



PRESS RELEASE

Senator Craig Estes
Texas State Senate District 30

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Estes named to parks funding Task Force

Austin - State Senator Craig Estes (R-Wichita Falls) has been appointed to the Joint Task Force on Sporting Goods Sales Tax by Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst.

"Senator Estes' leadership was an integral part of creating the final conference committee report that created this Task Force and resulted in almost doubling funding for Parks and Wildlife," said Dewhurst.

During the 80th Regular Session, Estes sponsored House Bill 12 directing nearly \$182 million in additional funding to our state parks which are to be funded through the revenue generated by state sales tax assessed on sporting goods.

"I was proud to sponsor House Bill 12 which reaffirmed our commitment to the restoration and conservation of our parks and historical preservations, and begin restoring the promise made to the taxpayers to use the proceeds from the sales tax on sporting goods to fund our Texas Parks and Wildlife," said Estes.

The Joint Task Force on Sporting Goods Sales Tax was established through House Bill 12 to review which items are to be included in the definition of "sporting goods" in the Tax Code and to determine the necessary revenue to be generated from the sale of "sporting goods" to fund state and local parks, historic sites, coastal management programs, and water planning at the funding levels set by the 80th Legislature.

The Task Force is to present their recommendations to the full Legislature by December 15.

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