The first month of the 88th Legislature is coming to an end. During that time, we've elected a speaker, passed a rules package, and filed numerous bills. One of which was Bill <u>HB1325</u> filed by newly elected, Carrie Isaac.

Texans rallied to the capital to support Texas <u>GOP Priories</u>, like banning democrat chairs and election integrity. Many lawmakers, like Tony Tinderholt, have been strong voices in opposing the practice of appointing democrats as committee chairs. Senator <u>Bob Hall</u>, supporting the <u>Texas First</u> movement, had hundreds of supporters at the Capitol this week sharing the message that conservative Texans want to make elections accurate, transparent, and accountable. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick said that tightening election laws is on his list of legislative priorities for this session. Among his goals is changing the penalty for illegal voting from a misdemeanor to a felony after it was downgraded in 2021. Patrick did however reappointed Democrat John Whitmire to chair the <u>Senate Criminal Justice Committee</u> despite pressure from conservative GOP activists.

In other news a <u>bill</u> to ban Chinese citizens and government from buying Texas land gains steam among Republican was filed. Conservative lawmakers push for <u>review</u> of school board group's guidance on transgender students. In addition, a new <u>survey</u> finds that most Texans support more school funding and teacher raises.

In the coming days, GOP Representative Dade Phelan, Speaker of the House, will start appointing committee chairs. It is critical that you make your voice heard by contacting your representatives.

Find who represents you by going to <u>Who Represents Me</u>, or by mailing them at the address below.

To a State Senator: The Honorable (Senator's Full Name) Texas Senate P.O. Box 12068 Austin, Texas 78711

To a State Representative: The Honorable (Representative's Full Name) Texas House of Representatives P.O. Box 2910 Austin, Texas 78768-2910

View the <u>GOP Legislative Priorities for the 88th Session here!</u> Visit <u>Texas Legislature Online</u> to follow bills.

Thank you,

Matthew Okerson 3rd Vice President Campaign and Legislative Activities