

Advocacy Plan

88th Legislative Session

December 9, 2024



Burleson Delegation



Rep. Helen Kerwin
- R

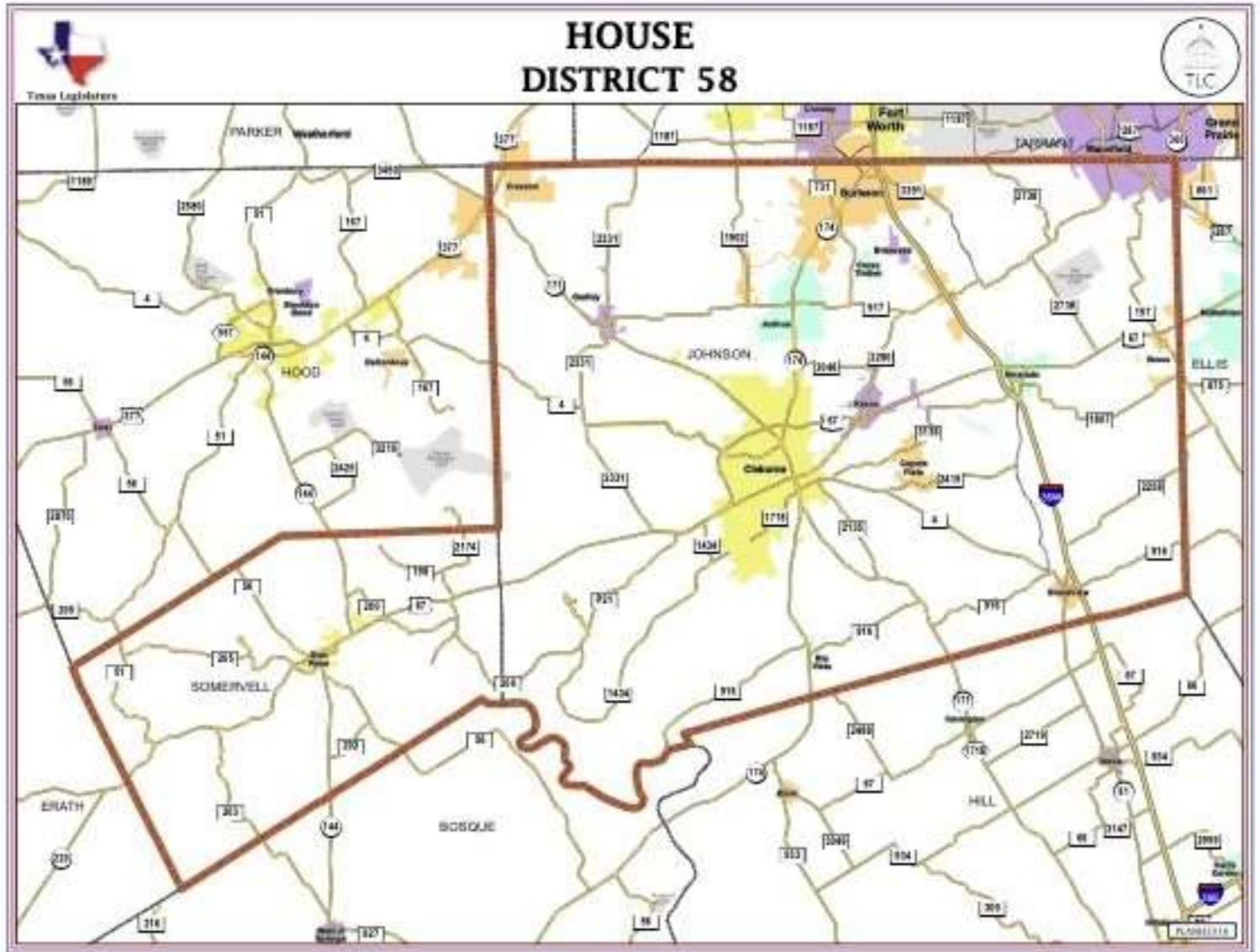


Sen. Phil
King - R

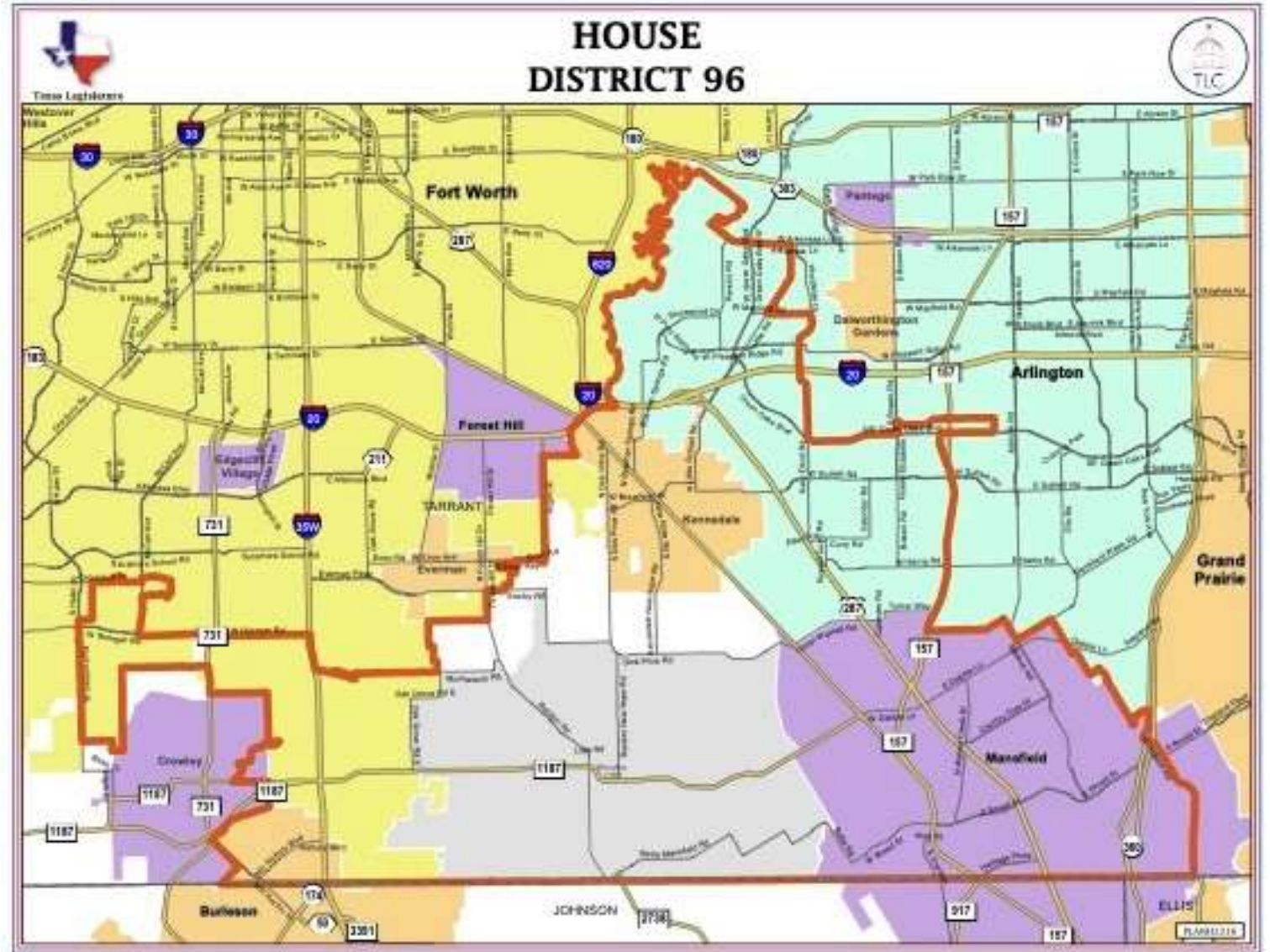


Rep. David Cook
