



# **NEWS RELEASE**

## **Senator Robert Nichols**

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## **Nichols Receives Texas State Rifle Association Award**

Austin, TX – On Saturday, the Texas State Rifle Association (TSRA) presented State Senator Robert Nichols (R-Jacksonville) with the Doc Brown Legislator of the Year Award. In the 85th Texas Legislative Session, Nichols authored and passed Sb 16, which lowered License to Carry fees in Texas. Gov. Greg Abbott signed the bill into law in the summer of 2017.

“With what was one of the highest fees in the nation to obtain a license to carry, an undue burden had been imposed on Texans rights to obtain a license to carry. By lowering the fee, we have made it more affordable to exercise their Second Amendment rights,” said Nichols. “I am grateful to TSRA for this honor, and thankful to Governor Abbott, Lt. Governor Patrick and my colleagues in the Legislature for helping to pass this important piece of legislation.”

Senate Bill 16 lowered the first-time fee for a license to carry from \$140 to \$40, making it one of the lowest in the country. At \$40, the fee covers the necessary costs by the state for county, state and federal background checks. The renewal fee was also lowered from \$70 to \$40.

"I want to thank Senator Nichols for his hard work during the 85th Legislative Session," said Texas State Rifle Association Executive Director Vicki Huyge. "He has consistently supported the TSRA since being elected to the Legislature."

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First elected to the Texas Senate in 2007, Robert Nichols represents 19 counties including the greater part of East Texas.

In the Texas Senate, Nichols serves as Chairman for the Transportation Committee. He also serves on the Senate Finance, Administration and Business and Commerce Committees. He is a member of the Legislative Audit Committee and currently serving his third term on the Sunset Advisory Committee.

During his six sessions as a state senator, Nichols authored and passed legislation to protect landowners' rights, increase educational opportunities in East Texas and reform transportation policies. He has worked to reduce Medicaid fraud, and promote free-market principles. He was designated as a Champion for Children by the Equity Center and a Fighter of Free Enterprise by the Texas Association of Business, and a Top 10 Best Legislator for the 85th Legislative Session by Texas Monthly Magazine.

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Photo 1 (L-R): Texas State Rifle Association Legislative Director Alice Tripp and Senator Robert Nichols

Photo 2: TSRA Board Members, Texas State Rifle Association Legislative Director Alice Tripp and Senator Robert Nichols