



The Senate of The State of Texas

Senator Pete Flores

District 24

Senate District 24 Capitol Update: Property Tax Discussions Continue, Veto Deadline Passed

As we near the end of the First Called Special Session, the Senate unanimously passed yet another property tax reduction plan to the House, but the House continues to refuse to come back to finish this important business.

What is in the new Senate Property Tax Plan?

The Senate plan takes a multi faceted approach to property tax reduction. The latest Senate plan, Senate Bill 26, includes a total of \$18 billion in reductions:

- Raises the homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000. This should provide an average \$600-\$700 savings to homeowners on their school taxes.
- Included in SB 1 (88(1)) is a hold harmless provision so that school funding will not be reduced.
- Provides \$12.7 billion for school district tax rate reduction and lowering the collection limit rate (CLR).
- Reduces the school district CLR from 2.5% to 1.75%, a 30% reduction for future tax levy increases.
- Exempts small businesses from burdensome franchise taxes by doubling the exemption to \$2.47 million. This will remove about 67,000 small to medium businesses from paying the franchise tax.
- Removes the requirement to file a No-Tax-Due return that will save businesses time and money.

At this time, it does not seem that the House will come back, so we will likely have to address these issues in another special session called by Governor Abbott. I've been proud to support the Senate's plan for property tax relief on behalf of all of you, and will continue to do so. Simply put, the Senate's plan is far better and provides relief in multiple ways so that homeowners see the most savings in their pockets.

Veto Deadline Has Passed:

This session, I was proud to pass 21 of the 43 bills I originally filed, and in total sent 38 bills to the Governor, only 2 of which were vetoed. Though I am disappointed with the vetoes, I am still immensely proud of the great work we accomplished this session. These bills range from education issues, protecting the elderly from predatory nursing homes, to school safety and law enforcement enhancements.

88th Regular Session Voting Record:

I am proud to report that I was certified for having a 100% voting record during the 88th Legislative Session. This is one of my most prominent accomplishments – when I am present and voting, our district wins and your voice is heard.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office if we can ever be of service to you and your family. Whether it be needing help with a state agency, or making your thoughts on a bill heard, please contact your office either by phone at (512) 463-0124 or by email to pete.flores@senate.texas.gov or via my state website.

As my team and I transition into the interim, we will begin working on interim charges and travelling the district to hear from you. Be on the lookout for information relating to town halls and other events in your area soon!