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FOR THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE

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Program & Speakers 2006



January 9 & 10, 2006

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## January 9, 2006 — Austin Capitol Marriott

Welcome..... Brooke Leslie Rollins  
President, Texas Public Policy Foundation

2:00 p.m.  
Opening Keynote Address ..... House Speaker Tom Craddick  
Tax and Expenditure Remarks ..... Ken Blackwell, Ohio Secretary of State

### Break

2:45 p.m.  
Tax & Expenditure Limits: Where Do We Go From Here? ..... 5  
Participants ..... Senator Tommy Williams  
Representative Carl Isett  
Barry Poulson, University of Colorado & Americans for Prosperity  
Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor

2:45 p.m.  
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Participants ..... Senator Kyle Janek  
Representative Harold Dutton  
Representative Beverly Woolley  
Scott Bullock, Institute for Justice  
Larry Casto, City of Dallas

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Water: Are We Leaving the Future of Texas High and Dry? ..... 8  
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The Honorable J.E. "Buster" Brown  
Ron Kaiser, Texas A&M University  
Kevin Ward, Executive Director, Texas Water Development Board

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Tax Fairness: Rhetoric or Reality? ..... 9  
Participants ..... Senator Steve Ogden  
Representative Jim Keffer  
John Fund, *Wall Street Journal*  
Scott McCown, Center for Public Policy Priorities



4:15 p.m.

Beyond the Big House: Better Alternatives to Prison ..... 10

Participants ..... Representative Jerry Madden  
Judge John Creuzot, Dallas District Judge  
Rob Kepple, Texas District and County Attorneys Association  
Ann del Llano, Texas ACLU

6:30 p.m.

Dinner — Ballroom

Invocation ..... State Representative Sid Miller

Keynote Address ..... Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst

## Keynote Speakers — January 9, 2006



### Texas House Speaker Tom Craddick

When Tom Craddick of Midland was elected Speaker of the Texas House in January 2003, he became the first Republican to lead the House in 130 years. He has served in the House for 18 terms—since 1969.

In 1975, then-House Speaker Billy Clayton made Representative Craddick the first Republican committee chair in more than a century, naming him chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, a leadership position he held from the 64th through the 69th Legislatures. Representative Craddick chaired the House Public Health Committee for the 72nd Legislature in 1991 and headed the House Ways and Means Committee in the 73rd, 74th and 75th Legislatures.

Representative Craddick has served on committees of the National Conference of State Legislatures and was a delegate to the 1974 Texas Constitutional Convention. He also was a part of the Texas Legislature's original ethical and legislative reform group, the "Dirty Thirty."

In private life, Craddick is a sales representative for Mustang Mud Inc. and owner of Craddick Properties in Midland. He is an Eagle Scout and has held numerous civic posts in his hometown. In 1995 he received the Distinguished Alumni Award from his alma mater, Texas Tech.





# Keynote Speakers – January 9, 2006



### Ken Blackwell, Ohio Secretary of State

Ken Blackwell has a distinguished record of achievement as an educator, diplomat and finance executive. In 2004, the American Conservative Union and the Ashbrook Center for Public Affairs honored Mr. Blackwell's steadfast conservative leadership by presenting him with the prestigious John M. Ashbrook Award. Past recipients of this award include President Ronald Reagan, Ambassador Jean Kirkpatrick and Charlton Heston.

Mr. Blackwell's public service includes terms as mayor of Cincinnati, an undersecretary at the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Human Rights Commission. In 1994, he became the first African American elected to a statewide executive office in Ohio when he was elected Treasurer of State. Mr. Blackwell is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and a former member of the federal senior executive service. He is co-chairman of the board of directors of the Campaign Finance Institute in Washington, D.C. and a member of the Harvard Policy Group on Network-Enabled Services and Government. Mr. Blackwell is a member of the national advisory boards of the Princeton Review and Youth for Christ. He also is a former chairman of the U.S. Census Monitoring Board and member of the Advisory Panel of the Federal Elections Commission.



### Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst

David Dewhurst was elected lieutenant governor of Texas in 2002. In his capacity as lieutenant governor he serves as president of the Texas Senate, and during the 78th Regular Session, he worked to balance a \$10 billion plus revenue shortfall while protecting essential government services and not raising taxes. Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst also worked to lower skyrocketing homeowners' insurance premiums by gathering bipartisan support for a bill to regulate homeowners' insurance.

Responding to a medical malpractice crisis in Texas, Dewhurst helped the Senate write a bill that capped non-economic damage awards, which helped drive down malpractice premiums while allowing those injured by medical malpractice to be fairly compensated. He also worked with the Senate to implement the "B-on-Time Loan Program," a program that provides college students with zero-interest loans, and then rewards them if they graduate on-time with a "B" average.

As commissioner of the Texas General Land Office, where he served from 1999-2002, Dewhurst reduced the budget and turned back money each fiscal year to Texas' taxpayers. He certified almost \$1 billion in below-market interest rate loans to veterans to stimulate the Texas economy, and helped protect the environment and increase tourism by restoring Texas' beaches and bays.

Dewhurst began his business career in the mid-1970s after serving as an officer in the U.S. Air Force, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the U.S. State Department. In 1981, he founded Falcon Seaboard, a Texas-based diversified energy and investments company. An early developer in the mid-1980s in the electric co-generation business, he has earned a reputation as an innovative and successful businessman.



## Tax & Expenditure Limits: Where Do We Go From Here?



### Senator Tommy Williams

Senator Tommy Williams was elected to the Texas Senate in 2002 and served three-terms in the Texas House of Representatives prior to his election to the senate. Williams is an outspoken advocate for Texas taxpayers and a recognized leader in budgetary issues. He serves on the Senate Finance Committee, Education Committee, Criminal Justice Committee, Vice-Chair of the Senate's State Affairs Committee; and at the end of 2005, Lt. Gov. Dewhurst named Williams to the Senate Select Committee on Education Reform and Public School Finance.

Williams was recently awarded the *Top Legislator Award* by the Texas Civil Justice League, the *Legislator of the Year Award* by the Texas Constables and Justices of the Peace Association, and the prestigious *Champion for Free Enterprise* by the Texas Association of Business. A graduate of Texas A&M with a BBA in Accounting, he is a member of the Texas Society of CPA's and serves as President of Woodforest Financial Services, an affiliate of Woodforest National Bank.



