



DAN FLYNN

★ DISTRICT 2 ★

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AUSTIN - Today, the Texas House of Representatives passed House Bill 10. The legislation, authored by Appropriations Committee Chairman Jim Pitts (R - Waxahachie), allows the Legislature to fulfill its current financial obligations to health care providers and ensures that Texas doctors, hospitals, and nursing homes can continue to provide services to Texas residents. Chairman Pitts said, "This legislation is simply about paying our bills and keeping promises to our constituents. Through our actions today, we will continue to provide for those most vulnerable in our society."

The current appropriation for Medicaid costs is scheduled to run out in March of 2013. House Bill 10 provides a supplemental appropriation of \$4.8 billion to ensure the continuation of vital services such as Medicaid (\$4.5 billion) and Children's Health Program (\$75 million). Due to exceptional growth in the private sector, the State of Texas will collect \$8.8 billion more in the current biennium than originally estimated. This stronger-than-expected performance of the Texas economy will allow House Bill 10 to be paid with existing revenue.

Representative Flynn (R-Van) was pleased to see HB10 pass with little opposition, "This legislation allows for the state to remain fiscally responsible and still provide for those Texans who require access to quality care. If only the administration in Washington would look to Texas as an example for fiscal responsibility. We are able to care not only for those who require assistance, but we are able to cover the costs of the program that, at the federal level, is the Achilles heel of our country's financial stability. I trust that our colleagues will continue to hold fast to those principles of limited government as we go through this 83rd legislative session."

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