

# PREVIEW OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

2011 Legislature



## THE 'NEW NORMAL' IN TEXAS

The “new normal” reveals itself in five major ways

- Partisan breakdown
- Ethnic breakdown by party
- Status of institutional knowledge
- Federal overhang
- Ambitions

## MEET THE VOTER

L to R: HAPPY, SLEEPY, BASHFUL, GRUMPY...



## PARTISAN BREAKDOWN

	GOP	DEMOCRAT
• 2005	86	64
• 2007	81	69
• 2009	76	74
• 2011	99	51

## WHY THE NUMBERS MATTER

- 99 is one vote shy of a “supermajority”
- Takes 100 to stop quorum busting
- Takes 100 to amend the constitution
- Takes 100 to access the Rainy Day Fund
- GOP domination means they get their way---as we speak the conservative wing is demanding more from their Speaker
- Gop dominated House means the Senate must step up.

## ETHNIC BREAKDOWN

- In 2011, there are 7 white male democrats (2 rural, less liberal) and 1 white female democrat in the House
- The Senate has 11 Democrats. 2 white males and 1 female (all liberals)
- 4 GOP Hispanics and 2 Blacks in the House
- The prior reign of the conservative white democrat seems gone for good

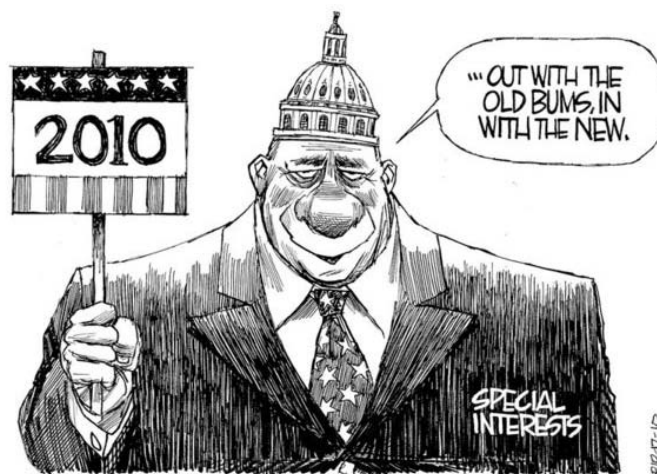
## INSTITUTIONAL KNOWLEDGE

- 5 out of 34 House committees lost chairmen
- 3 House committees lost a majority of members
- There will be 37 Freshmen in the House( but two are returning members—Miles and Murphy) and Gonzales is a former House staff member
- In contrast, only 2 new senators

## FEDERAL OVERHANG

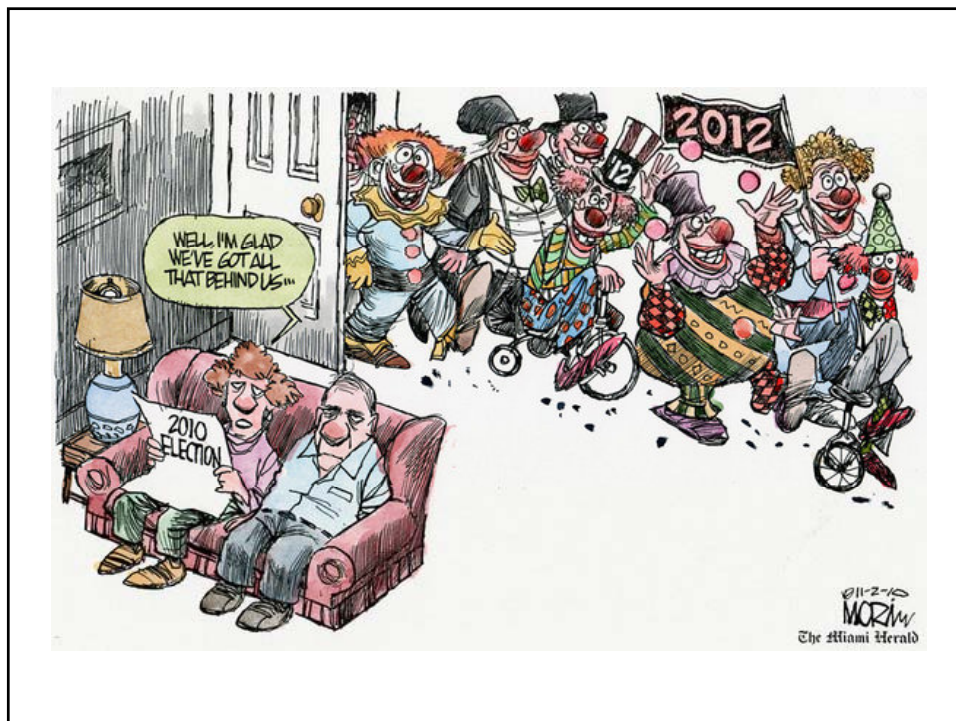
- The United States House is now 239 GOP to 189 Democrat. Before mid terms it was 178 GOP to 256 Democrats
- The Democrats have lost their dominance in Congress and Obama's presidential legacy is in peril
- The voters' mood nationwide (and in Texas) was and is anti-Washington
- Officeholders at all levels hear voters' anger