### Representative Carl Isett

In November 1996, tax accountant Carl Isett was elected to the Texas House of Representatives. During the 78<sup>th</sup> Session, Representative Isett served on the House Appropriations, Ethics, and Redistricting Committees and was chairman for Budget Oversight for the Economic Development Committee. He was also named to the Select Committee on School Finance and served as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Cost Adjustment for Public School Finance and was appointed to serve on the Texas Legislative Council. He was selected by his peers to serve as president of the Texas Conservative Coalition.

The Free Market Foundation's Free Enterprise PAC recognized Representative Isett as "Freshman of the Year" in 1997. He has been given the "Friend of the Taxpayer" Award from Citizens for a Sound Economy and been named a "Champion of Free Enterprise" by the Texas Public Policy Foundation.



### Barry Poulson, University of Colorado & Americans for Prosperity

Barry W. Poulson is Professor of Economics at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He has been a Visiting Professor at several Universities including: Universidad Autonoma De Guadalajara, Mexico; University of North Carolina; Cambridge University; Konan University, Kobe Japan; and Universidad Carlos Tercera, Madrid, Spain. He is past President of the North American Economics and Finance Association.

Professor Poulson has served as a consultant on fiscal policy issues at both the state and national level. He is currently serving on the Commission to Strengthen and Secure PERA. He was a member of the Colorado Tax Commission, and Vice Chair of the State Treasurer's Advisory Group on Constitutional Amendments.

Currently Professor Poulson is Americans for Prosperity Foundation Distinguished Scholar, Adjunct Scholar of the Heritage Foundation, and Senior Fellow of the Independence Institute. He is a member of the Task Force on Tax and Fiscal Policy of the American Legislative Exchange Council.



### Tax & Expenditure Limits: Where Do We Go From Here?—continued



#### Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor

Susan Spataro has served as Travis County Auditor since 1988. She has a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Ohio University. Spataro is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Management Accountant. Previous positions include: Lecturer in Accounting at the University of Texas at Austin and at Ohio University; Executive Director of the Athens Small Business Enterprise Center in Athens, Ohio; and elected Clerk of the Alliance Municipal Court in Alliance, Ohio. While serving as an elected official she received a special award from the Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court "For Extraordinary Contributions to the Administration of Justice in the State of Ohio."

Spataro is a member of the Policy Advisory Group for the Texas Association of Counties. She has conducted training programs for the LBJ School Offices of Conferences and Training in accounting, auditing, professional standards and internal controls, and served as Presiding Officer for the Texas County Financial Data Advisory Committee set up by the Texas State Legislature.

### Protecting Property Rights After *Kelo*



#### Senator Kyle Janek

Kyle Janek was sworn in as a state senator in 2002. During the 78th Legislative Session, he worked to balance the state budget, particularly in the area of health and human services, as a member of the Senate Finance Committee. He also served on the Senate Education Committee.

After the 2003 session, Janek received the Texas Hospital Association Board of Trustees' Texas Hospital Advocacy Tribute Award and made the Texas Realtor Honor Roll for his work on issues important to property owners in Texas. The Texas Association of Business designated him a Fighter For Free Enterprise. A board certified anesthesiologist who is also on the staffs of three hospitals, Janek was elected to the State House of Representatives in 1994. He served for eight years in the House.



#### Representative Harold Dutton

In the 79th Session, Dutton served as Chairman of the Committee on Juvenile Justice & Family Issues, as a member of the House Committee on Public Education, and the Committee on General Investigating and Ethics. In addition, Dutton is a member of the House Democratic Caucus, the Steering Committee of the House Research Organization, the Legislative Black Caucus and the Harris County Delegation.

Representative Dutton is a graduate of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law, where he was inducted into "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities." Dutton is now an Adjunct Professor at the Law School, is a Member of the Texas Bar Association, the Houston Bar Association, the Texas Trial Lawyers Association and the American Trial Lawyers Association. Dutton operates the Law Office of Harold V. Dutton, Jr & Associates and specializes in the area of civil rights and employment discrimination.





## Protecting Property Rights After *Kelo*—continued



### Representative Beverly Woolley

Beverly Woolley is currently serving her sixth term in the Texas House of Representatives. Presently, Representative Woolley is the Chairman of the powerful House Committee on Calendars and serves as a member on the House Committee on Civil Practices and the House Committee on Ways & Means.

Her hard work and dedication to Texas has been recognized by various organizations. The Jump\$tart Coalition and the Texas Credit Union League have recognized Representative Woolley for her dedication to promoting financial literacy. In February 2006 she will receive the 2005 National Desjardins Youth Financial Education Award for State Lawmakers from the Credit Union National Association. The Texas

Association of Business recognized Representative Woolley for her strong pro-business voting record. The Texas Municipal Police Association presented Representative Woolley with their Legislative Excellence Award, which is awarded to legislators who have demonstrated a strong commitment to law enforcement and criminal justice.



### Scott Bullock, Institute for Justice

Scott Bullock joined the Institute for Justice at its founding in 1991 and serves as a senior attorney. He litigates property rights, free speech, and other constitutional cases in federal and state courts.

In the property rights area, Bullock has been involved in a number of cases challenging eminent domain abuse. He was co-counsel in and argued the landmark case, *Kelo v. City of New London*, one of the most controversial and widely-discussed U.S. Supreme Court decisions in decades. Bullock has worked with property owners in scores of other cities throughout the country challenging private-to-private transfers of property, including leading the Institute's successful campaign against eminent

domain abuse in downtown Pittsburgh and spearheading the litigation that saved the land and homes of the Archie family in Canton, Miss., from an effort by the State to take it for a Nissan plant. For that accomplishment, he was awarded in 2002 the top civil rights prize by the Mississippi chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

### Larry Casto, City of Dallas

Larry Casto is the Director of Legislative Affairs for the City of Dallas. At the request of the Dallas City Council, Larry Casto has drafted, introduced, and assisted in the passage of more than 80 bills relating to the delivery of municipal services.

Prior to his work for the city, Larry was the Legal Counsel to the Texas Senate Committee on Economic Development and the Chief of Staff to Texas State Senator Temple Dickson in 1991-92. In 1989, he published "Ownership of Mineral Rights Underlying the Public Right-of-Way." Larry received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Texas Tech University in 1987, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the Texas Tech University School of Law in 1990.



### Water: Are We Leaving the Future of Texas High and Dry?



#### Senator Ken Armbrister

State Senator Ken Armbrister was a Victoria Police Captain, and the Vice President of the Victoria School Board when first elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1983. After two terms in the House he was elected to the Texas Senate. Senator Armbrister is currently the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, and is also a member of the Senate Committees on Business and Commerce, Government Organization, and State Affairs.

