

Joan Huffman was elected on December 16, 2008 after winning a special election to fill the vacated office of Senate District 17. Prior to serving in the Senate, Huffman served as a prosecutor in Harris County, Texas and was twice elected Judge to the 183rd Criminal District Court, where she earned a reputation as a fair and tough enforcer of the law.

Senator Huffman was appointed to several key committees, which have a sweeping impact on the overall operation of state government. She currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Criminal Justice Committee, and is a member of the Redistricting, State Affairs, Health and Human Services, Jurisprudence and Higher Education Committees. She also serves on the Sunset Advisory Commission and was named Vice Chairman of the Legislative Sportsman's Caucus by her peers in January of 2011.

Her priorities include public safety, securing our border, protecting free enterprise, and strengthening private property owners' rights. She is also devoted to issues impacting children's health and education.

Senator Huffman lives with her husband, Keith, and son, Luke, in Southside Place.