



# VOTERS ★ GUIDE

by the League of Women Voters of Texas, League of Women Voters of the Austin Area,  
& League of Women Voters of Williamson County

## VOTING IN THE 2026 PRIMARY ELECTION

### WHEN

#### Travis County:

##### Early Voting:

Tuesday (2/17)–Saturday (2/21): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Sunday (2/22): 12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

Monday (2/23)–Wednesday (2/25): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Thursday (2/26)–Friday (2/27): 7:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.

**Election Day:** Tuesday (3/3): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

#### Williamson County:

##### Early Voting:

Tuesday (2/17)–Saturday (2/21): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Sunday (2/22): 12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

Monday (2/23)–Friday (2/27): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

**Election Day:** Tuesday (3/3): 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

SCAN OR CLICK ON THESE QR CODES  
FOR INFORMATION ON WHERE  
TO VOTE AND HOW TO VOTE



Travis County



Williamson County

Each code will take you to links for polling locations in that county, how to check your registration, how to find a sample ballot, how to vote by mail, and so much more!

### STEPS FOR VOTING

1. Register to vote, or verify you are already registered to vote. Questions? See our voter registration guide at the QR code above.
2. Find your sample ballot to see what races and ballot measures will be on it using the QR code above.
3. Research the candidates and ballot measure topics by using this *Voters Guide*, online at **VOTE411.org**, or using any other method you want.

Learn what each elected position does via the QR code.

4. Print your sample ballot, this *Voters Guide*, or your **VOTE411.org** printout, and mark your selections. If you don't have a printer, you can write down your selections on a piece of paper.
5. Take your photo ID and your printout with your selections to a polling location during Early Voting or on Election Day.

Find out what IDs are allowed by scanning the QR code.

6. Walk up to the reception desk at the polling location and show your ID. They will ask you to confirm you still live at your registered address, then you'll sign your name to get an empty ballot.
7. Take your empty ballot, walk over to an open voting machine, slide your ballot into the machine, and use the touchscreen to make your selections (you can use your printout with your selections as a reference).

*Note:* Using electronic devices (e.g., mobile phones) at polling locations is prohibited (this is why you should bring a paper with your selections).

8. When you're done, review and print your completed ballot, walk over to the ballot box, and slide your completed ballot into the ballot box.

Congratulations! You voted! Take an "I Voted" sticker and wear it proudly!

**NOTE:** Williamson County is in the process of implementing a new voting system. Please scan the QR code to learn more.

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# NATIONAL U.S. SENATOR

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Economy:** What specific policies would you support to address the growing wealth gap between the highest and lowest earners, and what do you see as the appropriate role of the federal government in this issue?

**Immigration:** What policy changes would you propose to make the U.S. immigration system more effective and humane?

**Balance of Power:** The Constitution establishes a system of checks and balances among the three branches of government. As a Senator, what specific actions would you take to preserve the system so that the federal government can serve the people?

**Healthcare:** What role should the federal government play in promoting a healthy American population, and what steps would you take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Americans?



## Jasmine Crockett (D)

**Qualifications:** I'm a civil rights & criminal defense multi-jurisdictional 20 year licensed attorney who served in the Texas House & in Congress as Vice Ranking Member on Oversight & a Ranker on Judiciary Committee.

**Economy:** I'll repeal the Trump tariffs that are hurting American consumers and reform our tax structure to ensure the ultra-wealthy pay their fair share. This will allow us to deliver relief to the middle and working class and assistance for first-time home buyers and small businesses. Costs have gone up but wages haven't, which is why I'm co-sponsoring the Raise the Wage Act to increase the minimum wage.

**Immigration:** I support comprehensive immigration reform that prioritizes a pathway to citizenship that's secure, timely, and easy to navigate. In Congress, I introduced the CLEAR ID Act requiring ICE agents to identify themselves and co-lead the Protecting Sensitive Locations Act to limit immigration enforcement at healthcare facilities, schools, court-houses, and houses of worship.

**Balance of Power:** I serve on the Judiciary Committee, the Supreme Court Task Force & am a multi-jurisdictionally licensed attorney of 20 years. We need to expand the court, which has been done 7 times before, and also need ethics reform as this group of justices has revealed itself to be compromised; i.e. Presidential Immunity.

**Healthcare:** I'm a proud cosponsor of Medicare For All. We must fully cover preventative health care, cap out-of-pocket costs, and eliminate premiums, deductibles, and co-pays. In Congress, I've cosponsored bills to: lower drug costs, allow Medicare coverage for cancer early detection screening, and

address the mental health crisis by training providers. Our health care system must center patients, not profits

**Campaign Website:** [jasmineforus.com](http://jasmineforus.com)

## Ahmad R. Hassan (D)

No response received



## James Talarico (D)

**Qualifications:** I'm a former middle school teacher, and I've served in the Texas House for eight years. As a Democrat in the Republican-controlled House, I've proven that I can fight back and win

for working people.

**Economy:** We need a government that serves working people instead of giant corporations by: closing tax loopholes that billionaires exploit, raising the corporate tax, raising the tax on corporate stock buybacks, raising the minimum wage to \$15, and incentivizing CEOs to raise wages by creating a special tax on corporations that pay their top executives more than 250 times their median worker's salary.

**Immigration:** Our border should be like a front porch — a giant welcome mat out front and a lock on the door. I'd propose modernizing ports of entry to detect threats before they enter the country, hiring more asylum judges to process cases quickly, stopping ICE abuses so they focus on deporting criminals instead of community members, passing the DREAM Act, and creating clear pathways to citizenship.

**Balance of Power:** I will support legislation to ban super PACs, cap campaign contributions, ban partisan gerrymandering and Congressional stock trading, expand voter access by passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and impose term limits on Supreme Court justices and hold them to higher ethical standards.

**Healthcare:** In the legislature, I passed laws capping insulin at \$25 and importing cheaper drugs into the US. As Senator, I'll ensure every American can access a federal healthcare option like Medicare, cap copays for additional prescription drugs, protect reproductive care, and save rural hospitals. I'll protect Medicaid, Medicare, and the Affordable Care Act and fully fund the VA.

**Campaign Website:** [jamestalarico.com](http://jamestalarico.com)

## John O. Adefope (R)

No response received

## Anna Bender (R)

No response received

## Virgil John Bierschwale (R)

No response received

## Sara Canady (R)

No response received

## John Cornyn (R)

No response received

## Wesley Hunt (R)

No response received



## Gulrez "Gus" Khan (R)

**Qualifications:** Healthcare entrepreneur, author, former pro athlete, philanthropist. Fighting for Texas—reviving 25 closed rural hospitals, economy, secure borders, term limits, Energy Dominance, Election Integrity.

**Economy:** I support pro-growth policies: fair reciprocal tariffs, American manufacturing incentives, and deregulation to create jobs and lift wages. The federal government's role is to protect free markets, ensure opportunity, and remove barriers, not punish success, so all Texans—especially low- and middle-income families—can prosper.

**Immigration:** I support secure borders, strong enforcement of immigration laws, and ending chain migration abuses. At the same time, we should streamline legal immigration for skilled workers and families, improve processing efficiency, and ensure the system is fair, orderly, and humane—protecting Texans while rewarding those who follow the rules.