He authored the landmark legislation that created the Edwards Aquifer Authority and solidified the regional water needs for a 26 county area of South Texas. Governor Rick Perry appointed Senator Armbrister to the Task Force on Homeland Security, and the Governor's Anti-Crime Commission. He was recently named to the Texas Water Advisory Council by Lt. Governor David Dewhurst.



#### Honorable J.E. "Buster" Brown, former State Senator

J.E. "Buster" Brown served in the Texas Senate from 1981 until 2002, and was Chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee. Senator Brown authored SB1 and SB2, which established the Water Plan for Texas, which included drought management, conservation, ground water districts, regional planning, water marketing, and conjunctive use of surface and ground water.

Brown served as a member and Chairman of the Energy Council, and is a long-time member of the Western States Water Council. Brown currently has a general legislative consulting firm in Austin with his daughter, Jennifer E. Brown.



#### Ron Kaiser, Texas A & M University

Ronald A. Kaiser is professor of water law and policy at Texas A&M University. He is the Chair of a 50 member intercollegiate water faculty that supervises a new masters and doctoral degree program in water management and hydrological science at Texas A&M University. Kaiser has academic appointments in the Institute of Renewable Natural Resources and in the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences. He also has an adjunct appointment in the Department of Marine Science at Texas A&M University at Galveston.

Kaiser holds degrees in natural resource management and resource economics from Michigan State University and law degrees from Thomas Cooley Law School and the University of California at Berkeley. His research focuses on water law, water marketing, environmental flows and groundwater management.



## Water: Are We Leaving the Future of Texas High and Dry?—continued



### Kevin Ward, Executive Director, Texas Water Development Board

The governing board of the Texas Water Development Board selected Kevin Ward as the agency's Executive Administrator in April 2002. Mr. Ward has over 20 years progressive experience in public and private sector governmental consulting and management positions.

He serves on the board of the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities (a national organization consisting of public and private sector affiliates that manage funding programs for environmental projects), and was previously active on the State/Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) State Revolving Fund work-group. Mr. Ward received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Accounting from the University of Texas at Austin in 1982.

## Tax Fairness: Rhetoric or Reality?



### Senator Steve Ogden

Elected to the Texas Senate in January 1997, Steve Ogden has been a leader on budget issues, educational funding, child protection, transportation safety and criminal justice. Senator Ogden chairs the Senate Finance Committee.

Ogden has been in the oil and gas exploration business for 20 years and is currently president of Ogden Resources Corporation, an independent oil and gas company based in College Station. Prior to entering the oil business, Ogden served as an officer in the U.S. Navy's nuclear submarine force for nine years. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree at the U.S. Naval Academy and his Master of Business Administration degree at Texas A&M University.



### Representative Jim Keffer

James L. "Jim" Keffer was elected to the Texas State House of Representatives in 1996. He served as chairman of the House Committee on Economic Development in the 78th Legislative Session and is an active member of the House Rural Caucus. Representative Keffer has been honored by the Texas Association of Business as a "Fighter for Free Enterprise" and has received a "Freedom and Family Award" from the Texas Eagle Forum.

He is a small businessman and has been president of EBAA Iron Sales, Inc., an iron foundry with plants in Eastland and Albany, Texas, since 1988. He began working with the company following his graduation from Texas Tech University.



### Tax Fairness: Rhetoric or Reality?—continued



#### John Fund, *Wall Street Journal*

John Fund is a columnist for *The Wall Street Journal's* OpinionJournal.com and is a contributor to the paper's weekly "Political Diary" column. He is also an on-air contributor to the 24-hour news cable channels MSNBC and CNBC.

He and former Pennsylvania Rep. James K. Coyne are co-authors of the book *Cleaning House: America's Campaign for Term Limits*. He is also the author of the just released book, *Stealing Elections: How Voter Fraud Undermines Our Democracy*. That book helped shape the debate over election reform in this country when it was published in 2004. News reports are now filled with discussion of the need to require photo ID of voters as well as the problems associated with electronic voting machines.

Fund worked as a research analyst for the California State Legislature in Sacramento before beginning his journalism career in 1982 as a reporter for the syndicated columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak. He has spoken before numerous prestigious groups including the National Conference of State Legislatures and the National Association of Attorneys' General.



#### Scott McCown, Exec. Director, Center for Public Policy Priorities

Scott McCown retired as a state district judge in 2002 to become director of the Center for Public Policy Priorities. Called "the voice of the voiceless" and "the conscience" of Texas politics by *Texas Monthly*, he is responsible for the center's direction and administration. He is also an expert on school finance and child welfare. Before coming to the center, he presided over all of Texas' public school finance cases from 1990-2002 and thousands of child abuse cases. He is a member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and an elected member of the American Law Institute and the Philosophical Society of Texas.

McCown earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, cum laude, from Texas Christian University in 1976, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence with honors from The University of Texas School of Law in 1979, where he was elected to the Order of the Coif and to the Board of Editors of *The Texas Law Review*.

### Beyond the Big House: Better Alternatives to Prison



#### Representative Jerry Madden

First elected to the Texas Legislature in November of 1992 and now in his seventh term, Madden chairs the House Committee on Corrections and is a member of the Civil Practices Committee. Owing to his interest in promoting alternatives to incarceration and finding effective methods of reducing recidivism, Chairman Madden serves as an Ex-Officio member of the Governor's Criminal Justice Advisory Council. Prior committee appointments have included Calendars, Public Education, House Select Committee on Public School Finance, State Affairs, Urban Affairs, Public Safety, Elections, State, Federal and International Relations, and Rules and Resolutions.

He has been honored for his work in a variety of policy areas by organizations including the American Legion-Dept. of Texas, Dallas Chapter of the National Federation of Republican Assemblies, Campaigns for People, Texas Common Cause, Texas Association of Business, Texas Library Association, the Lone Star Foundation, and many more.



## Beyond the Big House: Better Alternatives to Prison—continued



### Judge John Creuzot, Dallas District Judge

John Creuzot is a criminal district judge in Dallas County. He was appointed in 1991 by Governor Ann Richards and has been elected and re-elected three times since then. To break the cycle of addiction and crime, Judge Creuzot established the Dallas Initiative for Expedited Rehabilitation and Treatment court, known as the DIVERTE program. This federally funded program, often referred to as a drug court, allows the dismissal of felony charges for first-time nonviolent offenders who complete a rigorous 12 to 18-month probationary regiment including mandatory drug treatment, counseling, and testing.