## POLITICIANS ARE LIKE BABIES' DIAPERS...

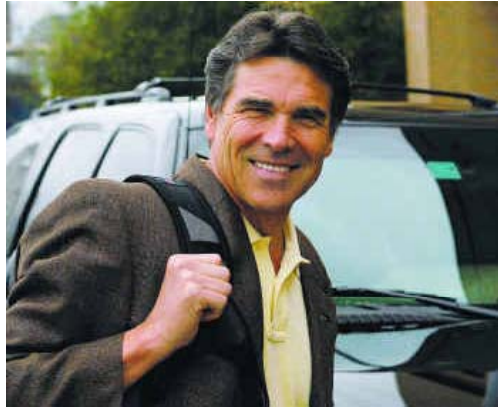


## AMBITIONS

- PERRY wants to be ???? President? On TV? In movies?
- DEWHURST wants to be Governor but US Senator will do
- ABBOTT wants to be LT. Governor
- OGDEN wants to retire—the most dangerous ambition of all
- STRAUS wants to be Speaker again



RICK PERRY



DAVID DEWHURST



## STEVE OGDEN



## GREG ABBOTT



## SPEAKER JOE STRAUS



## REDISTRICTING



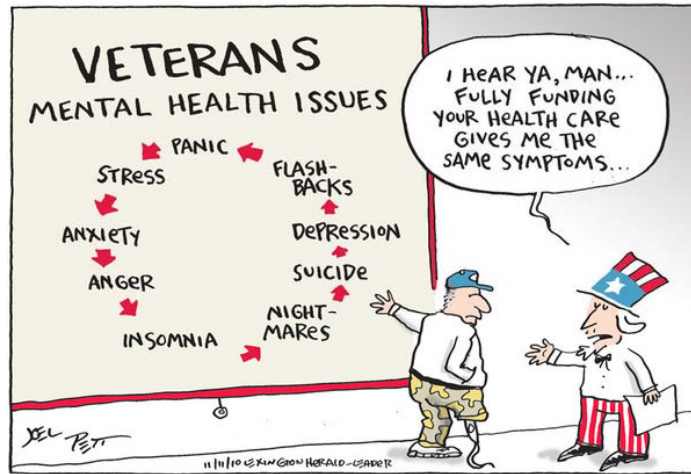
# THE BUDGET DEPENDS ON THE ECONOMY....IS IT GETTING BETTER?



# THE BUDGET



## CUT HEALTH CARE SPENDING?



## GOP WANTS MONEY BUT NO TAXES



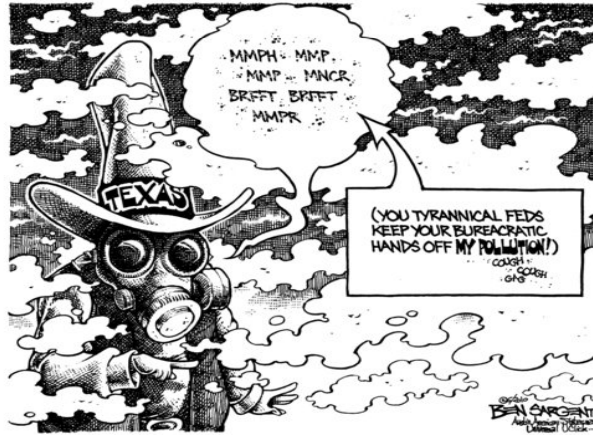
## IMMIGRATION



## LOTS OF IMMIGRATION BILLS....

- Voter ID
- E-verify
- Determination of costs of having immigrants in state
- Criminal laws
- Drivers licenses for immigrants
- Babies of immigrants

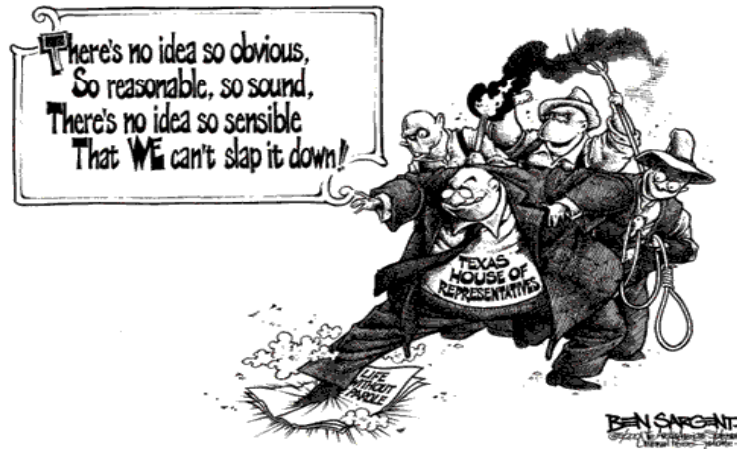
# THE ENVIRONMENT



# ENERGY



## CONSERVATIVE AGENDA ITEMS



## THE SENATE'S ROLE



## SUNSET ISSUES

28 Agencies are under Sunset Review in 2011 .

The big 4 are:

- TXDOT
- TCEQ
- Railroad Commission
- Insurance Department

2 carried over from 2009. Originally set for 2011, some are deferred to 2013. Some limited scope.

## SLEEPER ISSUE



This could be the Worst Session  
Ever.....

But we say that every time.....



**2011 LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW**

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