- R

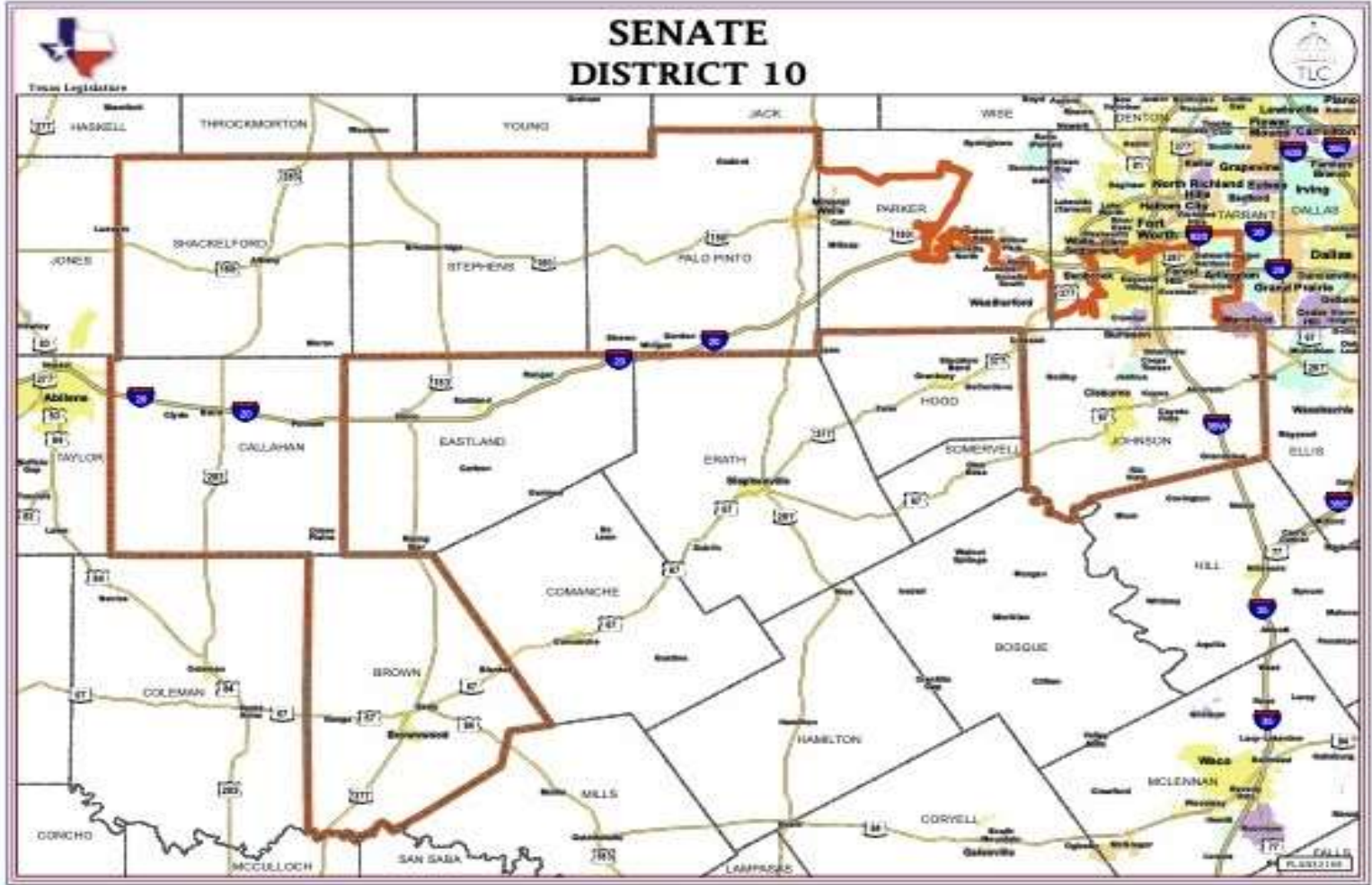
HOUSE DISTRICT 58



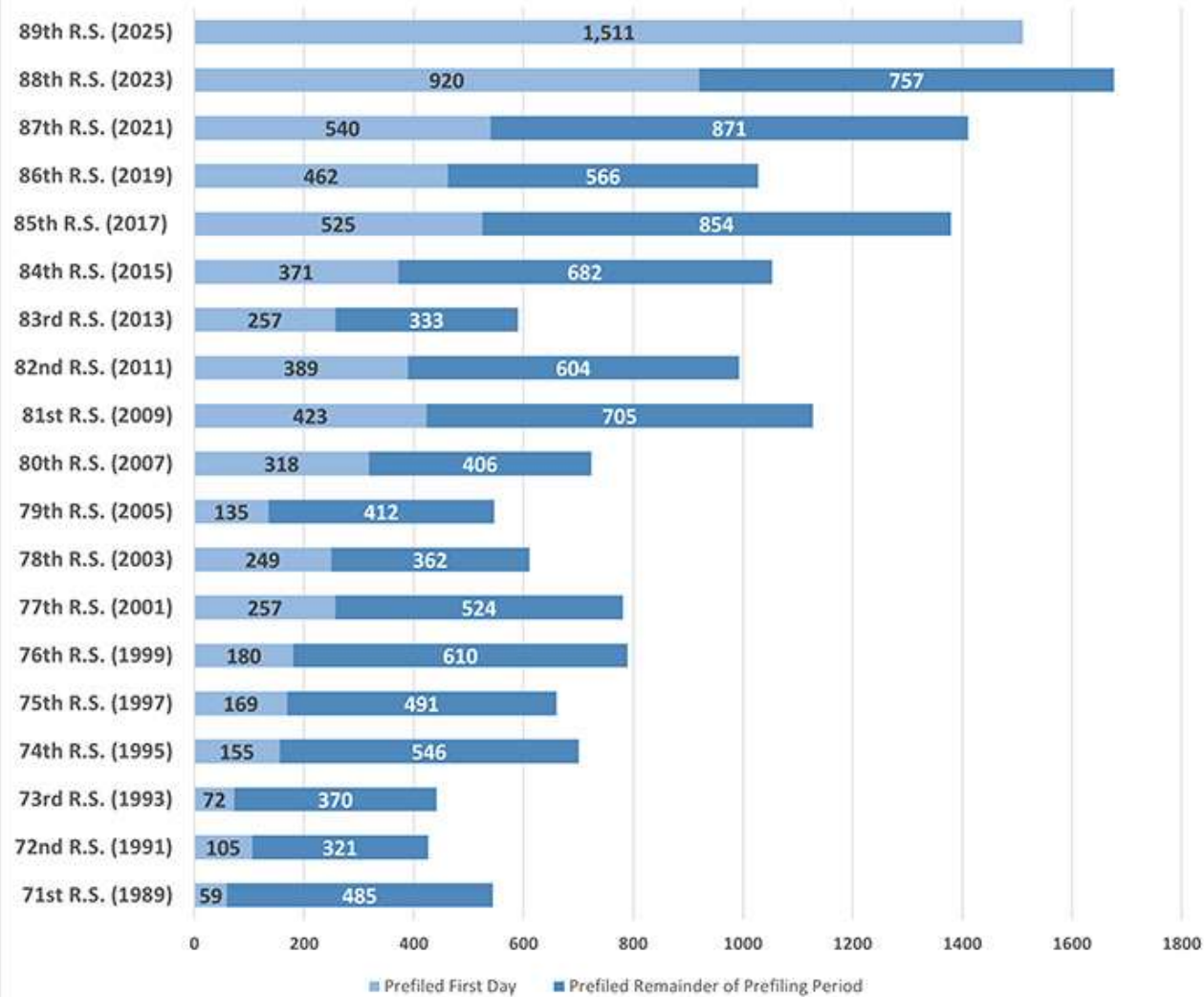
HOUSE DISTRICT 96



SENATE DISTRICT 10



Prefiling Statistics
(includes all bill and resolution types)





