



# John Zerwas, M.D.

## State Representative

### District 28

Capitol Update - April 8, 2011

## Zerwas Legislation

### **House Bill 1643**

HB 1643, relating to development agreements governing land in a municipality's extraterritorial jurisdiction, was heard on Monday before the Land and Resource Management Committee. This bill will allow the maximum term of a development agreement to be 45 years.

### **House Bill 273**

The interstate compact is a tool that can be used to move control of health care from the federal government to the states. This bill would create the Texas Health Care Compact Advisory Committee, and this committee would conduct a study to determine the state's ability to assume regulatory control over health care.

### **House Bill 610**

HB 610 is Representative Zerwas' first bill of the 82nd Session to pass out of the House. This legislation will require the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to utilize electronic means when communicating with the Legislature. A member still has the option to receive any notices by paper if they so choose. HB 610 passed out on third reading on Wednesday with a vote of 144-0.

### **House Bill 1645**

HB 1645 will require the Health and Human Services Commission to maximize efficiencies and cost savings within the Medicaid and CHIP programs. Representative Zerwas laid out this bill before the Appropriations Committee on Wednesday.



On Thursday, Representative Zerwas met with officials from Fulshear, Simonton, and Weston Lakes.

### **Simonton, Fulshear and Weston Lakes Day**

Representatives from Simonton, Fulshear and Weston Lakes were in Austin to attend their day at the Capitol. They received a legislative briefing from Representative Zerwas and Senator Hegar and were recognized on the House and Senate floors. They discussed the recent passage of the House budget, the Sunset period for state agencies and issues affecting the district.

### **Legislative Resources**

There are a multitude of resources available to the public that can help an individual follow the legislative process. From audio and video archives to a legislative bill search portal, the House website provides plenty of helpful links and information. Please visit [www.house.state.tx.us](http://www.house.state.tx.us) for more information.

### **Capitol Visits**

If you would like to set up a Capitol tour through Representative Zerwas's office, please send an email to [caroline.dickerson@house.state.tx.us](mailto:caroline.dickerson@house.state.tx.us). Due to the amount of individuals visiting the Capitol during session, please give our office at least two weeks notice from when you would like to schedule the tour.



Precinct Chair Edee Sinclair brought daughter Abby Sinclair and friend Amber Matlock to the Capitol to serve as honorary pages.



Students from Prairie View A&M met with Representative Zerwas's staff on Wednesday.

If you would like to view previous newsletters, please visit [www.johnzerwas.com](http://www.johnzerwas.com).