

01/15/2018

Greetings Fortieth District!

As many of you are aware, the second half of the 110th General Assembly is now in session. January 9th at noon, we began with a prayer asking for wisdom from God Almighty to instruct and to guide us concerning the "People's Business" over these next four months. Some might say when the legislature is in session they are either doing something for you, or doing something to you. Hopefully, you can agree that my mission is to do what's best for you, our community, and for the great state of Tennessee.

When representing you in Nashville, I am focused on what's important towards keeping Tennessee on the right path; Conservative Common-Sense principles such as: Maintaining Tennessee's proud tradition of low taxes, improving education, and protecting you from government overreach.

I am pleased to say that so far, we have accomplished some great things. A few that I am most proud of are: eliminating the Inheritance Tax, standing strong for legal citizenship, and being a voice against illegal immigration that costs the taxpayers millions of dollars in subsidies. A piece of legislation that I carried concerning our 10th Amendment on Refugee Resettlement is even moving forward in higher courts. According to the Constitution, to which I swore to protect, Tennessee is a sovereign state and we are exercising our right by challenging the Federal Government on refugees being placed in our state without our consent all the while making us pay for it. Tennessee is paving the way on this 10th amendment quest and states across the nation are watching.

Every two years since elected, I make it my mission to tour all schools in the district. That is vital step to be taken in order to be a voice for principals, teachers, and students. Carrying legislation to repeal Common Core, decrease ridiculous amounts of testing, and be a supporter of our teachers has been and will continue to be my stance. "The proof is in the pudding" and there are 8 legislative sessions of my vote to prove I support our public schools! To be honest, the fun of learning has been sucked out of education and our teachers are stressed, under paid, and retiring early. The schools in District 40 know, on my watch, I will continue to listen and work for them.

Protecting Life is another issue that I am proud to be a voice for; especially the life of the unborn who have no voice. Just last week recent Federal Appeals Court upheld the 2014 vote in favor of Amendment 1! We have been in limbo for 3 years and have not been able to enforce stricter abortion laws, for example the 48-hour waiting period for those seeking abortion. The court decided with the will of the people. Our Constitution was amended, and that issue was finally put to rest! "Nothing in this Constitution secures or protects the right to abortion." Persistence and an unwavering focus to protect life was accomplished.

Statistics show that over 24% of voters know someone who is struggling with opioid addiction. Our youngest victims are born craving drugs rather than milk. Drug abuse in our state is overwhelming the child welfare system at unprecedented rates. It is my opinion prescribers, manufacturers, and the mothers who ingest these drugs, should be held accountable. Two years ago, I carried legislation that brought accountability to mothers doing illegal drugs while pregnant with a caveat for incentive to get treatment. Unfortunately, the numbers across our state still continue to increase! According to the Centers for Disease and Prevention, there has been a 200% increase with more than 33,000 people dying of opioid overdoses and is destroying families nationwide. Providing help to our children while in the womb is a passionate issue of mine and I will continue to fight for the drug addicted child who faces extreme challenges. Someone must be held accountable!

In closing, when asked what accomplishment are you most proud of while serving the state of Tennessee? There isn't "ONE" thing I am most proud of; however, I am grateful and proud to be a small part of a larger scheme on the issues that matter most to Tennesseans. I thank you for giving me this honor to serve. I ask you to continue to stand with me as I seek to represent you this year in the August Primary of 2018.

Your state office has a new address, 554 Cordell Hull Building, Nashville Tennessee, 37243.
I am always open to hear your voice, do not hesitate to contact your office 615-741-2192.

Blessings,
Terri Lynn Weaver

Coffee Conversations resume in February as follows:

First Friday @ 8 am - Smithville, TN, Dekalb County, Angi's Diner

Second Friday @ 8 am - Hartsville, TN, Trousdale County, Early Bird Cafe

Third Friday @ 8 am - Carthage, TN, Smith County, Smith County Chamber Building

Fourth Friday @ 7:30 am - Gallatin, TN, Sumner County, Sumner Regional Hospital