



Private Property Rights

I believe one of the most important functions of government is the protection of private property and the interests of property owners. It is vitally important for the government to be continually reminded that our private property precedes the government; it does not flow from the government. Private property and our ability to own it and profit from it is fundamental to not just our economic, but also our personal liberty.

I was disappointed that the Governor vetoed important legislation reforming our eminent domain laws to give more protections to property owners when facing new roads, pipelines, and utilities. I will be working with my colleagues to once again pass this legislation protecting private property.

I also voted for the two-year moratorium to put the brakes on the Trans-Texas Corridor to give the Legislature and the public time to make sure we are making the right decisions and going in the right direction. While doing nothing is not an option, I am not convinced that the plan being pushed by the Texas Department of Transportation is the best plan that meets our future transportation needs while protecting and respecting private property.