



# 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature and Election Results

2016 Horizon Conference  
Long Center – Austin, Texas  
November 10, 2016

Ty Embrey

*tembrey@lglawfirm.com*

*(512) 322-5829*

816 Congress Avenue  
Suite 1900  
Austin, Texas 78701  
*(512) 322-5800*  
*(512) 472-0532 Fax*  
*www.lglawfirm.com*

## Election Results – National Elections

- **President** – Donald Trump won 290 electoral votes with Michigan and New Hampshire yet to be called.
  - Hillary Clinton is first presidential candidate to win popular vote (by approx. 220,000 votes but lose Electoral College vote since 2000
- Trump won Texas with 52.42% of vote to Clinton's 43.31%
- Voter Turnout in Texas was 59.13% of 15.1 million registered voters

## Election Results – National Elections

- **U.S. Senate** – Republicans have a 51 to 47 seat advantage.
  - Many U.S. Senate seats up in 2018 are in states Trump won
- **U.S. House** – Republicans have a 235 to 192 seat advantage with several seats still to be determined by runoffs or yet to be called.
  - In only truly contested U.S. House race in Texas, incumbent Republican Will Hurd (48.7%) beat Pete Gallego (46.5%)
  - Over \$13 million dollars spent on race

## Election Results – State Elections

- Only one statewide office position was on ballot - Railroad Commissioner
- **Texas Senate** = 3 Freshmen / 9 Sophomores
  - » 20 Republicans and 11 Democrats
- **Texas House** = 26 Freshmen (22 new Reps and 4 returning Reps)
  - 95 Republicans and 55 Democrats.
  - In 2015, Ratio was 99 Republicans and 51 Democrats
- Texas Supreme Court and Texas Court of Criminal Appeals = All incumbent Republicans won re-election

## Legislative Dates of Interest

- General Election – November 8, 2016
- Bill Pre-Filing Begins – November 14, 2016
- 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Regular Session – January 10, 2017
- 60-Day Bill Filing Deadline – March 10, 2017
- Adjournment / Sine Die – May 29, 2017
- Post-Session 20 deadline for Governor Action – June 18, 2017
- Effective Date for Bills (91<sup>st</sup> Day)– Aug. 28, 2017

## Overview of 85<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of Texas Legislature

- Stability in State Leadership
- Budget
- Tax Relief – Franchise / Sales / Property Taxes
- Local Control – City Ordinances
- Transportation
- Public School Finance
- Child Protective Services
- Transgender / “Bathroom” Legislation

## Legislative Issues of Interest to WEAT/TACWA

- Biosolids
- Sanitary Sewer Overflows
- Water Quality
- TCEQ Funding
- Contested Case Hearings

## Legislative Efforts

- Preparation for 2017 Regular Session
- Educational Effort – educating and informing state legislators and legislative staff
- Building Relationships
- Monitoring Work of Interim Legislative Committees



## Questions?

- Any questions?
- Thank you.