

# Turner's Texas Times

Vol. 5, Issue 1

Week of May 6, 2013

Good afternoon, friends.

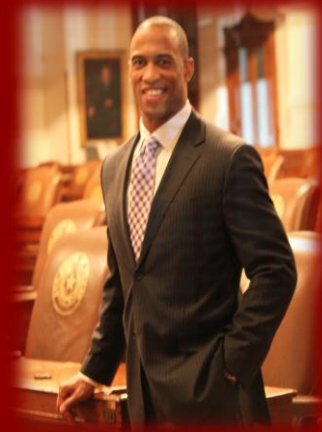
Last week was somewhat of a blur. In the House, we went from hearing 50 bills a week to hearing 200+. With so many bills coming to the floor, Team Turner has been working 13-14 hour days, including Saturdays. It's worth it, though!

Solomon is back to coaching his basketball team of 8 and 9 year olds. Robin and I are so very proud to watch how hard he works to help these young boys and girls succeed. Seeing the game from a different perspective has also improved basketball skills as well. He focuses more and listens closely to instructions. I am proud to see him using his God-given talents to help others in his community.

I hope you all have a very blessed week. Please stop by and say hello when you are in Austin. As always, never hesitate to contact me if I can ever be of assistance.

Blessings,

*Scott*



Representative  
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Texas House of Representatives  
District 33

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## Capitol Recap (April 29 - May 4)

Last week was an extremely busy week. We heard more than 200 bills on the floor that ranged from the Texas Commission on the Arts to gun laws. It was great to see so many Second Amendment supporters at the Capitol. I am proud to say Republicans stood tall and defended our right to bear arms. I am also happy to report that House Bill 607, my bill that would phase-out and repeal the franchise tax, passed out of the Ways and Means Committee on Saturday morning and is now in Calendars. Unfortunately, House Bill 14, the bill I Joint Authored that called for more transparency and accountability in government, was delayed by a Point of Order. My hope is that the minor issue will be amended and the bill will be back up for a vote soon.



## This week...

This week will prove to be even busier than last week. Hundreds of bills are on the docket so we will have our hands full. I am expecting House Bill 3498, my Honest Transcript bill, will be heard on the floor sometime this week. This legislation calls for more honesty, transparency and integrity in our public institutions of higher learning. Grade inflation is an epidemic in colleges and universities; 73% of all grades issued in institutions of higher learning are either A's or B's and yet businesses struggle to find qualified individuals to meet industry needs. Just as monetary inflation devalues the dollar, grade inflation devalues the quality of education.

If you would like more information regarding all the bills being heard on the House floor, please visit [www.house.state.tx.us](http://www.house.state.tx.us). The schedule rapidly changes so check the calendar frequently.

## This week's survey question:

*(Please email your response to me at [scott.turner@house.state.tx.us](mailto:scott.turner@house.state.tx.us)):*

## Should Texas have a state income tax?

If you are not currently receiving Turner's Texas Times and would like to subscribe, please email me [Scott.Turner@house.state.tx.us](mailto:Scott.Turner@house.state.tx.us) and I will make sure you are added to the distribution list.

All previous e-newsletters can be found on my website at [www.house.state.tx.us/members/member-page/?district=33](http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/member-page/?district=33).

# Community Spotlight

## Centennial High

Congratulations to Centennial High School senior, Breylin Becton, who was named *Honorable Mention* in C-SPAN's StudentCam contest. His 8-minute film, titled "The Opportunity Gap" addressed the difference in opportunities available to the rich and poor in the U.S. More than 1,893 students entered the contest and Breylin was one of 75 honored in the competition.



**Congratulations to former Heath Hawk, Kendial Laurence, who just signed with the Dallas Cowboys!!**



Leadership Rockwall County is in the process of constructing The Cedars, a disc golf course that will be located in Fate. The class is planning its grand opening and dedication on Sunday, May 19, 2013 at 2:00pm and the community is welcome to attend.

### Non-Profit of the Week

#### Blue Ridge Volunteer Fire Department

www.blueridgefire-tx.us  
(972)752-4027

The mission of the Blue Ridge Volunteer Fire Department is to provide skilled, volunteer fire and first response emergency services to the citizens of Blue Ridge and the surrounding communities of the district in order that they may save lives and property.

### Outstanding Citizen of the Week

This week's Outstanding Citizen is 9-year-old Karter Hargrave from Royse City. Instead of birthday presents, Karter asked for items she could donate to the animal shelter. She delivered a carload of greatly needed items yesterday. Please help me thank Karter for her caring spirit and giving heart.

*Do you know someone who has done something special and deserves public recognition? Email me and tell me about them and we may feature them in an upcoming newsletter.*

# Capitol Watch

**On Saturday, I addressed the Ways & Means Committee regarding House Bill 607. Shortly after I spoke, it passed out of the Committee.**



**The Weible family stopped by the office to say a quick hello. I always appreciate seeing folks from the district.**



**It's always great to run into Don Garner with Capitol Commission.**

## Turner's Texas Trivia

**What is the Texas' state bird?**

*(Look for the answer in next week's newsletter.)*

**Answer to last week's trivia question:** Who said, "Some folks look at me and see a certain swagger, which in Texas is called 'walkin'"? George W. Bush

