

COMMITTEES:

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, CHAIR

BUSINESS AND COMMERCE

FINANCE

NATURAL RESOURCES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WATER, AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS

THE SENATE OF TEXAS



LOIS W. KOLKHORST

STATE SENATOR

DISTRICT 18

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SENATOR KOLKHORST RE-APPOINTED SENATE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE CHAIR

Lt. Governor Patrick entrusts Kolkhorst to lead HHSC again with 2023 Committee Appointments

(AUSTIN. TX) - Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick announced committee assignments for the 88th Legislature and has again entrusted Senator Lois W. Kolkhorst (R-Brenham) with the Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services along with four other major committee assignments.

In naming Senate Committee appointments for the 88th Legislative Session, Lieutenant Governor Patrick also named Kolkhorst as a member of the Senate Committees on Business & Commerce, Finance, Natural Resources & Economic Development and Water, Agriculture & Rural Affairs.

"I'm grateful to the Lieutenant Governor for his trust in giving me the opportunity to serve as Chair of Senate Health & Human Services Committee, continuing important work to improve the state's healthcare, mental health delivery system and child protective services," Kolkhorst stated. "We must also work together to strike a balance between our public health priorities, civil liberties, and economic freedoms."

The Senate Committee on Health and Human Services is one of the most influential Senate committees, managing nearly \$85 billion of healthcare spending in the state budget.

The committee is also responsible for setting public health policy for the state, regulating physicians and other healthcare professionals, providing legislative oversight to state agencies and boards including the Health & Human Services Commission, Department of Family & Protective Services and the Texas Medical Board, among many other health-related licensing agencies.

Renamed to the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Kolkhorst's focus will ensure Texas remains true to a fiscally conservative approach to budgeting, making certain the \$32.7 billion surplus is used wisely to lower taxes, pay down state debts, fully fund and improve the education of our children and make prudent investments which will save taxpayer money in the long term.

The Business & Commerce committee will face the important work of strengthening the state's power grid. Kolkhorst will support legislation to increase thermal dispatchable generation to improve reliability.

Having served on Water, Agriculture and Rural Affairs for four previous sessions, Kolkhorst will continue her work on water policy for Senate District 18, ensuring access to water and protecting agriculture.

“I am extremely honored to work on these important committees that will impact everything from major healthcare policies to ensuring future thermal energy for a growing Texas as well as access to water along with overall tax policy,” said Senator Kolkhorst. “Serving on each of these committees has direct and significant impacts to the people of Senate District 18 and all Texans.”

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