety by visiting <http://www.sunset.state.tx.us/81.htm#txdot>.

# 2008 INTERIM REVIEW

## Texas Department of Insurance

The Sunset Advisory Commission's review of the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) and the Office of Public Insurance Counsel (OPIC) resulted in numerous recommendations, focusing primarily on three important issues: homeowners' insurance rates, the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA), and the regulation of Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs).

The Sunset Review process revealed many problems with the current homeowners' insurance market in Texas. In an effort to fix the confusing regulatory system currently in place, the Commission is considering the institution of a file-and-use system with deemer dates. This system gives the Commissioner the ability to review certain homeowners' rates before they go into effect to make sure their rates are neither excessive nor discriminatory and that insurance companies are able to cover their claims.

TWIA was created in 1971 as an insurance provider of last resort for homeowners and businesses within 16 coastal counties who cannot obtain insurance coverage from any private company. The Texas coast has traditionally been a tremendous economic engine for Texas and its economic vitality is important to all Texans. Nevertheless, over the last several years TWIA has grown substantially in the number of policies it issues, in part because private companies have discontinued providing wind and hail storm insurance to individuals and businesses in Texas coastal counties. Today TWIA holds over 220,000 policies with a potential liability of \$65 billion dollars in coverage. The greatest concern is that if a particularly large hurricane or multiple hurricanes hit the Texas Gulf Coast within a single year, then TWIA would not have enough money to cover all of the claims.

Reforms, including restructuring the TWIA Board to allow the organization to receive tax-exempt status from the IRS and save TWIA money, are an important starting point, but many of these reforms do not solve the fund's fiscal soundness. During the upcoming legislative session, significant changes will need to be made in how the State of Texas funds TWIA. Senator Hegar will be actively involved in this process and will work tirelessly to ensure that the legislature finds a solution which will protect the interests of all Texans.

Finally, many Texans receive their health insurance through either Health Management Organizations (HMOs) or Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs). Even though TDI regulates health insurance coverage that is provided through group or individual plans, TDI only has the authority to ensure that HMOs honor their contracts. This means that there is virtually no mechanism for TDI to protect Texans who rely on PPOs for their health insurance services. This is viewed by some as a potential problem since more than eighty percent of Texans receiving their health insurance through group or individual plans receive their care through PPOs. While the Sunset Commission is not likely to recommend giving TDI broad regulatory power over PPOs, the issue will surely be revisited during the next legislative session. In the end, the ultimate goal is to ensure greater competition between insurance companies, improved access to insurance for Texans, and lower rates for Texas consumers.

## Criminal Justice

Senator Hegar is directly involved in criminal justice policy in Texas through his service as Vice-Chairman of the Sunset Advisory Commission and as a member of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee. The Senate Criminal Justice Committee has conducted hearings during the interim on how best to reduce drug use, ensure that seized criminal assets are properly used, reduce line-of-duty peace officer fatalities, and ensure citizen safety while improving the re-entry of criminal offenders into Texas society. Interim hearings offer the chance to study issues at a level of detail not usually possible during regular legislative sessions, affording lawmakers and the public an opportunity to find common sense solutions to real problems facing everyday Texans.

The Sunset Advisory Commission's review schedule is generally grouped by subject area to ensure that sunset staff is best positioned to discover duplication of effort, or functions another agency might be better suited to perform. During the current cycle many of the state agencies relating to criminal justice will be reviewed, including the Texas Youth Commission and the Texas Department of Public Safety, two agencies that have found themselves at the center of some controversy. The Sunset Commission's thorough review of these two agencies will provide the legislature with valuable strategies to improve these agencies service to you, the taxpayer.



Senator Hegar and Senator Kel Seliger confer during a Criminal Justice hearing.

## Constituent Services

### Senate Page Program

During the next legislative session, parents are encouraged to consider their child's participation in the Honorary Page program. The student will be able to witness firsthand the political process of the Texas Senate. Senator-sponsored students, between 6 and 18 years of age can enlist as a Page for a day at the State Capitol. Please call my capitol office for details.

