

FROM THE OFFICE OF
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE
RUTH JONES MCCLENDON**

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Contact: Janis Reinken, Chief of Staff
512/463-0708 (Austin)



**Representative McClendon Appointed to
House Select Committee on
Property Tax Relief and Appraisal Reform**

(Austin) – Speaker Tom Craddick (R - Midland) has appointed Representative Ruth Jones McClendon (D - San Antonio) to the Select Committee on Property Tax Relief and Appraisal Reform. The committee will oversee all matters related to property tax relief and reforming the property appraisal system.

"I appreciate being asked to serve with Chair John Otto and the Select Committee Members in developing property tax and appraisal proposals for the 2009 Legislative Session. The challenge we face, as Committee Members and as Legislators, is how to keep property appraisals and tax rates reasonable and equitable, without impairing the ability of cities, counties, and school and hospital districts to function at levels the public expects. Definitely, we have our work cut out for us."

The committee will review the sections of the Texas Constitution and the state tax code that limit or authorize limiting the appraised value or increases in the appraised value of property for tax purposes. It may request assistance from any executive branch agency, and it will issue a report to the House of Representatives before the 81st Legislative Session, which may include draft legislation or recommendations for legislation.

"Representative McClendon's experience as a result of her work on the House Appropriations Committee and the House Pensions & Investments Committee make her a well-qualified member of this team," Speaker Craddick said. "I have full confidence that she and the rest of the select committee members will find a viable solution to this important issue."

Representative McClendon is serving her sixth term as the State Representative for House District 120, and is running unopposed for reelection in November. She is the Chair of the House Rules & Resolutions Committee. She also serves as a Member of the Subcommittee on Education and the Subcommittee on the Texas Department of Transportation for the House Appropriations Committee, and as Chief Budget Officer of the House Pensions & Investments Committee. In addition, she serves as a Member of the Sunset Advisory Commission.