

State Representative Ernest Bailes was first elected in 2016 to serve Texas' House District 18 which includes Liberty, San Jacinto, and Walker counties. Representative Bailes is currently serving on the House Committee(s) on Economic & Small Business Development, Land & Resource Management, Rules & Resolutions, and the Joint Committee on Coastal Barrier System.

Representative Bailes, a lifelong rancher and agriculturalist, was raised on his family's dairy and beef cattle operations in East Texas. He grew up in Shepherd, and earned his B.S. from Texas A&M University in 2004.

Following his graduation, Ernest founded his company, Repro Select, an advanced reproductive services provider for cattle and whitetail deer producers across the south-central United States.

Ernest and his wife, Courtney, live in Shepherd, Texas, with their two sons, "Cinco" and Rigby. Both "Cinco" and Rigby go to Coldspring-Oakhurst CISD where Courtney is a school teacher. Ernest is active in the community and serves on various boards, including the San Jacinto County Fair Association, San Jacinto County Farm Bureau, and the SISD Technology Advisory Committee.