Prior to ascending to the bench, Judge Creuzot maintained a private law practice between 1989 and 1991 and worked as a prosecutor in the Dallas County District Attorney's office from 1982 to 1989. A Louisiana native, Judge Creuzot earned his B.A. from North Texas State University and his J.D. from Southern Methodist University School of Law.

### Rob Kepple, Executive Director, Texas District and County Attorneys Association

Rob Kepple is executive director of the TDCAA. During the legislative session, he's the "Penal Code Ranger" because of his nonstop efforts at the Capitol with criminal legislation. From pre-daylight hours until after sunset, the TDCAA phones ring off the wall these days, with legislators and their staff members wanting to know what Rob thinks about a bill they're proposing. Is a "tough-on-crime" proposal constitutional? Is it a good idea? Will it help or hurt prosecutors? They all ask Rob, because they've come to count on him for an honest—and not necessarily a pro-State—assessment. Rob says his mother always wanted him to be a diplomat. And in a way, that's exactly what he is these days in his role as TDCAA's legislative guy.

Rob got the nickname "the Heat" during our last round of legislative update talks because of his ability to put together the big finish (only sometimes by cutting off his co-presenters) in a speech.

### Ann del Llano, Texas American Civil Liberties Union

Ann del Llano is the criminal justice liaison and Director of Sentencing Policy for the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas (ACLU). Prior to joining the ACLU, del Llano operated her own law firm in Austin for 8 years, focusing on family law and juvenile justice.

Del Llano is one of the founders of the website [solutionsfortexas.info](http://solutionsfortexas.info) that provides daily news and analysis on criminal justice issues in Texas. She has authored numerous articles and papers advocating drug courts and community-based treatment programs for nonviolent offenders. She has been widely quoted as an authority on criminal justice policy in media outlets such as the *Houston Chronicle*, *Austin American-Statesman*, and *Texas Observer*.

Del Llano was born in Midland, TX and graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in Austin. She holds a law degree from the Hastings College of Law in San Francisco.





# January 10, 2006 — Austin Capitol Marriott

9:00 a.m.

Opening Keynote: Newt Gingrich, former U.S. House Speaker

9:30 a.m.

Prescription for Medicaid: Principles and Practical Solutions..... 15

Participants ..... Representative Dan Gattis  
Michael Cannon, Cato Institute  
Jim Frogue, Center for Health Transformation  
Alan Levine, Sec., Agency for Health Care Administration, FL

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Participants ..... Senator Florence Shapiro  
Dr. Eric Hanushek, Texas Schools Project & Hoover Institution  
Dr. Theodore Hershberg, University of Pennsylvania, Operation Public Education  
Donna New Haschke, Texas State Teachers Association

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Participants ..... Representative John Smithee  
Patrick Brockett, University of Texas  
Ernst Csiszar, Property Casualty Insurers Association of America  
Commissioner Mike Geeslin, Texas Department of Insurance

12:30 p.m.

Lunch— Ballroom

Invocation..... State Representative Al Edwards

Keynote Address..... The Honorable John Sharp,  
Chairman, Texas Tax Reform Commission & former Texas Comptroller

2:00 p.m.

School Choice: Free Parents, Achieving Children..... 20

Participants ..... Michael Williams, Texas Railroad Commissioner  
Dr. Jay Greene, University of Arkansas, Department of Education Reform  
Brock Gregg, Association of Texas Professional Educators  
Dr. James Leininger, Chairman Emeritus, Texas Public Policy Foundation



January 10, 2006 — Austin Capitol Marriott

2:00 p.m.

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Participants ..... Representative Phil King  
Jerry Ellig, Mercatus Center at George Mason University  
Ray Gifford, Progress and Freedom Foundation  
Chairman Paul Hudson, Public Utility Commission

3:30 p.m.

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in the Special Session ..... 23

Participants ..... Senator Jeff Wentworth  
Representative Bill Keffer  
Dr. Pascal Forgione, Austin ISD Superintendent  
Dr. Zena Rudo, Southwest Educational Research Laboratory

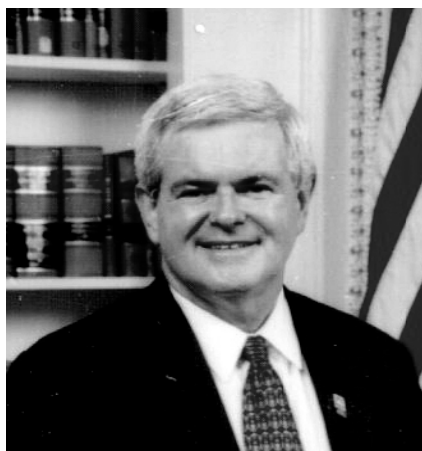
3:30 p.m.

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Participants ..... Representative Mike Krusee  
Margaret Keliher, Dallas County Judge  
Michael Stevens, Governor's Business Council  
Ric Williamson, TxDOT



# Keynote Speakers – January 10, 2006



### Opening Keynote: Newt Gingrich, former U.S. House Speaker "Health Care"

Newt Gingrich served as a Member of Congress for 20 years and as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1995-1999.

He is widely recognized as the chief architect of the Republican Contract with America and the key strategist and leader behind the 1994 Republican victory, which created the first GOP majority in Congress in 40 years, and the 1996 and 1998 victories that retained that majority for the first time in 74 years.

Since retiring from politics, Mr. Gingrich founded The Gingrich Group, an Atlanta-based communications and management consulting firm, which he heads as CEO.

He also serves as a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, DC and as a distinguished visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. He is currently a political analyst for the Fox News Channel.



### Lunch Keynote: John Sharp, Chairman of the Texas Tax Reform Commission and former Texas Comptroller

Mr. Sharp is a principal at Ryan & Company, a Dallas-based tax consulting firm. He has recently been appointed to Chair the Texas Tax Reform Commission by Governor Rick Perry.

In 1990 Mr. Sharp was elected Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. During his eight years of service in that office he initiated many innovative programs, including the Texas Performance Review, the Texas School Performance Review, the Texas Tomorrow Fund and the Lone Star Card, all of which still benefit the Comptroller's office and the State today. He was elected to the Texas House of Representatives, representing Victoria and Calhoun counties, and was later elected as a State Senator from South Texas. In 1985 he was elected to the Texas Railroad Commission where he served a four-year term.

A graduate of Texas A&M University where he was elected class president as well as student body president, he also earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Texas State University while working full time at the Legislative Budget Board in Austin.



