

# The APEX Informant

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## Did You Know?

If you haven't received State Representative Veronica Gonzales' January newsletter, you really need to contact her office and ask to be placed on her mailing list. Her newsletter is full of helpful information as well as impressive details concerning her activities and the many bills she was instrumental in introducing and getting passed in the legislature in 2005, her first term as our State Representative.

With her permission, we are reprinting just a small portion of her newsletter. To be placed on her mailing list, contact her office at 956-686-5501.



Texas State Representative  
Veronica Gonzales

- Children 5 or under or less than 36 inches tall must ride in a child safety seat.
- It is against the law for teens who are in the first 6 months after receiving their driver's licenses to talk on a cell phone while driving.
- A school district is required to transfer a student who is a victim of bullying to another class or school (at the parent's quest and expense).
- High school students are now required to be taught personal financial skills. Whether a student is figuring out how to put together enough money to pay the bills or save up for grad school, this class should help all students early in life about how to manage money.
- A physician must now obtain consent of a parent, guardian or acting conservator before performing an abortion on a minor.
- A peace officer who stops a car may not search the car unless he/she has probable cause for the search, obtains your witten consent on a specific form or obtains your oral consent and records it on audio/video.
- If you want to purchase a medication that contains pseudo ephedrine (an essential ingredient in making methamphetamine), you will find it behind the counter in a locked case. Stores are required to keep a record of your name, date of birth, date of purchase and the product purchased.
- 182,000 Texans lose track of their hard-earned money every year. Contact the comptroller's office at 1-800-654-3463 or log on to [www.window.state.tx.us/up](http://www.window.state.tx.us/up) to find out if any unclaimed money belongs to you.
- Medicare now offers prescription drug coverage to all eligible Medicare beneficiaries. The new benefit will allow convenient access to local pharmacies and pay for brand name and generic drugs. To find out more, call the Texas State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) at 800-252-9240.

Information Retrieved from the Rep. Veronica Gonzales Newsletter, January 2006



Laura Alvarez Reyna  
President