

Senator Hegar Files State Sovereignty Bill

On Wednesday, March 4, State Senator Glenn Hegar filed a resolution in the Texas Senate to reaffirm Texas' right to self-govern, as provided by the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The Tenth Amendment limits the power of the federal government in Washington, D.C., by preserving state sovereignty.

State sovereignty is the states' right to self-govern without undue interference from the federal government.

More specifically, the Tenth Amendment limits the types and kinds of laws that the federal government can make and impose upon the states.

If the Constitution does not specifically delegate a power to the federal government, then that power belongs to the states, and only the states.

This is the cornerstone of the federal system set up by our Founders.

The proposed resolution notes that in recent years, however, the federal government has steadily increased its control over the states, and oftentimes this control has infringed upon state rights in violation of the Tenth Amendment.

The federal government has created new regulations and demanded that the states implement those regulations.

At the same time, the federal

government has refused to give the states the monetary support necessary to implement the new demands.

The bill goes on to express the view that the federal government has also overextended its reach by placing unnecessary restrictions on individual rights, such as the constitutionally protected right to keep and bear arms.

Simultaneously, the federal government has refused to take responsibility for the tasks assigned to it by the Constitution.

For example, Congress has repeatedly failed to implement immigration reform, leaving the states and their citizens to bear the resulting costs and risks.

"Both the national and state governments play an important role in the federalist system set up by our Founders, and both are necessary to the success of our nation, but the two must work together to accomplish what is best for the country and its people," Hegar said.

"Unfortunately, in recent years, the federal government has disrupted this delicate balance by treating the states as subordinate servants of the national government rather than as equal members of the same team.

"This disparity has only gotten worse in the first six weeks of the new administration.

"At a time when our state and

our nation face monumental challenges, a well-balanced federal system is more important than ever and must be preserved.

"My sincere hope is that Senate Concurrent Resolution 39 will serve as notice to President Obama and our congressional leaders that the constitutional rights of Texans can no longer be ignored.

"The days of federal intrusion into state sovereignty must come to an end, and by restoring the true intent of our U.S. Constitution, our citizens and nation will be better served, just as our Founders intended," Hegar concluded.

In filing this resolution, Hegar said that Texas joins over nine other states that have filed similar

resolutions.

If passed by the Texas Legislature, Senate Concurrent Resolution 39 will be sent to the President and Congress of the United States.

Hegar served two terms in the Texas House of Representatives and is currently serving his second session representing Senate District 18 in the Texas Senate.

Hegar is a sixth generation Texan, and earns a living farming rice and corn on land that has been in his family since the mid 1800s.

He currently resides in Katy with his wife Dara and their three children, Claire, Julia and Jonah.

Extension Office Giving Rain Harvestion Program

The Texas AgriLife Extension office of Colorado County is hosting a Rain Water Harvesting Basics Educational Program on Thursday, March 26 from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and will have two follow up events on Thursday, April 2 and Thursday, April 9. These activities will be held at the Colorado County Ag Building located at 316 Spring St. in Columbus.

Educational topics will be: Why We Use Rain Water Harvesting; How to Measure for a Rain Water Harvesting System; and How to Install and Use a System.

This event will be a "hands on" learning event.

Please come prepared to

spend some time outdoors. For more info, please call 979-732-2082.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.

We will seek to provide reasonable accommodation for all persons with disabilities for this meeting. We request that you contact the Colorado County Extension Service ten days (10) prior to the event at 979-732-2082 as soon as possible to advise us of the auxiliary aid or service that you require.

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Information Courtesy of Texas A&M University System
Agricultural Research and Experiment Station, Eagle Lake

Date	Temp (H/L)	Rainfall(in.)
Mon. 03-02-09	69/36	0.00
Tue. 03-03-09	72/41	0.00
Wed. 03-04-09	80/54	0.00
Thu. 03-05-09	83/61	0.00
Fri. 03-06-09	n/o	0.00
Sat. 03-07-09	n/o	0.00
Sun. 03-08-09	84/63	0.00

NEWSBRIEFS

Continued from front page

CSWCD to hold banquet

The Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD) will hold their 60th Annual Awards Banquet on Friday, March 27 at Veteran's Memorial Hall in Weimar. Deadline for meal tickets is March 20. Advance tickets are \$12. For more information call 979-732-9565. Entertainment by Prause and O'Mary. A silent auction will also be held.

Prophetic training scheduled

A regional prophetic training will be sponsored by Equippers Outreach Fellowship in Weimar, April 3-4. The purpose of the training is to see a great release and activation of the Spirit of prophecy in the lives of believers. The training will take place at the Weimar Civil Center, 1754 I-10. Registration begins at 5 p.m. on Friday. For more information call Equippers Outreach in Weimar at 979-725-8233.

Little League opening day is April 4

The Eagle Lake Little League will hold their Opening Day ceremonies on Saturday, April 4 at noon. Other activities get underway at 8 a.m. A silent auction will be held along with the day's events. If you would like to donate an auction item please call 979-234-3927.

RMC golf classic is April 4

The Rice Medical Center (RMC) Classic 12th Annual 4-player golf scramble will be held Saturday, April 4 at Eagle Lake Golf Course. Shot gun starts at 8 am and 1 pm. Entry fee \$200 per team, which includes meals and gift. Prizes for 1st- 3rd place teams, closest to hole, longest drive contest and hole in one prize. Entry deadline is March 27; contact Vicky or Shara at 234-5571 for information. Proceeds to benefit Rice Medical Foundation and RMC Employee Volunteers for hospital equipment and renovations.

Election

Continued from front page for election. Those places are currently held by Wayne Bowen, Vivian Spanihel and Clark Peterson, respectively. All three have filed for re-election in those positions.

The write-in filing deadline is March 16.

Last day to register to vote in the election is April 9.

Early voting for the city election will be at city hall and will begin on April 27 and end on May 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

There will be extended early voting hours on April 27 and May 4 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early voting in the school elections will take place at the Rice administration building in Altair.

County

Continued from front page site in Colorado County. Sheriff R.H. (Curly) Wied said he did not want identify the location.

—Approved contributing \$9,700 for developing an integrated justice information system for county governments throughout the state.

—Received a report from the sheriff's department on a breakdown of traffic stops and searches by ethnic group to comply with a state law prohibiting use of racial profiles in making traffic stops.

Wied said his office had received no complaints in 2008 about racial profiling.

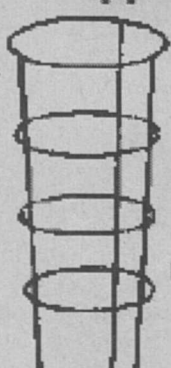
The reported showed the following percentages for persons stopped for traffic offenses: White, 56.6 percent; Hispanic, 24.2 percent; black, 17.3 percent; Asian, 1.2 percent

Population breakdowns for the county include: White, 62.3 percent; Hispanic, 22.2 percent; black, 14.8 percent; Asian, 0.5 percent.

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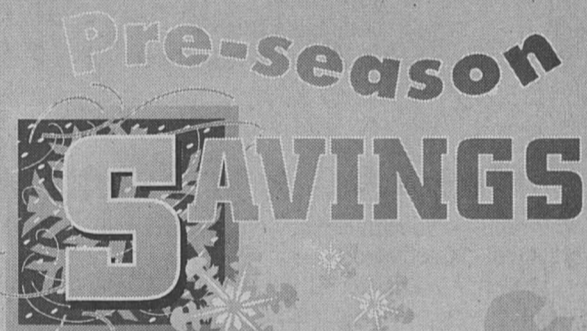
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