**Balance of Power:** I will fight to uphold the Constitution, support term limits, and hold the executive and judiciary accountable to the law. I will oppose federal overreach, ensure Congress enacts laws that serve the people—not bureaucrats—and restore power to states, communities, and citizens while protecting individual freedoms.

**Healthcare:** The federal government should remove barriers, reduce bureaucracy, and empower patients and providers, not control care. I will expand access to primary care, home based and palliative care, and revive the 25 rural Texas hospitals closed in the last 20 years, ensuring affordable, accessible healthcare while letting Texans make their own decisions.

**Campaign Website:** [www.gkhanforsenate.com](http://www.gkhanforsenate.com)

## Ken Paxton (R)

No response received

## DONATE!

Support the *Voters Guide* production with a contribution to the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area, a nonpartisan nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Mail to: 3908 Avenue B, Austin, TX 78751, or make a secure donation online at [LWVAustin.org](http://LWVAustin.org).

# NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Healthcare:** What steps should Congress take, if any, to ensure that healthcare is effective, affordable, and accessible for all Americans?

**Democracy:** What does Congress need to do, if anything, to protect our democracy and restore faith in our institutions?

**Immigration:** What steps should Congress take, if any, to assure that the U.S. immigration system is both effective and humane?

**Balance of Power:** What does Congress need to do, if anything, to preserve the Constitution's checks and balances to keep the government accountable to the people?

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## DISTRICT 10



**Caitlin Rourk (D)**

**Qualifications:** I'm an Army veteran and public servant with policy and private sector experience. I lead by showing up, doing the work, and getting results, the kind of leadership that's in short supply in Congress.

**Healthcare:** Health care should be affordable and accessible, period. Texas consistently has the highest uninsured rate in the nation. In Congress, I'll lower drug costs, protect coverage for pre-existing conditions, expand mental health and addiction services, end surprise billing, support rural and community providers, and close the coverage gap by strengthening the ACA and advocating for Medicaid expansion.

**Democracy:** Trust in our institutions - especially Congress - has fallen to an alarming low. Congress can rebuild this trust by doing the work we send our representatives to Washington to do: legislating. To protect our democracy, we must uphold the rule of law, defend voting rights, fight corruption, and build coalitions across the aisle to get real results. Voters are fed up; so am I.

**Immigration:** Our immigration system is broken, putting families at risk and harming businesses that rely on immigrant talent, while inhumane ICE tactics persist. Congress must act: let law-abiding immigrants live and work here legally or earn citizenship, reform ICE, improve legal immigration and clear backlogs, and invest in real border security, technology, and infrastructure, not political stunts.

**Balance of Power:** I swore an oath in the Army to defend the Constitution. Our representatives swore the same, but our Constitutional safeguards are under strain. Congress must act: protect voting rights, hold the executive branch accountable, and safeguard an independent judiciary. My office will be transparent, accountable, and inclusive, to ensure

constituents feel heard, valued, and empowered to shape policy.

**Campaign Website:** [www.caitlinrourk.com](http://www.caitlinrourk.com)



**Dawn Marshall (D)**

**Qualifications:** I am a professor of anthropology. I have spent a lifetime teaching at the K-12, undergraduate and graduate levels what it means to be human. I am acutely aware of the changes occurring.

**Healthcare:** Congress needs to do an analysis of what works and what does not work for other countries. While the U.S. does do something's right on the whole we are well behind the curve of best practices. We pay the most in healthcare in % of GDP but receive the worse care for our money. Our system is not working and needs a real plan what we have now is a patchwork left over from WWII.

**Democracy:** It needs to take back control of the role and powers given to Congress. Trump needs to be removed, with anyone else found guilty of treason and high crimes that were in collusion with him.

**Immigration:** Cease and desist all bounty hunters and shut down all detention centers where due process has NOT occurred. In addition create a pathway to citizenship that satisfies our legal system while increasing the number of judicial personnel to hear cases and to reunite, inform family members.

**Balance of Power:** Create a separate judicial group that is solely for the executive branch to clarify and keep in check all laws, interpretations and amendments to the constitution with the authority to enforce it if necessary.

**Campaign Website:** [www.texasneedsdawn.com](http://www.texasneedsdawn.com)



**Bernie Reyna (D)**

**Qualifications:** Real world experience & economic training, focused on practical results for families & communities. Independent of big money, accountable to voters, ready to protect

taxpayers and check power.

**Healthcare:** Expand competition with strong consumer protections, reduce wasteful profit incentives in insurance, invest in doctors through targeted scholarships and zero interest training loans, and lower costs by providing low rate financing for hospitals and clinics. Together, these steps improve access, strengthen care quality, and slow healthcare cost growth.

**Democracy:** Democracy weakens when people believe government serves the few, not the many. Faith is restored through action: economic security, fair wages, affordable housing, and health care; limits on concentrated money power; protected voting rights; accountable elections; a strong, independent Congress; and honest, open government that serves the public, not private interests.

**Immigration:** Congress should return immigration to a rules based economic system governed by the Department of Commerce and the Department of Labor. Commerce would certify real labor shortages and request workers; Labor would approve or deny based on wages, unemployment, and worker impact. This system existed prior to WWII, restores checks & balances, protects American workers, aligns immigration with demand.

**Balance of Power:** Congress must actively exercise its constitutional powers rather than surrender them to the executive branch or insulated agencies. It should limit delegated authority, enforce rigorous oversight, guard the taxing and spending power, and restrain habitual debt. Ultimately, accountability depends on a vigilant legislature that trusts and engages an informed public.

**Campaign Website:** [tx10bernie.com](http://tx10bernie.com)



**Rob Altman (R)**

**Qualifications:** I've served in combat and in the private sector. I model positive leadership and have spent my life-time serving the Constitution and Texas values. My record is consistent in service above self.

**Healthcare:** Healthcare should serve patients, not bureaucrats. Congress should lower costs through competition, price transparency, and reduced regulations while protecting seniors and veterans. Decisions should stay with patients, doctors, and states—not Washington mandates.

**Democracy:** The Government should exist of, by, and for the people. Trust is restored through accountability and equal enforcement of the law. Congress must secure elections, rein in unelected bureaucrats, and reclaim its role in legislating. Faith returns when leaders, exhibit character, respect the Constitution, and put country over politics.

**Immigration:** We must secure the border and enforce the law while treating people humanely. Congress should end incentives for illegal crossings and fix a broken legal system so those who follow the rules are treated fairly and efficiently.

**Balance of Power:** Congress has ceded too much power. Lawmakers must reclaim authority over lawmaking, spending, and oversight to preserve checks and balances and keep government accountable to the people. The whole premise of a representative is to be a voice for the people.

**Campaign Website:** [AltmanForTexas.com](http://AltmanForTexas.com)



# NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 10 (continued)



### Ben Bius (R)

**Qualifications:** Businessman and finance/agri-business graduate who built successful real estate, construction, and investment companies. I know this district and will represent all its people with Texas values.

**Healthcare:** Congress should get government out of the healthcare business and let the market direct the industry. If government intervention is needed, it should only be at the state level.

**Democracy:** Stop the theft and stop electing political profiteers. I will not take money from foreign nations, become a lobbyist or defense contractor. My son and employees will take over our business so I can focus full time on service to our districts. Congress must continue to work hard to secure our borders, deport criminals, lower taxes and keep government out of our everyday life whenever possible.