## Prescription for Medicaid: Principles and Practical Solutions



### Representative Dan Gattis

State Representative Dan Gattis has served as the State Representative for House District 20 since 2002. In his first term in office, he was named Vice Chair of the Civil Practices Committee, helping to pass historic legislation curbing lawsuit abuse and restoring integrity to the Texas civil justice system. Representative Gattis has also served two terms on the State Affairs Committee. In the 79<sup>th</sup> Session he was also appointed to the House Appropriations Committee, serving as the Chief Budget Officer for the State Affairs Committee, on the Health and Human Services Subcommittee, and as one of five House members appointed to the conference committee negotiating the state budget. Representative Gattis was also named to *Texas Monthly's* "10 Best Legislators" list for 2005.

In addition, Representative Gattis has served on committees for the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). In June 2005, Governor Rick Perry appointed Representative Gattis to the Governor's Criminal Justice Advisory Council.



### Michael Cannon, Cato Institute

Michael Cannon is the Cato Institute's director of health policy studies. Previously, he served as a domestic policy analyst at the U.S. Senate Republican Policy Committee under Senator Larry E. Craig (R-ID), where he advised the Senate leadership on health, education, labor, welfare, and Second Amendment policy. In addition, Cannon has worked as a health care policy analyst for Citizens for a Sound Economy Foundation in Washington, D.C. Cannon has appeared on CNN, CNBC, C-SPAN, Fox News Channel, and NPR. His articles have been featured in *USA Today*, the *New York Post*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Most recently, Cannon coauthored the book *Healthy Competition: What's Holding Back Health Care and How to Free It*.



### Jim Frogue, Center for Health Transformation

Jim Frogue serves as the Center's chief liaison to state policy projects. His primary areas of focus are Medicaid and Health Savings Accounts. For three years prior to joining the Center, Mr. Frogue was Director of the Health and Human Services Task Force at the American Legislative Exchange Council. There, he coordinated the development and dissemination of market-oriented health policies among state legislator representatives from 45 states. Mr. Frogue has also worked for three Members of Congress, most recently as Legislative Director for Rep. Kay Granger of Texas. He also worked for two years as the health care policy analyst at the Heritage Foundation.

Mr. Frogue has testified to state legislatures in Missouri, Florida, Texas, Ohio, Kansas, Colorado, and Alaska as well as to the Western Governors' Association and to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Importation Task Force. He was also appointed by Speaker William J. Howell to the Virginia Council on Human Resources and will serve until 2008.



### Prescription for Medicaid: Principles and Practical Solutions—continued



#### Alan Levine, Sec. Agency for Health Care Administration, FL

Alan Levine is the Secretary of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration. Prior to this, he was Deputy Chief of Staff and Health Policy Advisor to Florida Governor Jeb Bush – the Chief Executive of the nation's fourth largest state.

Levine has served in a variety of positions in health care leadership. At age 29, he was the youngest hospital Chief Executive Officer in Florida and among the youngest in the nation, having been appointed as the CEO of Doctors' Memorial Hospital in Perry. More recently, Levine was the Chief Executive Officer of South Bay Hospital in Sun City Center, prior to being tapped by Governor Bush to lead the Governor's health and human services team.

### What's Wrong With Health Care?



#### Representative Dianne White Delisi

Dianne White Delisi represents the people of the 55th District in Bell County. She was first elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1990. Now in her eighth term, Representative Delisi serves as the Chairman of the Committee on Public Health and as a member of the Committee on Public Education. Delisi has also served as Chairman of the House Select Committee on State Health Care Expenditures and as a member of the House Select Committee on Public School Finance (78<sup>th</sup> Session), on the Appropriations Committee and on the Appropriations Workgroup on the Teacher Shortage (77<sup>th</sup> Session), as the Vice-Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations from 1995 to 1998 and as a member of the budget writing conference committee for both the 74th and 75th sessions.

Delisi has been instrumental in passing legislation creating a Driver Responsibility Program to fund both trauma care and road repairs, establishing disease management initiatives for Medicaid and other state-funded health care programs, and Medicaid budget reforms requiring comprehensive financial reports, and parental notification requirements for a minor seeking an abortion, in addition to numerous pieces of education legislation and legislation to assist members of the military.



#### Michael Cannon, Cato Institute

Michael Cannon is the Cato Institute's director of health policy studies. Previously, he served as a domestic policy analyst at the U.S. Senate Republican Policy Committee under Senator Larry E. Craig (R-ID), where he advised the Senate leadership on health, education, labor, welfare, and Second Amendment policy. In addition, Cannon has worked as a health care policy analyst for Citizens for a Sound Economy Foundation in Washington, D.C. Cannon has appeared on CNN, CNBC, C-SPAN, Fox News Channel, and NPR. His articles have been featured in *USA Today*, the *New York Post*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Most recently, Cannon coauthored the book *Healthy Competition: What's Holding Back Health Care and How to Free It*.





## What's Wrong With Health Care?—continued

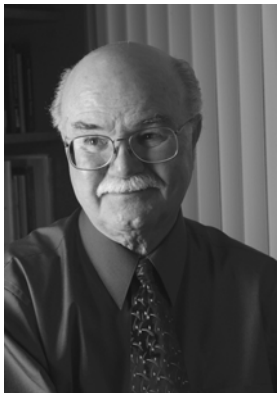


### Dr. John Goodman, National Center for Policy Analysis

John C. Goodman is president and founder of the National Center for Policy Analysis, a Dallas-based nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization dedicated to providing private-sector solutions to public policy problems.

The *National Journal* and *The Wall Street Journal* have called Dr. Goodman the “Father of Health Savings Accounts” for his pioneering research in consumer-driven health care. Dr. Goodman originated the concept for HSAs in his landmark book, *Patient Power: Solving America’s Health Care Crisis*. His latest book is *Lives at Risk: Single Payer National Health Insurance Around the World*. He is the author of six other books, including a college textbook.

Dr. Goodman has authored numerous editorials in notable newspapers, and is quoted frequently in *The New York Times*, *National Journal*, *BNA*, the *Financial Times* and the *Washington Times*. He regularly briefs Congress on economic policy issues and frequently testifies before congressional committees. While Governor of Texas, George W. Bush named Dr. Goodman to a Blue Ribbon Task Force on the uninsured in Texas.



### Dr. Charles Van Eaton, Bryan College

Charles D. Van Eaton holds a doctorate in economics from Tulane University. He has taught at Northwestern Louisiana, Western Kentucky University and served as Chair of Economic at Hillsdale College, Michigan, for twenty years before joining the new graduate school of public policy at Pepperdine University where he held the John M. Ohlin Chair in Economics.

