



By Robert Osborne

May 2016

This is my first column as Chairman, and I want to thank the Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors for having the confidence in me to lead this great association for the next two years.

I also want to thank George Rogers for his two years of service during very difficult times. Not only did we have declining commodity prices, but the federal government issued regulation after regulation in an effort to put us out of business.

The Alliance has a great staff, with our government relations team being the best in the industry. Executive Vice President, John Tintera, has opened our new office located at 1000 West Avenue; Austin Texas, 78701. He leads a team of experienced professionals in General Counsel, Gloria Leal and Chief Lobbyist, Bill Stevens.

Since being nominated as Chairman of the Texas Alliance, the government relations team invited me to Austin for meetings with Railroad Commission Chairman **David Porter**, RRC Commissioner **Christie Craddick**, RRC Executive Director **Kimberly Corley**, Comptroller **Glenn Hegar**, Sunset Committee Chairman **Larry Gonzales** and the Chief of Staff for Speaker **Joe Straus**, as well as several other members of the House of Representatives and Senate. Our message was regulatory stability, and no new fees or taxes. This message was well received by all the elected officials.

These are challenging times, but I am confident that we will continue to find success. We need your help, and do not hesitate to contact any of the Texas Alliance staff with your concerns, questions, or advice.