**Immigration:** Support the Trump administration's work to follow and enforce the law and keep our borders secure.

**Balance of Power:** We have the greatest system ever devised by man, but it is run by human beings who often go astray. I believe the system will work if we try to follow God's Word and defend the Constitution. Maintaining the Supreme Court and working to reinstitute the 10th Amendment are key. I will work hard in my district to hear my citizens needs and fight for them in Washington DC as their representative.

**Campaign Website:** [Ben4Congress.com](http://Ben4Congress.com)

### Robert Brown (R)

No response received

### Jenny Garcia Sharon (R)

No response received

### Chris Gober (R)

No response received

### Brandon Hawbaker (R)

**Qualifications:** My training and experience as a Senior Software Engineer is a truly unique skill-set that will allow me to do a lot of things in a legislative capacity that most candidates can't.

**Healthcare:** Congress needs to begin transitioning responsibility for healthcare back into the hands of Americans and the states where it belongs. I have unique ideas that would help in this transition such as an option to leverage a single emergency fund which will remove reverse incentives by rewarding lower premiums to individuals with higher emergency fund balances and allow individuals to control access.

**Democracy:** We definitely need to bolster election integrity. One idea is a carefully crafted Constitutional amendment that defines principles that must be adhered to. One sure way to make election fraud impossible is to restore pub-

lic ballots where the results can be audited directly with voters. Everything that happens in-between becomes essentially irrelevant at that point.

**Immigration:** I think we should measure each immigrant to make sure they support our founding principles and our Constitution. We also need to make sure they're not a danger to American citizens and also not a burden on taxpayers. These things should be measured objectively and over time. For dreamers there should be a way for them to go through the same process, but it should be slightly more difficult.

**Balance of Power:** Congress needs to reestablish its authority and responsibility in certain areas such as declaring wars, removing the AUMF from 9-11, stop funding the waste, fraud, and abuse, and also to reign in the courts.

**Campaign Website:** [brandonhawbaker.com](http://brandonhawbaker.com)



### Jessica Karlsruhe (R)

**Qualifications:** For more than 20 years, I have advocated at the state and federal level for strengthening agriculture, energy, economic development, and financial services, all vital to Congressional district 10.

**Healthcare:** Congress should continue ridding of fraud in the system providing more oversight and transparency, reduce out of pocket costs, provide more options for healthcare coverage, improve rural and underserved care with telehealth expansion, address workforce shortages, and invest more in preventative care.

**Democracy:** Protect voting rights and elections integrity, reinforce the rule of law and improve transparency in government decision-making.

**Immigration:** Strengthen and modernize legal visa programs to match labor market needs, improve border security with technology, infrastructure and trained personnel.

**Balance of Power:** Preserving checks and balances is less about creating new powers and more about Congress fully exercising the ones it already has. When Congress acts as a coequal branch—rather than deferring to the executive—it helps keep government faithful to constitutional principles and accountable to the People.

**Campaign Website:** [www.jessicakforcongress.com](http://www.jessicakforcongress.com)

### Kara King (R)

No response received

### Scott MacLeod (R)

No response received



### Jeremy Story (R)

**Qualifications:** I have served extensively in the non profit sphere serving the spiritual needs of college students and influential leaders nationwide. I also own an event center and restaurant.

**Healthcare:** Private options like the growing private medical sharing models are doing a great job of making healthcare effective and affordable. These medical sharing options remove the middle men and put the consumer of the healthcare right in the middle of the cost choices. They also push towards medical pricing transparency.

**Democracy:** Members of congress need to act in the public interest first and foremost. Bad policy always comes when politicians put their own personal interests above the good of the public as a whole.

**Immigration:** Our previous policies indirectly facilitated rampant sex trafficking and modern day slavery. We should disallow an open border while simultaneously working towards clear, fair and consistent immigration law.

**Balance of Power:** I think that term limits would be a big step towards keeping the government more accountable to the people. Working hard to reduce the over reach of the government into the private sector and reducing the overall size of government will help protect the Constitution's checks and balances.

**Campaign Website:** [votejeremystory.com](http://votejeremystory.com)

## DISTRICT 11

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Issues:** What are the most pressing issues facing the next session of Congress?

**Priorities:** What are your three top priorities for the next session of Congress?

**Healthcare:** What steps should Congress take, if any, to ensure that healthcare is effective, affordable, and accessible for all Americans?

**Voter Concerns:** What legislation would you support or introduce that would address the top concerns of voters in Texas Congressional District 11?

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### Pedro Ruiz (D)

**Qualifications:** I am deeply committed to giving back, I have served the Midland/Odessa community in numerous roles including Vice President of the Midland Housing Authority Board and a member

of the Boys and Girls Club Board. I also served on the Texas PAPA Arts Board—the lower-income arm of Texas focused on providing arts and culture opportunities for underprivileged children—as well as the Texas Minority Hiring Committee and the Minority Community Committee regarding the federal busing issue. Despite receiving death threats for my service regarding the busing issue only made my resolve stronger to serve my community.

# NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 11

### Pedro Ruiz (D) (continued)

**Issues:** Affordability: Today It's more difficult for the working class to make a living due to inflation and the high cost of utilities and groceries. Healthcare: The loss of the ACA subsidies will place working-class individuals in a precarious situation, compelling them to make critical decisions. We don't need to replace the ACA; we just need to fix some of its problems. Veterans—as a Marine, this population is near and dear to my heart. There is no reason our veterans should not have Class A service that is equal to their service to this country; they deserve better.

**Priorities:** Affordability and living wage: The working class is what makes this country extraordinary. There must be some relief regarding price of groceries, utilities and inflation. Health care will be skyrocketing due to the lack of assistance impacting on working families' and individuals who rely on the ACA subsidies. Education: Texas is the bottom 3rd in the US and education. Giving more money to school and teachers is start to improving scores in Texas.

**Healthcare:** Congress should reauthorize the ACA subsidies as well as correct any weaknesses/barriers. Ignoring the problem and offering straight to the consumer \$1,000 is not sufficient and only puts a band aid on a gaping wound left by loss of the subsidies. The mental health crisis is creating a need for more services. Which means more money needs to be allocated to help those suffering from mental health disorders and substance use. This will help that population get the services they need and also will help reduce the dependence on the drug trade.

**Voter Concerns:** The forecast provided by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) indicates that the decline in oil prices is expected to persist throughout 2026 and to some extent into 2027. The economic crisis will lead to a rise in unemployment. Congress should assist the oil and gas industry in collaborating with renewable energy initiatives to facilitate retraining for workers displaced from the oil sector and support their transition to alternative employment opportunities. Agreements should also be established with other industries to facilitate the retraining and repurposing of displaced oil field workers, enabling them to transition swiftly from unemployment to new employment opportunities.

**Campaign Website:** [www.pedroruizforcd11.com](http://www.pedroruizforcd11.com)



### Claire Reynolds (D)

**Qualifications:** I've been an attorney for more than 23 years, and for the past 12 I worked at the State Bar of Texas in the attorney-discipline department. Not only do I understand Congressional duties as outlined by the U.S. Constitution, I also have the fortitude to ensure Congress actually fulfills those duties.

