



ROBERT DUNCAN  
STATE SENATOR  
DISTRICT 28

Remarks on the State of the State Address

Senator Robert Duncan

Jan. 27, 2009

"Today, Governor Perry issued his biennial State of the State address to the Texas Legislature. This is similar to the President's State of the Union address. In this particular address, Governor Perry outlined what his priorities were for this session and requesting cooperation from the house and senate with his particular programs.

Quite frankly, I thought it was a good speech. I thought he gave a very realistic picture of where we are in Texas, recounting some of the many things we have done over the last few years to help maintain a budget outlook that is very strong.

Texas is the only large state in the union to have a balanced budget at this time without a looming deficit ahead of it. But we are heading for economic issues in this state - just like every other state - with the downturn in the economy. And, I was encouraged by the fact that he encouraged the Legislature to be disciplined, but not "penny-wise and pound-foolish." In other words, the Governor, I think, recognizes the need for Texas to move forward in areas like higher education and public education, and also investment in opportunities to bring new jobs to the State of Texas.

The governor also announced his initiative to exempt small businesses - those making under \$1 million a year - from the new Texas business tax. I think these are interesting proposals that should help stimulate, even more, the Texas economy. Hopefully, with new measures like this we can pull through these hard economic times in Texas with prosperity."