

## A.R. Babe Schwartz Overview

- Chief Clerk to the Texas House of Representatives, 1949
- 1951 worked for the Legislative Council
- 1951-53, prosecutor, Galveston County Attorney's Office
- Texas State Representative, 1954-57
- Texas State Senator, 1960-81
- Ad interim President Pro Tempore, Texas Senate, 59th Regular Session, 1965-67
- President Pro Tempore, Texas Senate, 1st Called Session, 59th Legislature, 1965-67.
- Named one of *10 Best Legislators* by Texas Monthly each session from 1973-1979
- Helped found the Galveston Bay Foundation
- Chaired the Senate Natural Resource Committee
- Chaired the Texas Coastal and Marine Council
- Schwartz's body of legislation became the basis of the Texas Coastal Zone management Plan.
- Sponsored an amendment to the Open Beaches Act giving counties the right to regulate traffic on beaches.
- Sponsored measures that recognized the importance of freshwater inflows into the state's bays and estuaries and sought to protect them; sponsored a similar bill protecting wetlands.
- Schwartz-led bill in 1971 resulted in creation of the Windstorm Catastrophic Insurance Pool, which made windstorm insurance available to residents in the first tier of coastal counties. The so-called "Cat Pool" brought about stronger coastal building codes as well.