**Issues:** The first order of business is to make Congress do

what it is supposed to do: act as a check on abuses of authority by the executive branch. This includes regaining control of how our country's funds are spent, ensuring that Congress and Congress alone has the power to declare war, and regulating commerce with foreign nations.

**Priorities:** My top three priorities will be as follows: Enact legislation to stop the warrantless arrests and deportation of people based on the color of their skin; enact legislation to re-extend the ACA subsidies to keep Americans' health-care costs affordable; enact federal legislation protecting all Americans' reproductive rights and right to bodily autonomy.

**Healthcare:** I truly believe that healthcare is a human right and that Americans should never go bankrupt because of an illness. The simplest and most effective way to ensure this is to enact legislation to make Medicare available for everyone.

**Voter Concerns:** I will file legislation that will do the following: ensure every public school system in my district is adequately funded, from teacher pay to free school lunches; ensure that wealthy and profitable corporations pay their fair share of federal taxes, just like the rest of us; and provide federal funds designed to address my district's looming water crisis by building reservoirs and mitigating water loss.

**Campaign Website:** [clairereynoldsforcongress.org](http://clairereynoldsforcongress.org)

### August Pfluger (R)

Unopposed

## DISTRICT 17

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Healthcare:** What steps should Congress take, if any, to ensure that healthcare is effective, affordable, and accessible for all Americans?

**Democracy:** What does Congress need to do, if anything, to protect our democracy and restore faith in our institutions?

**Immigration:** What steps should Congress take, if any, to assure that the U.S. immigration system is both effective and humane?

**Balance of Power:** What does Congress need to do, if anything, to preserve the Constitution's checks and balances to keep the government accountable to the people?

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### Casey Shepard (D)

No response received

### Milah Flores (D)

**Qualifications:** Through global federal service and advanced education, I lead with integrity, transparency, and accountability, guided by care, responsibility, and a deep commitment to protecting and serving people.

**Healthcare:** Healthcare is a human right rooted in dignity and the common good. Congress must lower costs, protect coverage for preexisting conditions, safeguard women's healthcare, expand access in rural and underserved communities, strengthen mental health care, and invest in preventive care so no one is denied treatment because of income, location, or circumstance.

**Democracy:** Congress must protect our democracy by safeguarding voting rights, securing elections, and upholding the rule of law. The Constitution must always be respected. Trust is earned through honesty, transparency, and accountability, and the American people deserve a government they can believe in, one that exists to serve them, not those in power.

**Immigration:** Congress must reform immigration policy so it is effective and humane. No one should live in fear of leaving their home or taking their children to school. We need due process, family unity, accountable enforcement, and a clear, lawful path to legal status that respects human dignity, community safety, and the rule of law.

**Balance of Power:** Congress must actively use its oversight authority, uphold the separation of powers, and enforce ethics laws. It is never acceptable to distort or disregard the Constitution for political gain. Checks and balances protect the public, not politicians. Accountability is how trust is earned and democracy is preserved.

**Campaign Website:** [www.milahforcongress.com](http://www.milahforcongress.com)

### J. Gordon-Mitchell (D)

**Qualifications:** 27-year Air Force veteran, first responder, and former elected school board trustee. Johns Hopkins-trained in public health and policy. Proven crisis leadership, fiscal oversight, and accountability.

**Healthcare:** Congress must put people over profits. Remove Big Pharma from politics, allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices, and cap out-of-pocket costs. Expand access through Medicaid expansion, rural care investment, and telehealth. Strengthen public health and prioritize preventive care, including prenatal and postpartum care, especially for underserved communities.

**Democracy:** Congress must restore trust through transparency, ethics, and accountability. End insider trading, dark money, and corporate-funded elections. Overturn Citizens United. End partisan gerrymandering so representatives earn voters' trust, not draw their own districts, and protect voting rights so every eligible voter can participate freely and fairly.

**Immigration:** Congress must center humanity and law. Modernize asylum processing, reduce backlogs, and ensure due process. End family separation, protect children, and hold agents accountable for rights violations. Warrantless ICE raids, masked apprehensions, and enforcement without identification must end. Immigration policy must be lawful, orderly, and grounded in human dignity.

**Balance of Power:** Congress must respect and enforce the Constitution. We must reassert oversight authority, defend

# NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 17

### J. Gordon-Mitchell (D) *(continued)*

separation of powers, and uphold U.S. and international law. It's time to establish term limits for the Supreme Court, the House, and the Senate. Additionally, we must enforce judicial ethics. Finally, members who force shutdowns should be ineligible for reelection. No officeholder is above the law.

**Campaign Website:** [jgordonmitchell.com](http://jgordonmitchell.com)

### Pete Sessions (R)

Unopposed

## DISTRICT 27

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**First Amendment:** What is your view of a legislator's role in protecting First Amendment rights to free speech and peaceful assembly?

**Tariffs:** What is your position on Congress's role regarding tariffs and their potential impact on American consumers and businesses?

**Energy:** How would you ensure America has reliable, affordable energy while protecting the environment?

**Healthcare:** What role should the federal government play in promoting a healthy American population, and what steps would you take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Americans?

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### Tanya Lloyd (D)

**Qualifications:** I bring more than 20 years of public service as a teacher in a Title I school, where I've worked with families navigating education, healthcare, and other challenges that come with living in this area. I was born, raised, and still live in this district, and my family's roots here shaped my understanding of service and responsibility. My experience has required leadership, collaboration, and accountability, and it has given me a practical understanding of how federal policy decisions affect our communities every day. I am ready to fight every single day for my neighbors in TX-27.

**First Amendment:** All legislators have a duty to uphold and defend the Constitution, including the First Amendment rights to free speech and peaceful assembly. At the federal level, that responsibility includes writing and voting for laws that respect constitutional limits, overseeing federal agencies and funding to ensure rights are protected, and safeguarding due process. As your next congresswoman, I will ensure these freedoms are applied fairly and consistently for everyone.

**Tariffs:** We must ensure that our trade policy supports American workers, farmers, businesses, and consumers. Tariffs can be useful when applied strategically to address unfair trade practices, but they should be used carefully to avoid raising costs for families and small businesses. It's time to put American agriculture first by ensuring trade policies support family farmers and ranchers, strengthen rural economies, and prevent imported goods from undercutting domestic producers who play by the rules. Trade policy should strengthen supply chains and domestic industries—not put Texans out of business.

**Energy:** America needs a diversified energy portfolio that prioritizes reliability and affordability. I will invest in infrastructure, work to modernize the electric grid, and support the innovation that has made Texas the Energy Capital of the World. Energy policy should protect the men and women who power our economy while responsibly stewarding Texas's land, air, and water so future generations can live and work here too.

**Healthcare:** The federal government plays a key role in ensuring access to affordable, quality healthcare. I will work to strengthen existing programs, lower prescription drug costs, support rural and community healthcare providers, and protect access to preventive and reproductive care. That includes addressing hospital closures, provider shortages, and long travel distances that leave rural families without timely care and put lives at risk. Affordable healthcare is essential to individual well-being, workforce stability, and long-term economic health.