After retiring from Pepperdine he moved to Tennessee where he is now Distinguished Professor at Large and Director of the Bryan Center for Critical Thought and Practice at Bryan College, Dayton, TN.



### Special Session Challenge: Connecting Teacher Salaries and Quality with Student Achievement



#### Senator Florence Shapiro

On January 12, 1993, Florence Shapiro was sworn in as State Senator from the 8th District of Texas. But her journey to Texas politics began years before and miles away from the State Capitol. As a former public school teacher, Shapiro first entered elected office as a Plano City Council member. After six terms, she was elected Mayor of Plano. During this time, she also served as President of the Texas Municipal League and the North Texas Council of Governments.

She is a champion for public education and continues to dedicate herself to improving the state's education system and creating an alternative to the state's public school finance system. As Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, she passed legislation to improve Texas high schools and provide accountability measures for higher education. She was recently appointed by Gov. Perry to the Southern Regional Education Board, and the Education Commission on the States, both coalitions of elected officials and education leaders that addresses issues such as long-range planning, policy proposals and the advancement of education among the states. As the former chair of the Senate State Affairs Committee, she authored major legislation creating the Texas Mobility Fund and Ashley's Laws.



#### Dr. Eric Hanushek, Texas Schools Project & Hoover Institution

Eric Hanushek is the Paul and Jean Hanna Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution of Stanford University. He is also chairman of the Executive Committee for the Texas Schools Project at the University of Texas at Dallas, a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, and a member of the Koret Task Force on K-12 Education. He is a leading expert on educational policy, specializing in the economics and finance of schools.

He is a leading expert on educational policy, specializing in the economics and finance of schools. His on-going research spans a number of the most important and controversial areas of education policy including the impacts of high stakes accountability and of class size reduction and the importance of teacher quality.



#### Dr. Ted Hershberg, University of Pennsylvania

Theodore Hershberg is Professor of Public Policy and History and Director of the Center for Greater Philadelphia at the University of Pennsylvania, where he has taught since 1967. He served as Assistant to the Mayor (Philadelphia) for Strategic Planning and Policy Development during a leave from Penn (1984-85).

He was Acting Dean of Penn's School of Public and Urban Policy and holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in American history from Stanford University and studied sociology at Columbia University as a Social Science Research Council Fellow.



## Special Session Challenge: Connecting Teacher Salaries and Quality with Student Achievement—continued



### Donna New Haschke, Texas Classroom Teachers Association

Donna New Haschke, a middle school Language Arts teacher and 25-year veteran of teaching in Texas Public Schools, is the President of the Texas State Teachers Association.

A native of Austin, she has held numerous offices in her local, state, and national organizations, having served as president of both the Clear Creek Educators Association and the Austin Association of Teachers (now Education Austin). She was Vice President of TSTA for five years and is in her fourth year as President. She has served as chair of the TSTA Legislative Committee, on the TSTA Board of Directors as Region XII President, on the NEA resolutions committee and is a member of the NEA-AFT Unity committee.

## Is the Free Market Working for Homeowners Insurance?



### Representative John Smithee

John Smithee was elected State Representative of the 86th District in November 1984. His district is comprised of Dallam, Hartley, Oldham, Deaf Smith, and Randall counties.

Representative Smithee is currently serving as Chairman of the House Committee on Insurance and serves on the Ways and Means Committee. He has also served on the Civil Practices, Economic Development, Business & Commerce, Government Organization, Judicial Affairs, and Judiciary, Ways and Means committees. He is a member of the American Legislative Exchange Council and Texas Conservative Coalition. He was named as one of the "Ten Best" Legislators" by the Conservative Coalition in 1985 and 1989. In 1987 he was named as a representative to

the American Council of Young Political Leaders and has been recognized by *Texas Monthly* under the Honorable Mention category of the "Ten Best Legislators" in 1995, 1997 and 2003. He has most recently been named a "Champion for Free Enterprise" of the 79th session by the Texas Association of Business.



### Patrick Brockett, University of Texas

Patrick L. Brockett received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics from California State University, Long Beach, and his M.A. and Ph.D., both in Mathematics, from the University of California, Irvine. His research and teaching interests include risk management, insurance, actuarial science, risk theory, statistics, and operations research.

Dr. Pat Brockett is the Director of the Risk Management and Insurance Program and the Gus S. Wortham Memorial Chairholder in Risk Management and Insurance in the College and Graduate School of Business at the University of Texas at Austin where he teaches full time in risk management and insurance. He holds joint appointments as a Full Time Professor in the departments of Finance, Mathematics, and Management Science and Information Systems. He is currently President of The American Risk and Insurance Association.



### Is the Free Market Working for Homeowners Insurance?—continued



#### Ernst Csiszar, Property Casualty Insurers Association of America

Ernst “Ernie” Csiszar (pronounced (Sch-zar) is president and chief executive officer of the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America (PCI). The PCI Board of Governors selected Csiszar in August of 2004 following an extensive search for an executive to lead the new organization, which was formed as a result of the merger of the National Association of Independent Insurers and the Alliance of American Insurers. He assumed his duties in October 2004.

As president of PCI and its affiliates, Csiszar oversees a staff of 240 and a \$40 million budget. PCI is the most diverse of the property and casualty trade associations, representing more than 1,000 member companies that write almost 40 percent of the nation’s property and casualty insurance. It has offices in suburban Chicago and Washington, D.C., seven regional offices, and has lobbyists in every state.

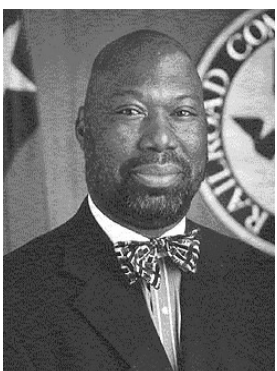


#### Mike Geeslin, Commissioner, Texas Department of Insurance

Governor Rick Perry appointed Mike Geeslin as Texas Insurance Commissioner effective June 7, 2005. Prior to being appointed Commissioner, Geeslin joined the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) in January 2003 as the Deputy Commissioner for Policy. In his role, he assisted the Commissioner in the development and communication of regulatory policy, including implementation of reforms directed by the Texas Legislature during the 78<sup>th</sup> Regular Session in 2003.