### Purchase of a Texas Flag

A Texas flag can be flown over the State Capitol on a specified future date and a Certificate of Authenticity will be created for the recipient of the flag. The 3' x 5' nylon flag, suitable for outdoor use, is \$15.25 and a 3' x 5' cotton flag is \$16.00.

### Congratulatory Certificates and Proclamations

A congratulatory certificate can be provided in recognition of special events such as births, birthdays, graduations, wedding anniversaries, Eagle Scouts' Court of Honor, and Church Anniversaries, etc.

### Tours of the State Capitol

My office will be happy to schedule a school or group tour of the capitol, as well as provide information on the Bob Bullock History Museum and the Capitol Complex Visitors Center.

### State Agency Problems

Both my state and district offices are staffed with bright, energetic, experienced, and helpful staff members who are anxious to help you and your family with any question or concern you may have with state government. Detailed written communications about your unique situation or problems are always helpful.

### Speaking Events & Appointments

During the interim, I travel throughout the district to visit with residents of SD 18, as well as attend various speaking events, tours and meetings. To invite me to speak at an event, take a tour, or if you would like to schedule an appointment, please contact my district office in Katy.

## Senate District 18 Interesting Facts

SD 18 is 16,302 square miles and larger than the states of Rhode Island, Delaware, Connecticut, and Massachusetts combined. The population of the district is 768,344 residents, which is more populous than the states of Alaska, North Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming. Our senate district also has 118.2 Texas gulf coastline miles or 32% of Texas coast, while the district has a significant number of bays and estuaries which means the district has an overwhelming 1,325 county bay shoreline miles.



# Senator Glenn Hegar

The Texas State Senate  
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Senator Hegar and his wife Dara are pictured during opening ceremonies of the 80th Legislative Session.

## Senator Glenn Hegar

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THE TEXAS SENATE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, RELIGION, AGE OR DISABILITY IN EMPLOYMENT OR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES.

## About Senator Glenn Hegar

**Occupation:** Farmer

**Hometown:** Katy

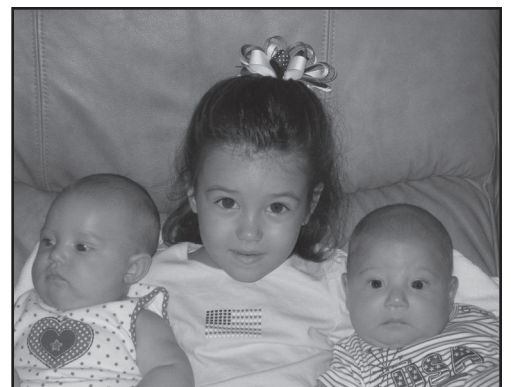
**Education:** BA-Texas A&M University, MA, JD-St. Mary's University, LLM-University of Arkansas

**Legislative Experience:** Served two terms in the House of Representatives from 2003-2007, and began serving as Senator in January of 2007.

**Committee/Appointments:** Vice Chairman, Committee on Government Organization; Committee on Natural Resources; Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Affairs and Coastal Resources; Committee on Criminal Justice; and Committee on Nominations; Vice Chairman Sunset Advisory Commission, Chairman Texas Legislative Sportsman's Caucus.

**Honors and Awards:** Best Legislator and Rookie of the Year from Capitol Inside; Badge of Honor Award from the Texas Municipal Police Association; Legislator of the Year from the Texas Grain and Feed Association; and Smart on Crime Award from the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition.

**Senate District 18:** Aransas, Austin, Bastrop, Caldwell, Calhoun, Colorado, DeWitt, Fayette, Fort Bend (part), Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca, Matagorda, Refugio, Victoria, Waller, Washington, and Wharton counties.



The Hegar Family welcomed twins on March 27th, 2008. Julia and Jonah are pictured with big sister Claire ready to celebrate their first Independence Day.