### "Stock" Castro-Mendoza (D)

**Qualifications:** I am a first-generation immigrant, Navy Captain (Ret.), teacher and farmer. I earned multiple degrees (B.S., M.A., M.S., and Ph.D. (ABD)) in Biology and National Security. During my three decades in uniform, I commanded sailors, managed critical operations, and navigated complex national security challenges often under extreme conditions. I was also a military fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. I taught high school science for almost a decade. These experiences make me the ideal candidate to tackle the most complex social, cultural and economic issues of today.

**First Amendment:** Our First Amendment rights to free speech and peaceful assembly are foundational to our democratic way of life. Without the protections guaranteed to all by the First Amendment, our democracy crumbles. We must protect those rights with courage and integrity, even under threat from a want-to-be king. We must use the courts, and the power vested in the legislative branch to thwart any threat to our freedom of speech and expression. I have participated in peaceful protests in support of Black Lives Matter and No Kings. As a legislator, I would sacrifice my career to protect our freedoms.

**Tariffs:** Tariffs are a tax paid by importers who pass those costs to consumers. While the president can impose tariffs under certain national security conditions, Congress has the expressed responsibility to regulate commerce and levy taxes under Article 1 of the Constitution. Today, consumers are being hurt by the indiscriminate and whimsical use of tariffs by president Trump. Without clear policy goals, businesses, especially small businesses, are in jeopardy of losing markets that are no longer available to import the goods they sell and depend on. Farmers, too, are losing markets for their goods.

**Energy:** We must continue to develop new energy sources while expanding clean wind and solar energy, and to a lesser degree, nuclear power. We must promote scientific research to develop more efficient storage batteries and other sources of energy production such as hydrogen fuels, and hydrogen engines. We must move away from dirty coal and greenhouse gas producing oil, and rescind drilling permits for sensitive environments such as in public lands, offshore drilling and the Arctic Wildlife Refuge. Climate change is real and it is imperative that we quickly cut greenhouse gas emissions.

**Healthcare:** The federal government should promote the use of existing vaccines and fund research for new vaccines and medicines to cure diseases such as cancer. It must immediately restore CDC funding and bring back competent leadership within the CDC, and fund medical science at universities throughout the country. The federal government should establish a "Council of Health Education" to educate the public about the ills of unhealthy living habits that promote such diseases as diabetes. The US Surgeon General should lead this effort. Healthcare for all should be the goal of policy makers in Washington.

### Wayne Raasch (D)

No response received

### Michael Cloud (R)

No response received



### Chris Hatley (R)

**Qualifications:** My father instilled in me a strong sense of duty and honor. Duty, honor, and country continue to drive me to service. Attending the United States Military Academy at West Point and serving in the military have given me a unique perspective on the roles of the instruments of national power. I swore an oath to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and I take that oath seriously. Serving in Congress is required of me because that oath remains in effect.

**First Amendment:** Amendment I: "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech ... or the right of the people to peaceably assemble ...." Congress cannot make laws that abridge freedom of speech; exceptions include

# NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 27

### Chris Hatley (R) (continued)

incitement, defamation, obscenity, and child pornography. Peaceable assembly is protected, but rioting and lawlessness are not and are subject to applicable laws. In general, Congress must exercise great care to ensure that the First Amendment rights of all Americans are protected.

**Tariffs:** Article I, Section 8, gives Congress the authority to impose tariffs. However, Congress delegated some authority to the president. Many of the current tariffs on foreign goods are to counter protectionist tariffs. This can mean higher prices for consumers, but it may also mean lower federal income taxes. U.S. businesses will begin manufacturing products, which can lead to economic growth and jobs in the United States. Finally, tariffs may be necessary for national security.

**Energy:** Our plan must be pragmatic and reduce regulations and permitting requirements so that producers can invest in more efficient energy sources. Natural resources of oil, gas, and coal will allow the U.S. to produce energy until other energy sources become more efficient and cost-effective. Nuclear power is another efficient energy producer that should be integrated into an overall energy plan. Government subsidies for inefficient renewables must be reduced because America must cut spending. Finally, everything we do must require responsible stewardship of our environment.

**Healthcare:** HHS is removing harmful additives from our food supply. We must also remove petroleum-based and synthetic food dyes from our food supply. The Affordable Care Act is not fiscally feasible without significant government subsidies. These subsidies went to insurance companies regardless of whether insured Americans used their insurance. However, Congress recently passed legislation to improve the viability of government-provided healthcare. While we make adjustments to our healthcare system, we must ensure that the most vulnerable have access to quality healthcare.

## DISTRICT 31

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Healthcare:** What steps should Congress take, if any, to ensure that healthcare is effective, affordable, and accessible for all Americans?

**Democracy:** What does Congress need to do, if anything, to protect our democracy and restore faith in our institutions?

**Immigration:** What steps should Congress take, if any, to assure that the U.S. immigration system is both effective and humane?

**Balance of Power:** What does Congress need to do, if anything, to preserve the Constitution's checks and balances to keep the government accountable to the people?

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### Justin Early (D)

**Qualifications:** Veteran, cybersecurity professional, and small business owner with experience protecting people, managing risk, and solving complex problems. Proven leader who delivers under pressure.

**Healthcare:** When elected, I will fight to lower health-care costs by expanding Medicare drug price negotiation, strengthening coverage options, and investing in preventive and mental healthcare. I will protect patient choice, support rural hospitals, and work toward a single payer system and universal healthcare so no family is denied care due to cost.

**Democracy:** Congress has to work everyday to protect democracy, defending voting rights, strengthening election security, and holding itself to clear ethical standards. I will work to make government more transparent because trust is rebuilt when people see that government is made up of people who listen, tell the truth, and deliver results. I want to be held accountable to my voters by having open townhalls.

**Immigration:** Congress should secure the border with smart technology and staffing, expand legal work visas, fix asylum processing, and create path to legal status for nonviolent residents. We must keep families together, protect due process, and treat people with dignity while enforcing the law.

**Balance of Power:** Congress has to reclaim its constitutional role by reasserting Article I powers, limiting executive overreach, and strengthening oversight. Firm limits on emergency and war powers, stronger ethics rules, and real accountability are essential to restoring checks and balances and keeping government answerable to the people.

**Campaign Website:** [VoteJustinEarly.com](http://VoteJustinEarly.com)



### Stuart Whitlow (D)

**Qualifications:** 5th generation in District; lawyer for persons fighting corporate entities for 25 years; worked in D.C. office of Congressman; UT LBJ School Masters; served low-income people at nonprofit for 5 years.

**Healthcare:** Healthcare is a right, not a privilege. We need to move to a single payor system like Medicare for all Americans. Until we can do that, we need to extend the subsidies under the ACA so insurance costs do not explode. We also need to fully expand Medicaid in all States and reverse that big ugly bill Republicans recently passed knocking people off Medicaid in order to give tax breaks to the rich.

**Democracy:** Congress needs to pass legislation to reverse the Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United and to further limit the power of wealthy individuals and corporate interests to control our elections through huge campaign donations. Congress also needs to pass another powerful version of the Voting Rights Act to reverse what the Supreme Court has done to weaken that legislation in recent years.

**Immigration:** Congress needs to make sure our border is secure, while also passing comprehensive, compassionate immigration legislation to impose order. Congress must stop the abusive tactics of ICE, particularly with respect to people with no significant criminal history. We must modernize the visa process to prevent backlogs and reform the asylum process. We must have a system which reflects our values.