Before coming to the TDI, Geeslin served as budget and policy advisor on insurance and regulatory matters to Governor Perry at the Governor’s Office and previously at the Lieutenant Governor’s Office. He also worked as chief of staff for the late state Senator Tom Haywood, as a legislative aide to state Senator Florence Shapiro, and as an assistant to U.S. Congressman Joe Barton.

### School Choice: Free Parents, Achieving Children



#### Michael Williams, Commissioner, Texas Railroad Commission

Michael L. Williams was initially appointed to the Texas Railroad Commission by former Governor George W. Bush in December 1998. Williams was elected by his fellow commissioners in September 1999 to chair the Commission. In November 2000, the people of Texas elected him to complete the term expiring in the year 2002, and in November 2002, they reaffirmed their support by electing him to a term expiring in 2008. He is the first African American in Texas history to hold an executive statewide elected post and is the highest ranking African American in Texas state government.

Prior to his appointment to the Railroad Commission of Texas, Williams served as general counsel to a Texas-based high-tech corporation. He also served in a volunteer capacity as the general counsel of the Republican Party of Texas, the chairman of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, and on the Board of Directors of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, the Texas Public Policy Foundation, and Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School.





## School Choice: Free Parents, Achieving Children—continued



### Dr. Jay Greene, University of Arkansas, Department of Education Reform

Jay P. Greene is a Senior Fellow at the Manhattan Institute and endowed chair and head of the Department of Education Reform at the University of Arkansas. Greene conducts research and writes about education policy, including topics such as school choice, high school graduation rates, accountability, and special education.

His research was cited four times in the Supreme Court's opinions in the landmark *Zelman v. Simmons-Harris* case on school vouchers. His articles have appeared in policy journals, such as *The Public Interest*, *City Journal*, and *Education Next*, in academic journals, such as *The Georgetown Public Policy Review*, *Education and Urban Society*, and *The British Journal of Political Science*, as well as in major newspapers, such as the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Washington Post*. Jay Greene is the author of *Education Myths* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2005).



### Brock Gregg, Association of Texas Professional Educators

Brock Gregg joined the ATPE staff in February 1994 and currently serves as director of ATPE Governmental Relations. He is a registered lobbyist and a full-time advocate for public school educators, public education, and students.

Mr. Gregg serves as the co-chair of the Coalition for Public Schools, a network comprising educational, religious and civic organizations that represent more than 3 million Texans. The coalition was formed to promote public schools and prevent the expenditure of public funds to support private and religious schools.



### Dr. James Leininger, Chairman Emeritus, Texas Public Policy Foundation

Dr. James Leininger is the founder of Kinetic Concepts, Inc., a global medical equipment corporation based in San Antonio, Texas. He is also founder and chairman of Promised Land Dairies, and has founded or co-founded nearly 50 other businesses and organizations, including the Texas Public Policy Foundation in 1989.

Dr. Leininger's passion lies in ensuring that every child has the opportunity for an excellent education. In 1992, he founded the Children's Educational Opportunity (CEO) Foundation, a program that awards scholarships to disadvantaged children from San Antonio public schools so that they may attend the public or private school or their choice. Today, private scholarship programs built upon the CEO model are operating in dozens of cities nationwide.





### The Future of Texas Telecom



#### Representative Phil King

Phil King was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1998. In the last Session, Representative King served as chairman of Regulated Industries, a new committee created in the 78th Legislature to address telecommunications, electric power, science and technology, and the pipeline industries.

Representative King also co-chaired the Electric Utility Restructuring Legislative Oversight Committee, a joint committee of the Texas House and Senate. Representative King also served on the Civil Practices Committee and the Redistricting Committee. He is on the Board of Directors of the Texas Conservative Coalition, a bipartisan research organization.



#### Dr. Jerry Ellig, Mercatus Center at George Mason University

Jerry Ellig has been a senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University since 1996. Between August 2001 and August 2003, he served as deputy director and acting director of the Office of Policy Planning at the federal Trade Commission. He is a Senior Fellow with the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

Dr. Ellig has served as a senior economist for the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress and as an assistant professor of economics at George Mason University. His co-authored/edited books include *Dynamic Competition and Public Policy* (Cambridge, 2001), *Economic Deregulation and Customer Choice* (Center for Market Processes, 1997, with Robert W. Crandall), *New Horizons in Natural Gas Deregulation* (Praeger, 1996, with Joseph Kalt) and *Municipal Entrepreneurship and Energy Policy* (Gordon & Breach, 1994, with Allison E. Woodward and Tom R. Burns).



#### Ray Gifford, Progress and Freedom Foundation

Ray Gifford is president of The Progress & Freedom Foundation and a member of its board. Prior to joining the Foundation in 2003, Gifford served as chairman of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission for four years, following his appointment by Gov. Bill Owens. As a regulator, he aspired to a competitive, consumer-driven telecommunications market; a low-cost, unbundled natural gas utility; a reliable, efficient electric system; and an economically rational regulatory scheme for transportation.

Before joining the Commission, Gifford served under then-Colorado Attorney General (now Bush Cabinet member) Gale Norton as first assistant attorney general. From 1993-1996, he worked for two national law firms-Kirkland & Ellis and

Baker & Hostetler. The meager satisfactions of private practice lead him scrambling into the Attorney General's office.



## The Future of Texas Telecom—continued



### Paul Hudson, Chairman, Public Utility Commission

Paul Hudson currently serves as Chairman of the Public Utility Commission of Texas. He was appointed by Governor Rick Perry to the Commission for a six year term in August, 2003 and elevated to Chairman in January, 2004. Prior to his appointment to the Texas PUC, Hudson served as Director of Policy in the governor's office, where he managed the policy office and advised the governor on policy issues. He previously had served as the policy director for business and regulatory issues, where he focused on energy, telecommunications and economic development issues and served as the office's liaison to the PUC and other agencies and organizations.

Before joining the governor's staff, Hudson worked as an advisor to former PUC Commissioner Brett A. Perlman and as a senior economic analyst. Hudson has also worked for the Criminal Justice Policy Council and, early in working life, Hudson was a member of the Austin Fire Department and certified to teach high school government, history and economics.

## School Districts and Education Dollars: Looking for Results in the Special Session



### Senator Jeff Wentworth

Senator Jeff Wentworth is serving his fifth term in the Texas Senate where he was president pro tem in 2004-2005 and where he was inaugurated as Governor of Texas for a Day on November 20, 2004.

Senator Wentworth, a fourth-generation Texan, was first elected to the Texas Senate in 1992 after serving nearly five years in the Texas House of Representatives. The Republican senator from San Antonio represents more than 700,000 Texans in six counties located in the heart of the state. He is chairman of the Senate Committee on Jurisprudence and serves on the Administration; Transportation and Homeland Security; and Intergovernmental Relations Committees.

