

STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHARLIE HOWARD ANNOUNCES RE-ELECTION BID

Sugar Land (October 22, 2009) State Representative Charlie Howard announces today for re-election for State Representative for District 26. "Each legislative session is critical to the welfare of the citizens of Fort Bend and the state of Texas," said Howard. "I humbly look forward to serving District 26 in the 2011 legislative session."

The next legislative session is critically important as the state will face a significant budget shortfall. Additionally, the 2011 redistricting process will determine the political party to lead the state for the next ten years, and the redistricting will influence the election of the three or four new congressmen for the state of Texas.

"My diverse business experience and education, knowledge of the development of First Colony, relationship with fellow legislators, and understanding of developing legislation provide a strong platform for achieving insightful solutions in the complex issues of the next legislative session," Howard stated.

Howard is recognized as one of the more formable leaders of the Sugar Land area. Not only has he been a long time resident of Sugar Land, he led the team that developed First Colony from its inception. Since he has such a unique perspective of this community, he has an undivided interest in the growth to maturity in its many facets.

In economics, he is a past president of the Chamber of Commerce and one of the founding directors of Fort Bend Economic Development Council. He works first hand in locating companies in Sugar Land such as Fluor Daniel, and many other companies. Howard is instrumental in the passage of legislation separating the appraisal board and the appraisal review board, which leads to more equitable real estate appraisals in Fort Bend County.

"The widening of US 59 was not originally scheduled to begin until 2010. I understood the importance of making that happen much faster to accommodate the growth in our area and improve the mobility through the county," Howard said.

He has worked closely with local, state, and federal leaders to accelerate the improvements of US Hwy 59, Hwy 90A, and Hwy 6.

Concerning education, he was instrumental in establishing a University of Houston campus in Sugar Land, and he guided key legislation that paved the way for the establishment of a joint program between Wharton County Junior College and Texas State Technical College. Other legislative bills passed or in the current legislative process address issues such as text book content, dollars in the classroom, teacher certificates, and many other educational issues. His first-hand knowledge of our schools through volunteering in programs, observing his children in the system, and speaking as a

guest speaker in the public schools in Fort Bend has been beneficial in addressing legislation to solve educational problems throughout the state.

In addition to directing the education of his own two children and playing with his four grandchildren, he has worked with youth in Little League, Boy Scouts, and taught teens in his church. Howard is also a life member of the Fort Bend County Fair which offers unique opportunities to our youth. Reaching beyond Fort Bend, he might be found volunteering at Bethel Missions on 5th Street or the American-Chinese Fellowship in downtown Houston.

His own educational credentials come from a BSEE from Auburn University, industrial engineering from University of Alabama and a MBA from Harvard Business School.

Howard's experience in the financial markets, ranging from working on Wall Street to serving on the boards of several companies and one university, give him an excellent background for reviewing the complex Texas state budget, which not only was passed without a tax increase, but left \$9 billion in the state's Rainy Day Fund for future emergencies.

Having worked for Gerald Himes Interest to owning his own small company, Howard understands the intricate problems faced by both large and small businesses. He was diligent in reforming the franchise tax in the past session, saving small businesses in Texas millions of dollars in taxes.

As a rancher, Howard understands the importance of agriculture and ranching in order to facilitate the well-being of all Texans.

To round out his diverse business experience, Howard has worked in computer technology, telecommunications, various fields of finance, computer process technology, and as a real estate Broker.

Howard has operated an open-door policy to his constituents on all issues. He is strong in families, faith, and friends.

His skilled leadership and seniority in the Legislature has been rewarded with passage of legislation in positions as Committee Chairmanship, committee Vice-Chairmanships, and service on the powerful Ways and Means Committee. Other committee assignments dealt with energy, taxes, land resources, environmental regulations, and elections.

This past session he service as Vice Chairman of Urban Affairs committee and senior member of the Ways and Means Committee resulted in a huge impact on the interests of Fort Bend County and allowed him to pass legislation with a positive effects on the cities of District 26, as evidenced by remarks by the mayors of Sugar Land, Missouri City, and Meadows Place.

Wherever you see Howard standing, you will see a strong stand for limited government, free enterprise, and strong family values.

During his tenure in the state house Howard has been rewarded for his diligent efforts by receiving legislative awards from more than 25 local and state organizations, such as, Texas Association of Business, Citizens for a Sound Economy, Freedom Foundation, Free Market Foundation, Texas Justice Foundation, Top Ten Conservative Legislator List for his entire tenure in the House, plus many more. Quotes on his website from fellow legislators, state and local leaders, and many of his constituents tell the story of Howard's leadership as a leader among leaders. www.charliehoward.net

“After reviewing my proven conservative record, I trust you will understand that my experience in the legislature is a great asset for the citizens of Fort Bend County and this great state. With your request and input, I am currently crafting legislation on appraisal reform and further reduction of the business tax among other issues for the 2011 session,” Howard concludes.