



## Trump-Putin bromance flowered, soured

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# Abilene Reporter-News

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U.S. Rep. Jodey Arrington, R-Texas, speaks at a news conference about the wins and impact of the One Big Beautiful Bill on West Texans and Rural Americans on July 10 in Lubbock. Arrington helped author the bill signed by President Trump on July 4. PHOTOS BY MATEO ROSILES/AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

## Arrington touts wins, impact of bill in Lubbock

**Mateo Rosiles**  
Lubbock Avalanche-Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A few days after a “historic” and “consequential” reconciliation bill was signed into law by President Donald Trump, the author of said bill visited his home district to talk about it.

U.S. Rep. Jodey Arrington, R-Texas, is the House Budget Chairman and the architect behind Trump’s policy sweeping legislation — the One Big Beautiful Bill.

“H.R. 1 is the most comprehensive set of conservative policies and all of the tools and resources that this president needs to advance the America-first agenda and to restore the American promise of freedom, opportunity and security for all Americans,” Arrington said.

Making a visit to Lubbock, Arrington hosted a roundtable with notable local and state leaders such as Texas Speaker of the House Rep. Dustin Burrows, R-Lubbock, State Rep. Carl Tepper, R-Lubbock, and many other advocates from industries set to be impacted by the bill.

During the session, Arrington heard from them about the impact of the bill on the West Texas agriculture industry and economy, as well as on state issues — border security and law enforcement



U.S. Rep. Jodey Arrington, R-Texas, speaks at a news conference about the wins and impact of the One Big Beautiful Bill on West Texans and Rural Americans on July 10 in Lubbock. Arrington helped author the bill signed by President Trump on July 4.

— and national issues — abortion and gun rights.

“It’s been said so many times over the last three years how desperately we have needed a Farm Bill and an enhanced farm safety net. We’re gratefully, grateful to finally have gone across the finish line with the farm policy that will give farmers a fighting chance for years to come,” said Brent Coker.

Coker, a vice president with Plains

Cotton Growers, said the bill will directly impact the West Texas cotton industry by easing some of the economic pressures cotton growers face.

As Arrington told the A-J earlier in the year, the bill helps codify and protects the heart of the Farm Bill — farm safety net.

But the bill is also set to impact Tex-

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## Another forecasting tool is scrapped

Experts: Government cuts damage U.S. status as global science leader

**Dinah Voyles Pulver**  
USA TODAY

The heart-wrenching July 4 flooding in Texas served as a stark reminder of the importance of accurate and timely weather forecasts.

As extreme rainfall events grow more intense, such tragedies are expected to increase. Further improvement to forecasts is critical, but meteorologists worry that with the additional cuts planned by the Trump administration, the nation’s weather and climate research programs won’t be able to keep up.

The latest blow was the announcement by the U.S. Navy that it would no longer transmit data from aging satellites past June 30, roughly 15 months earlier than expected. Later, the department extended the deadline to July 31.

Without those satellite images, hurricane forecast accuracy could be compromised, say current and former scientists with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Polar researchers, who use the images to measure the extent of sea ice, hope to acquire the same data through a Japanese government satellite instead.

In any other year, the satellite snafu might not have gathered much attention. But this summer, it exacerbates mounting concerns about the accuracy of weather prediction amid contract cancellations, staff reductions and other Trump administration efforts to reduce the federal bureaucracy.

“You can’t keep taking tools away from people and expect them to get the same result,” said Andy Hazelton, a hurricane scientist at the University of Miami. Hazelton had been hired as a NOAA scientist last October and was dismissed in the Trump administration’s widespread agency layoffs.

USA TODAY interviewed more than a dozen industry veterans, including a

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## Suspect jailed in Monday homicide

**Lynn Walker**  
Wichita Falls Times Record News  
USA TODAY NETWORK – TEXAS

A suspect has surrendered to police in connection with the shooting death of a man at an Abilene apartment complex.

According to a press release from the Abilene Police Department, detectives obtained a murder warrant for

Christopher Whittington, 31. The release said Whittington surrendered to the Irving Police Department on Wednesday.

Suspects are considered innocent unless convicted beyond reasonable doubt in a court of law.

An earlier press release said police had been called to the Maison Blanche Apartments in the 2800 block of Highland Avenue about 5:30 p.m. on Mon-

day where they found a man lying in the street suffering from a gunshot wound.

The release said a suspect had been identified, but had fled the scene.

Officers were directed to an apartment the victim may have exited. His name was withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Whittington was held in lieu of a \$1 million bond, according to the release.

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