

TEXAS EAGLE FORUM

March/April 2025

Dear Texas Eagles,

Two years ago, I had the honor of stepping into the role of editor for *The Torch*, following in the footsteps of the beloved Marilyn Statler, who dedicated over three decades to shaping this publication into what it is today. As a relatively new editor, I've spent this time learning from her legacy, getting to know our deeply engaged readership, and working to continue the high standard of reporting and advocacy that *The Torch* represents. There have been the usual bumps and adjustments that inevitably come with change, but I can confidently say that I love this role and the people I have had the good fortune to meet and to work with.

Right now, we are in the heart of Session—a pivotal and high-intensity time for our team. As many of you know, Cindi is in Austin most days, attending hearings, reading and analyzing bills, and testifying on issues that matter deeply to our mission and you, our readers. It's a time filled with urgency, long hours, and important opportunities to influence real change.

It's also the most expensive season of the year. In addition to the regular costs of producing *The Torch* every month—editing, printing, and distribution—we do what we can to help offset the costs of travel, housing, and other logistics associated with our volunteers' presence at the Capitol. That work is only possible because of the generous support of people like you.

If you value the access and insight that *The Torch* provides into state government, and the on-the-ground advocacy work Cindi and others are doing, I hope you will consider making a special donation this Spring to help us meet the demands of Session, not only for the sake of our volunteers, but for the organization as we begin to plan for Fall 2025 and beyond. Every contribution helps keep us going strong—not only with coverage, but with action.

Lastly, I would love to hear from you. I enjoy hearing from our subscribers, especially those who have reached out by email to share their stories and words of encouragement. As we plan upcoming issues for *The Torch*, I welcome your thoughts on topics you'd like to see covered, news items you think we should explore, any questions you have, or suggestions for how we can expand our reach to new subscribers and supporters. You can reach me anytime at editor@texaseagleforum.com. I look forward to our conversation.

Thank you for being a part Texas Eagle Forum. Your trust, support, and faithful prayers sustain us daily. I pray God's blessings over you, your families, and our great state!

Warm regards,

Jennifer Vermeulen
Editor, *The Torch*
Texas Eagle Forum

