



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
JOE STRAUS
SPEAKER

January 31, 2014

Dear Members:

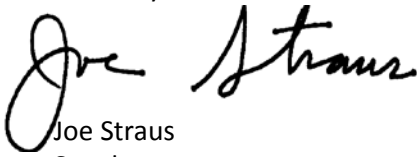
In the pages that follow, you will find interim charges for the 83rd Legislature. These charges will help every standing committee in the Texas House begin the important work of preparing for the 2015 legislative session.

The charges reflect many of the ideas and issues that you have suggested the House study over the next year. I want to thank you for those suggestions and encourage you to work on these charges with focus and diligence. I also hope you will approach these issues with an open mind. Don't be afraid to consider new and different ways to make state government more effective, efficient and accountable to taxpayers.

In the coming months, I will release additional charges and highlight some of my own priorities for the upcoming session. Combined with the interim charges that I am releasing today, the initiatives that I will soon propose will help all of us begin the 84th Legislature ready and equipped to tackle our state's most serious challenges. Just as we did in last year's session, I am confident that we can address these issues in a responsible, bipartisan way.

One of the reasons that the 83rd Legislature was so successful was that we identified key priorities early and made important progress on those priorities before the opening gavel fell. I hope you will take a similar approach to our work over the next 12 months. Thank you in advance for your attention to these charges and for your commitment to Texas. I look forward to working with you as we prepare for another successful session.

Sincerely


Joe Straus
Speaker