**Balance of Power:** Republicans need to stop being a lap dog for Trump and do their job under the Constitution to prevent our country from becoming a dictatorship. Congress needs to take all steps necessary to make America a fully diverse Democracy. Congress needs to forcefully address the problems created by the right wing majority on the U.S. Supreme Court so that body also stops bending its knee to Trump.

**Campaign Website:** [whitlowfortexas.com](http://whitlowfortexas.com)



### William P. Abel (R)

**Qualifications:** I am the best qualified candidate for this position because I combine real-world experience with a clear commitment to serving the community. I bring competence and trust to get the job done.

**Healthcare:** I believe there are several different paths we can take to reduce the cost of healthcare for example regulating drug prices we are regularly charged more for needed medications in the US compared to other countries, ensuring price transparency forcing hospitals and insurance companies to provide clear, upfront pricing so that patients can shop around for affordable non-emergency care.

**Democracy:** Congress needs to actually start listening to the people they are supposed to represent instead of representing their donors, enact term limits, stop their wasteful spending with taxpayer money, pass balanced budgets and be more transparent with what they do

**Immigration:** There are many steps congress could take to assure our Immigration system is both effective and humane including securing the border by using technology including drones' sensors and towers to have a better watch over larger areas of the border, upgraded ports of entry, work with neighboring countries to set up processing centers for those who wish to seek asylum in the US

**Balance of Power:** Congress has many avenues to preserve checks and balances to keep government accountable to the people however they often fail to use them such as subpoena power, controlling the budget, committee hearings, vetting executive nominees are qualified and committed to law instead of just being political appointments, clarifying vague laws, sunset provisions for laws that grant broad powers to agencies

**Campaign Website:** [www.abel4congress.com](http://www.abel4congress.com)

### John Carter (R)

No response received

# NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 31 (continued)

### Steve Dowell (R)

**Qualifications:** As a Veteran, Policeman, Businessman, I've planned for international crises and run high-stakes, continental-wide operations that have proven me as a leader—the experience and teamwork Congress needs.

**Healthcare:** I feel that Congress can lower costs by expanding private-market choice and competition (where competition breeds excellence), allowing people to save tax-free through Health Savings Accounts (HSAs), and strengthening Medicare and Medicaid integrity through more rigorous eligibility checks and audits to protect against fraud, waste, and abuse while safeguarding care for those who truly need it.

**Democracy:** We can start restoring trust by returning to our Founders' vision of Citizen-Legislators: Finally put term-limits on Congress, reinstate campaign finance caps and closing foreign money loopholes to return power to voters, and actively put People and Principles before politics in our day to day Capitol work—so that Congress answers to the People, not insiders or career politicians themselves.

**Immigration:** Border Security is National Security. I was a war planner in the Army, and there are more threats to America than just illegal immigrants. Chinese, Iranian, Russian, and other state-sponsored operatives are at our border. We should support CBP hiring/retention, 24/7 cargo scanners with AI at ports, counter-drone/sensor coverage, and interdiction task forces. Humane means lawful, timely processing.

**Balance of Power:** In addition to term limits on Congress and campaign finance caps/closing foreign money loopholes, Congress should end the practice of omnibus bills and allow members to vote on the merits of each individual bill—not force bad laws on Americans. Constitutionally, trade deals and tariffs should require congressional approval after negotiation, with narrow, time-limited national security exceptions.

**Campaign Website:** [stevendowell.com](http://stevendowell.com)

### Ed Ewald (R)

**Qualifications:** 35 years as a manufacturing manager. And 20 years as a factory Representative / Salesman. All this experience gives me great experience in listening to people and accomplishing their tasks.

**Healthcare:** Congress needs to focus on getting our country into fiscal balance. I understand that healthcare is a major component to the needs of our country. I believe both can happen, it doesn't have to be one or the other.

**Democracy:** Congress must have term limits. Start with 2 terms of 2 years each and adjust if necessary. No retirement and medical insurance only while in office. No stock trading while in office. No back door deals.

**Immigration:** Congress must simplify the vetting and the

cost of immigration. It should not cost thousands of dollars and take years to become an American citizen. Assimilation is a must.

**Balance of Power:** I don't believe that our founding fathers wanted our representatives to be long term employees. Come, represent the constituents for a term and go back home and live with the laws you passed. Transparency. When I am elected to Texas 31 you will see the budget for the district and where your money is spent. Congress needs to work on the federal government being financially transparent and solvent



### Abhiram Garapati (R)

**Qualifications:** I am a cattle rancher, entrepreneur, real estate investor, husband, father, Christian, former Texas GOP and RNC delegate, who built the American Dream from the ground up.

**Healthcare:** The Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, has driven healthcare costs to rise faster than the general inflationary rate while delivering record profits to large healthcare corporations using taxpayer dollars. Congress should repeal the ACA and pursue market-driven solutions that expand choice, competition, and transparency to make quality healthcare affordable and accessible.

**Democracy:** To protect our Republic and restore faith, Congress must balance the budget, reduce the national debt, strictly adhere to the Constitution, repeal unconstitutional laws, and end the two-tier justice system. No one should be above the law in the United States and corruption must be exposed with responsible parties fully accountable.

**Immigration:** Congress should ensure that immigration is a net positive for the United States and does not compromise national or economic security. This means zero tolerance toward illegal immigration, reducing numbers and altering programs to ensure they are not abused to import cheap labor to replace American workers, and ensuring all individuals are thoroughly vetted.

**Balance of Power:** Congress must first and foremost obey the law of the land, the Constitution. It must aggressively use its investigative powers to remove corruption and inefficiencies, hold activist judges accountable to ensure a fair judiciary, repeal legislation ceding its powers, and refrain from passing such laws in the future. Every branch should be focused on delivering to the people in its distinctive role.

**Campaign Website:** [www.garapatifortexas.com](http://www.garapatifortexas.com)



### Valentina Gomez (R)

**Qualifications:** -Successful businesswoman. Former NCAA Div I swimmer. Graduated college at 19. MBA in Finance from Tulane University. Fluent in multiple languages. Experience in corporate finance & real estate.

**Healthcare:** Dump socialist healthcare scams. Let insurance compete across state lines. Supercharge HSAs & kill Obamacare mandates. Force Big Pharma & hospitals to show real prices. Protect pre-existing conditions without wrecking the free market. Healthcare is not a government handout. Americans win with choice, competition, and personal responsibility.

**Democracy:** Faith returns when elections are honest & government stops betraying us. Our democracy is dying from elite corruption & rigged elections. Congress must: Mandate voter ID, paper ballots, one-day voting. Ban mail-in fraud & ballot harvesting. Prosecute deep state liars & censors. Defund weaponized agencies targeting patriots. Mandatory term limits

**Immigration:** As a legal immigrant, I know the system works when enforced. Open borders are treason. Congress must: Finish the wall. Send the military. End catch-and-release. Reinstate Remain in Mexico. Deport every illegal criminals first, no mercy. Rape or murder Americans? Public execution. Reform legal immigration: skilled, English-speaking, America-loving only. No chain migration.

