

## PRESS STATEMENT FROM REPRESENTATIVE TODD BAXTER

Contact: Todd Baxter

It has been a great honor to serve the good people of House District 48. After much thought, prayer and conversations with family and close friends, I have determined not to seek another term as a member of the Legislature.

Because of the high probability of a special session, I believe that District 48 deserves their new voice now on the critical issues facing the Legislature. I have, therefore, determined that I will resign my office effective November 1, 2005 so that the voters can choose a new representative at the earliest possible date.

I am stepping aside because my family and my professional career come first. My wife and I are expecting our second child this spring, and I am looking forward to spending more time with my family. As I prepared for yet another winning campaign, I realized the full cost of elective victory was the lost time with my family and professional endeavors. I have chosen to step down for personal reasons, not political calculations.

I will always cherish the close personal relationships that I developed during my many years as an elected official from Travis County, first as a County Commissioner and as a State Representative. I know that my colleagues are honest, hardworking and diligent. Texans can be proud of their public servants because they are an exceptional group of individuals.

To my friends, colleagues and supporters, I want to thank you for your generous support and wisdom throughout my many years of public service. It is due to the thousands of my supporters through the years that I have won every campaign I have run. I have no doubt that my seat will remain in the hands of a Republican, and I do not plan to be a casual observer in the upcoming elections. Although I am opening a new chapter in my life focusing the vast majority of my time on my professional and family goals, I hope to remain active in politics and public policy.