Calendar

Jan. 14, 2025 (Tuesday)

- **Session starts;**
Swearing in day
- Day of celebration or ceremony
- Recommend a Burleson delegation attend (or all of you)
- Contact the offices to inquire about special passes, evening events, etc.
- Hotels scarce
- Speaker's election also occurs that day;
Could be contentious
- Secretary of State presiding

Committees

- Committees probably named before end of January (faster than normal due to House Senate dynamics and Speaker's race)
- Your number one issue (hotel bill) will go to:
 - **House Committee on Ways & Means** (tax committee) where the Chairman and members are still TBD
 - **Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Economic Development** where the Chairmanship and membership is probably more stable (only three new Senators); Senator Brian Birdwell (R-Waco)
- We need to work those committees the most but won't know the membership until end of January



Calendar

- Tuesday - Thursday = best days to find members in Austin
- That Tuesday-Thursday schedule includes Committee hearings
- That schedule changes in May where the increasingly work 5-7 days
- Mon. & Fri. = travelling in/out -- especially early in Session; Remember they also have jobs/families so sometimes they are catching up on life as they leave Austin and head back home
- You can also visit with your elected



Calendar

- House typically convenes at 10 am so members are starting to mill around by 9 or 9:30; Senate convenes at 11 am and usually works much quicker (fewer questions)
- Committees either meet at 8 am or “upon adjournment” meaning TBD and somewhat unpredictable
- They typically don’t have a calendar on the floor until middle of February at the earliest
- The amount of time spent “on the floor” “in session” gets longer (3 pm to sometimes 10 or 11 pm) as the session grows on
- So again, it’s very catch as catch can



Audiences

- There are different audiences to lobby:
 - Elected delegation members
 - Delegation staff
 - Committee members (House & Senate)
 - Committee staff (House & Senate)
 - Calendars committee (House)
 - Leadership offices (Lt. Gov & Governor)
 - "Friends" (members from other parts of the state you may know through personal or professional connections)



Committees

HOUSE		SENATE
Agriculture & Livestock		Business & Commerce
Business & Industry		Finance
Calendars		Local Government
International Relations & Economic Development		Natural Resources & Economic Development
Land & Resource Management		State Affairs
Natural Resources		Transportation
Pensions, Investments & Financial Services		Water, Agriculture and Rural Affairs
State Affairs		
Transportation		
Urban Affairs		
Ways & Means		

Scheduling

- It is a very "catch as catch can" environment; Scheduling with offices is tricky but not totally impossible
- You (council and staff) should have the scheduler and the legislative director names and contact info for your delegation. Good to learn those names now and/or on swearing in day
- More times than not, you will end up meeting with staff (even interns)

Notice of Hearings

- Notice of Committee Hearings (i.e. - postings) typically happen 3-5 days in advance (including day of posting and day of hearing and weekends).... So pretty much Fridays.... And late Friday.
- Therefore, a lot of "weekend information" in this line of work to be ready for Monday/Tuesday



Two Types of Visits

General Visit

- Possibly scheduled meetings
- Walking the halls; finding members where you can
- Drop -in office visits (committee staff, committee members, delegation, leadership) Unknown-5.jpeg
- If you're looking to lobby a committee, come down on the day they are meeting; you know you can find them

Committee Hearing

- Testifying
- 3 min drill



Calendar

- There are seventeen (17) Tuesday - Thursdays between Feb-May.
- It's up to you as to how you want to do this (i.e. - using your valuable time to travel to Austin to advocate); FA cannot make those decisions for you; We are here to simply advise and recommend
- We do not believe it is necessary for the City to make 17 trips but it certainly can if it wants to
- **We recommend at least one trip per month (Jan - May) or every other week. Total of 5-10 trips**

Examples

- [HB 3324](#)
- [HB 5012](#)
- [Ways & Means Hearings](#)
- [Ways & Means Membership \(old\)](#)
- [SNRED](#)

FOCUSED ADVOCACY

Questions

Thank You
Brandon Aghamalian