**Balance of Power:** Congress surrendered its power to bureaucrats. The Constitution is not optional. When Congress fights, checks & balances work. I'm here to fight. God, guns, & the Republic will win. Weaponize the purse. defund every unconstitutional agency. Pass term limits. End the career politician racket. Impeach rogue judges & deep state criminals. Investigate and prosecute every abuse of power.

**Campaign Website:** [www.valentinaforcongress.com](http://www.valentinaforcongress.com)



### Raymond Hamden (R)

**Qualifications:** I am a small business owner, so operating within a budget, making payroll, and hardwork are core essentials which will be transferred into holding office.

**Healthcare:** Healthcare reform must happen. Between medical costs and insurance premiums, healthcare has been unaffordable for most citizens. We need to tie the hands of pharmaceutical middlemen driving up costs of prescription drugs as a start.

**Democracy:** Sam Houston said it best, "Govern wisely and as little as possible." Government has become too big. States rights should be a top priority, as to help shrink federal overreach and expansion, and defending the constitution. Congress has not passed a budget for twenty-five years. I will work tirelessly towards accountability, transparency, and a Texas First agenda.

**Immigration:** The legal immigration process needs to be more efficient and effective. There needs to be a way to streamline the legal immigration process without jeopardizing our national security. Securing the border needs to be a constant, consistent process.

# NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 31

### Raymond Hamden (R) (continued)

**Balance of Power:** Congress is the guardian of checks and balances by controlling laws, money, oversight, and accountability. Asserting its constitutional authority, conducting serious oversight, being fiscally responsible, safeguarding fair elections ensure the preservation of checks and balances by holding the government accountable.

**Campaign Website:** [www.raymondfortexas.com](http://www.raymondfortexas.com)

### Elvis Lossa (R)

**Qualifications:** Combat veteran and public servant with experience in the Texas Capitol and federal constituent services. Father of a child with special needs and a youth soccer coach focused on service and results.

**Healthcare:** Congress should focus on lowering costs and expanding access by increasing transparency, encouraging competition, and strengthening community based care. We should protect patients with pre existing conditions, support veterans and military families, and ensure all Americans can choose affordable plans that fit their needs.

**Democracy:** Congress restores faith in our democracy by showing up, listening to constituents, and doing the work voters sent them to do. Representation requires engagement, accountability, and an understanding of the communities being served. I believe trust is rebuilt when leaders work across differences, stay connected to their districts, and people feel seen, heard, and represented.

**Immigration:** Congress must secure the border while fixing an immigration system that is failing families, workers, and communities. As the son of immigrant parents and a first generation American, I believe we need an orderly, lawful process that enforces the law, reduces backlogs, treats people with dignity, and prioritizes legal immigration and public safety.

**Balance of Power:** Congress preserves checks and balances by reclaiming its constitutional authority as a coequal branch of government. Lawmakers must conduct oversight, write laws, and vote openly rather than surrendering power to the executive branch or federal agencies. Accountability requires Congress to govern on behalf of the people.

**Campaign Website:** [www.ElvisforCongress.com](http://www.ElvisforCongress.com)

### Offer Vince “Shamwow” Shlomi (R)

No response received



## DISTRICT 37

### Greg Casar (D)

**Qualifications:** I was elected to Congress in 2022 and chair the Congressional Progressive Caucus, leading the fight against Trump and for working people. I served as an Austin City Council Member and labor organizer.

**Healthcare:** Right now, I am fighting to stop Trump’s cuts to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act, which will devastate our health care system. In the long run, I support a Medicare for All system to ensure that every American has access to high quality healthcare. No family should face bankruptcy from seeking medical care for their kids, and no one should have to choose between groceries and seeing a doctor.

**Democracy:** As an elected official, I have never traded stocks or taken donations from corporate PACs. Congress must completely overhaul our campaign finance system and ethics rules. I support a national ban on gerrymandering, a ban on Super PACs, and an end to stock trading by members of Congress.

**Immigration:** Trump promised to round up ‘bad guys,’ but instead is attacking immigrants who have done nothing wrong, even arresting U.S. citizens. I have led the charge to hold Trump accountable for these abuses. Congress must pass comprehensive immigration reform with a pathway to citizenship for our immigrant neighbors and pass bills to rein in Trump’s abuses and keep families together, not rip them apart.

**Balance of Power:** Trump’s actions—from arresting students for writing op-eds to attacking media companies and universities—are a threat to all Americans’ rights. I support legislation to stop these attacks on free speech. Meanwhile, we must strengthen anti-corruption laws to make the government answer to the people, not billionaires. And we must reform the courts so they follow the law, not special interests.

**Campaign Website:** [www.casarforcongress.com](http://www.casarforcongress.com)



### Esther Amalia De Jesus Fleharty (D)

**Qualifications:** Daughter of immigrants and mother of two. Epidemiologist with public health & tech experience, led HIV programs, supported the Texas COVID rollout, and brings science based, worker

focused leadership.

**Healthcare:** Congress must treat healthcare as essential infrastructure. We should expand prevention and public health, strengthen maternal and reproductive care, lower costs by negotiating drug prices and capping out-of-pocket expenses, protect and expand the ACA, invest in underserved communities, and ensure healthcare decisions remain between patients and providers, not politicians.

**Democracy:** Congress must protect democracy by defending voting rights, ensuring free and fair elections, and enforcing the rule of law equally for all. Restoring trust requires transparency, strong ethics rules, campaign finance accountability, protection from political interference, and governing based on facts and truth, not misinformation, corruption, or extremism.

**Immigration:** Congress must modernize our immigration system by expanding legal pathways, reducing backlogs, and ensuring timely, humane processing. We must protect asylum rights, end family separation, provide work authorization, invest in border and immigration courts, and focus enforcement on real threats, not families seeking safety, work, and opportunity.

**Balance of Power:** Congress must uphold the Constitution by enforcing oversight, respecting separation of powers, and holding all branches accountable to the rule of law. That includes protecting independent courts, defending inspectors general, rejecting executive overreach, and ensuring transparency so government remains accountable to the people, not to politics or power.

**Campaign Website:** [www.flehartyforcongress.com/](http://www.flehartyforcongress.com/)

### Ge’Nell Gary (R)

**Qualifications:** My service as a former Councilwoman and Mayor gave me firsthand experience governing at the ground level, where policy decisions directly affect families, neighborhoods, and local economies.

**Healthcare:** One of Congress primary focus making healthcare more transparent, and patient centered. That means addressing rising premiums, reducing unnecessary bureaucracy, and encouraging competition and innovation that lower costs while improving outcomes.

**Democracy:** Faith in our institutions is restored when government demonstrates accountability, and respect for the rule of law. Governing with humility and seriousness is a must, not division or theatrics. Congress needs to uphold ethical standards, conduct meaningful oversight, and ensure that no individual or institution is beyond accountability, regardless of political affiliation.

**Immigration:** Congress has to modernize an immigration system that is outdated, inefficient, and too often harmful to both communities and families caught in it. Improving border security, strengthening enforcement against trafficking and exploitation, and fixing legal pathways so cases are processed efficiently and lawfully.

**Balance of Power:** Preserving checks and balances requires resisting the concentration of power and ensuring accountability regardless of party or position. This framework protects individual liberty and public trust. When Congress governs with restraint, responsibility, and respect for the Constitution, it strengthens democracy and keeps government accountable to the people it serves.

