Marble Floor Marathon, Continued Yet Again

First off, by the time that you read this, the legislature will be adjourned, but I am writing this 12 days before that, which may make this qualify as speculative fiction.

Our weight fee bill (SB 5309), being carried by Sen. Cortes (D-18) with Sen. MacEwen (R-35) as second seat, did not clear committee cutoff. If things went well, maybe we can bring it back to life next session in some form or another. That depends on what the Transportation Funding Package finally looked like, and my crystal ball is in the shop for repairs. The Senate and House proposals were not even in the same zip code. The Senate was more in line with increasing costs to operations that place more load on the transportation infrastructure, leaving the individual people alone, where the House looked to "across the board" fee increases, including weight fees. If that weight fee increase has gone through, then our weight fee issue will be DOA for a few years. I worked the phones, email, and the House and Senate doors as much as possible trying to get the weight fee language removed. If the Transportation Budget and funding did not pass, there will be a special session to deal with it. In that case, keep your eyes open for a Call to Action to light up the phones and email servers.

Until next time, ride safely and legislate well.

"Texas" Larry