



**PRESS RELEASE**

**Senator Craig Estes**  
**Texas State Senate District 30**

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**Lt. Governor Patrick Appoints Senator Estes Chair of Natural Resources & Economic Development**

*Senator Estes Looks Forward to a Productive Session*

**Austin** - On Wednesday, Lt. Governor Patrick released his Senate committee assignments for the 85th Legislative Session, re-naming Senator Craig Estes (R-Wichita Falls) the Chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Economic Development. Senator Estes will also serve as a member of the Senate Committees on State Affairs, Business and Commerce, and Nominations.

"I am grateful the Lt. Governor has entrusted me with continuing to lead this important committee," Senator Estes said. "Our natural resources are the foundation of Texas's economy, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate and House to ensure that Texas's success and leadership on these issues continues into the future."

The Senate Committee of Natural Resources and Economic Development has jurisdiction over bills affecting upstream, midstream, and downstream oil and gas operations, air pollution, solid waste, mining, and the State's economic development programs. It also oversees the Railroad Commission of Texas, which regulates the oil and gas industry, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the Texas Workforce Commission.

Lt. Governor Patrick appointed Senator Estes Chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Economic Development for the 84th Legislative Interim in December of 2015. In 2016, Senator Estes chaired interim hearings that studied economic development programs throughout the State and Texas' response to President Obama's administration's promulgation of stricter EPA regulations.

*Estes serves nearly 820,000 constituents across Senate District 30 which includes all of Archer, Clay, Cooke, Erath, Grayson, Jack, Montague, Palo Pinto, Parker, Wichita, Wise, and Young counties and parts of Collin and Denton counties.*

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