He chairs the Texas Legislative Tourism Caucus and serves on the Board of Directors of the Natural Resources Foundation of Texas.



### Representative Bill Keffer

Bill Keffer was elected to the Texas State House of Representatives from District 107 in November of 2002. He has served on the House Energy Resources, and Rules and Regulations Committees and is currently a member of the House Public Education Committee and serving his second term on the House Insurance Committee.

On the Public Education Committee, Representative Keffer supported the sweeping reforms this session contained in HB 2, which passed the House twice but failed in the Senate both times. He was also appointed to the House Conference Committee on HB 2.



### School Districts and Education Dollars: Looking for Results in the Special Session—continued



#### Dr. Pascal Forgione, Superintendent of Austin ISD

Dr. Forgione was named Superintendent of the Austin School District by the Board of Trustees in August 1999. His career as an educator and educational administrator is extensive. From 1996-99, he was U.S. Commissioner of Education Statistics with the National Center for Education Statistics, a federal agency; and from 1991 to 1996, State Superintendent for Public Instruction for the state of Delaware.

Additionally, Dr. Forgione has a solid background in educational research and evaluation through positions with the Connecticut State Department of Education, the National Center for Research in Vocational Education at The Ohio State University, the Syracuse Research Corporation, Maryland State Department of Education, and Stanford University. In 1991, he headed the U. S. Department of Education's National Education Goals Panel.



#### Dr. Zena Rudo, Southwest Education Research Lab

Zena Rudo is a Program Associate with the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory (SEDL) in Austin, Texas where she conducts research to inform policymakers about critical issues in education. Her current work includes policy research on teacher quality, resource allocation, and student achievement. Dr. Rudo disseminates research-based information to policymakers through policy briefs, annual forums, research publications, and presentations. Before joining SEDL in February 1999, Dr. Rudo was an Assistant Professor at the University of South Florida in Tampa. She has extensive clinical, administrative, and research experience in the fields of special education, home/school/community collaboration, family violence, and early intervention. She is the author of numerous books, articles, and educational curricula and has presented nationally and internationally in

her specialty fields. She holds a BA in Psychology and Social Work and a Master's of Social Work from the University of Maryland. Dr. Rudo's PhD is in Education from the University of South Florida.

### Transportation: Stopping the Transfer



#### Representative Mike Krusee

Mike Krusee was first elected to the Texas house of Representatives in 1992. In the 78th Session he served as chairman of the house Transportation Committee and was a member of the Civil Practices and Redistricting committees, and the Select Committee on School Finance. The Free Enterprise PAC has honored Representative Krusee four times with their "Texas Ten" award, and in 1997, the Texas Public Policy Foundation named him a "Champion of Limited Government." During the 78th Legislative Session, Representative Krusee helped pass landmark transportation legislation that has been described as the most comprehensive and visionary in Texas history. He is a member of the Executive Council of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), and he also brokered an agreement with the Capitol Metropolitan Transportation Authority which made over \$120 million available for urgently needed regional mobility projects.



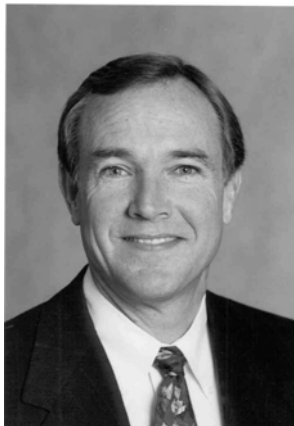
## Transportation: Stopping the Transfer—continued



### Margaret Keliher, Dallas County Judge

Citizens elected Margaret Keliher to a four-year term as County Judge on November 5, 2002. She is the first female in the 157-year history of Dallas County to serve in that role. Prior to her election, Judge Keliher was appointed to an unexpired term as Dallas County Judge on August 2, 2002 by the Dallas County Commissioners Court.

Judge Keliher came to the Chief Executive Officer's role on the Court after serving as Judge of the 44th District Court of Dallas County since 1999. In that position she received accolades for her organizational skills and innovative ideas in handling her docket and communicating with persons with business in her court. The 2001 Dallas Bar Association Judicial Evaluation ranked her as one of the hardest-working Civil District Court Judges, ranked among the top in judicial temperament and demeanor.



### Michael Stevens, Governor's Business Council

Michael Stevens serves on the Board of Directors of the Texas Public Policy Foundation. He is chairman of Michael Stevens Interests, Inc., a real estate development and management company. In 1995, Mayor Bob Lanier tapped Mr. Stevens to be Houston's first Assistant to the Mayor for housing and Inner City Revitalization, and he was the driving force for the city's major downtown revitalization. He is also credited with creating the homes for Houston program, which built or improved over 20,000 units of affordable housing in Houston.

Stevens' involvement in state and local transportation issues is extensive. He chairs the Transportation task Force of the Governor's Business Council, of which he is vice chairman. He is on the executive committee of the Gulf Coast Regional Mobility Partners, a Houston regional transportation planning and funding group. He also serves on the Greater Houston Partnership Transportation and Infrastructure Advisory Committee and on the executive committee of the Texas Urban Transportation Alliance, Inc. which promotes urban transportation efforts statewide.



### Ric Williamson, TxDOT

Richard F. ("Ric") Williamson is a commissioner of the Texas Transportation Commission and serves as that body's chair as it oversees statewide activities of the Texas Department of Transportation. He was appointed to the commission by Gov. Rick Perry in March 2001 and was named the group's chair effective Jan. 29, 2004. The commission oversees statewide activities of the Department of Transportation.

Prior to his appointment to the Texas Transportation Commission, Williamson served from 1985-1998 in the Texas Legislature. He served on a number of legislative committees including: House/Senate Budget Conference Committee, Appropriations Committee (vice chairman), Ways And Means Committee, House Select Committee On Revenue and Public Education Funding, House/Senate Criminal Justice Conference Committee, Health and Human Services Conference Committee, Juvenile Justice and Family Issues Committee, and the House/Senate Fiscal Management Conference Committee.



# FOURTH ANNUAL POLICY ORIENTATION

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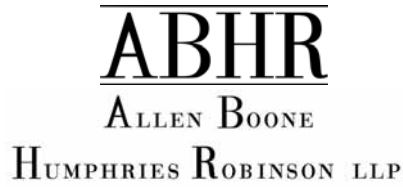
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