**Campaign Website:** [genellgary.com](http://genellgary.com)

# NATIONAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 37 (continued)



### Janet Malzahn (R)

**Qualifications:** A 30 yr+ attorney, AI expert and former constitutional law professor and assistant city attorney. I am the only candidate who can responsibly STOP Casar's socialist, squad supported sway over Texas.

**Healthcare:** Single state pooling agreements which fit localized state health care needs with local state costs and tax basis. Individual health care accounts make new lower cost plans affordable in a competitive market and give back control to the consumer. AI will make all industries more efficient and affordable by ending ineffective and corrupt human administration and management. Cost will go down.

**Democracy:** We need to establish a secure and accountable electronic voting system backed by paper ballots and tied to citizenship. We need to reeducate the nation on the Constitution and not continue to cede the unique language of our Republic and the education of our children to unchecked socialism.

**Immigration:** We need to educate an entire generation on

our unique Constitution and their roles and responsibilities as citizens and make allegiance to our laws and culture the basis for assimilation. There needs to be an annual assessment by Congress of the quotas for educational and work visas. American citizenship and the right to vote needs to be revived as a precious access to the riches of America.

**Balance of Power:** Civics education should be required at both the high school and college level. I have written a book called Constitutive; the definition of American, which reviews the basics of division of power to stop any tyranny, including the tyranny of the majority. We are not a democracy, and we need to retake and republish the language. Fight socialism in education, the press, and the judiciary.

**Campaign Website:** [janet4congress.com](http://janet4congress.com)



### Lauren Pena (R)

**Qualifications:** I'm a survivor of human trafficking with legal, legislative and public service experience. I understand the disconnection between the political elite and We the People, firsthand. I will fight for us!

**Healthcare:** Congress must reduce costs by cutting bureaucratic waste, increasing price transparency, expanding

competition, and returning flexibility to states. Healthcare should prioritize patients and doctors, not federal middlemen, while protecting access for the disabled, chronically ill, and working families.

**Democracy:** Congress can strengthen trust by upholding the rule of law, improving transparency, ensuring fair and secure elections, and increasing accountability across government. When institutions listen to the people they serve and apply laws consistently, public confidence in democracy grows.

**Immigration:** Congress should secure the border, enforce the law, and modernize legal immigration while treating people humanely. I support a bond-like pathway to legal status that requires work, compliance, and restitution, ensuring accountability while allowing families who follow the rules to earn lawful status.

**Balance of Power:** Congress must reassert its constitutional role by strengthening oversight, enforcing separation of powers, and limiting unchecked agency authority. Clear laws, regular audits, and accountability ensure no branch exceeds its power and that government remains answerable to the people.

**Campaign Website:** [lauren4congress.com](http://lauren4congress.com)

# STATE GOVERNOR

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Healthcare:** What changes need to be made to Texas abortion laws to ensure women have access to proper medical care in the event of pregnancy complications?

**Education:** Share your thoughts on the role of state and local government in public education.

**Immigration:** How would you address immigration issues affecting our state while ensuring all individuals within our borders have access to due process protections?

**National Guard:** Share your position on when it is appropriate for the Federal government to deploy the National Guard in Texas cities.



### Patricia Abrego (D)

**Qualifications:** Since I was six years old, I have been training for this position. I have been a Doctor (DC) for 15 years and retired for 13 years. I am honest, knowledgeable, and kind.

**Healthcare:** In the event of pregnancy complications, we

need to ensure that the mother is safe. Texas abortion laws need to change to ensure that the mother has a chance to live.

**Education:** The Department of Education has been downsized to a point where state and local governments have to figure out public education on their own. I went to elementary, middle and high school at public schools. Families cannot afford to pay for their children's education, especially at the elementary level.

**Immigration:** My mother was born in Mexico, and my father was born in San Antonio, Texas. I have the experience of making sure that my mother was protected. She became a US citizen, got her GED, and became a CNA nurse. Everyone in Texas should have the right to his/her own individual immigration protection.

**National Guard:** The Texas governor can deploy the National Guard in Texas cities. The federal government should go through the Texas governor for this situation.



### Chris Bell (D)

**Qualifications:** Served on Houston City Council and in the U.S. House. Worked on laws, oversight, and constituent services. Journalist-turned-lawyer who values careful judgment, ethics, and practical innovation.

**Healthcare:** Texas abortion laws must be rewritten to give doctors clear authority to act when a patient's health is at risk — without fear of criminal or civil penalties. Vague laws interfere with medical judgment and delay care. The law should also clearly allow abortion early in pregnancy, typically the first trimester, when most issues are identified and treated.

**Education:** Public education works best when the state provides stable funding and supports teachers, while local school boards make daily decisions and encourage parental engagement. Our schools are still structured for another century, so we need thoughtful modernization to better serve students beyond the classroom, support teachers professionally, and meet evolving community needs.

**Immigration:** Community stability, economic health, due process for all, a secure border, and a fair, functional immigration system — all are essential. My administration's approach would pair enforcement with due process protections while working to provide clear, accessible pathways to legal status and citizenship.

**National Guard:** Rarely if ever. Deployments should prioritize public safety and respect local authority during true emergencies. The National Guard is meant to assist, not to score political points.

**Campaign Website:** [ChrisBellTexas.com](http://ChrisBellTexas.com)

# STATE GOVERNOR

## Bobby Cole (D)

**Qualifications:** I'm a retired firefighter and working rancher, trained to lead under pressure and serve others. I understand real Texas challenges because I live them, not because I study them.

**Healthcare:** Texas needs clear protections so doctors can provide medically necessary care without fear of legal penalties, and women should be able to get appropriate treatment for pregnancy complications from their own doctors. As governor, I'll restore reproductive freedom so decisions are made by patients and doctors not politicians to ensure proper care in emergencies.

**Education:** I believe state government must fully fund and support high-quality public education, set fair standards, and ensure resources go to students and teachers not diverted into vouchers that weaken public schools. Local communities and educators should have the flexibility to serve their students, with the state ensuring equity and accountability.

**Immigration:** I believe immigration is primarily a federal issue, and Texas needs practical solutions that improve our legal system rather than "performative theatrics." We should stop villainizing people and work to create a legal process that works for Texans and our economy, while ensuring due process protections for everyone in our borders.

**National Guard:** I believe the National Guard should be used only when there is a real emergency that directly affects Texans such as natural disasters, public safety crises, or other disasters where military support is needed and state and local officials request help. Decisions about federal deployment should respect state autonomy and clear necessity, not be used for political theater.

**Campaign Website:** [www.coleforgovernor.com](http://www.coleforgovernor.com)



## Carlton Hart (D)

**Qualifications:** For decades, I've worked in public service in the school system, and among other positions, as a minister, I've listened to Hope's fears and dreams empathy. God is my policy. My ordination reflects a

**Healthcare:** I believe that women should have the right to make decisions about their own bodies, including an abortion. Laws should support the ability for women to make informed choices based on their circumstances, values and health without unnecessary government interference.

**Education:** I believe we should focus on balancing state level, visions funding standards, accountability with local control, curriculum implementation, community needs, emphasize and workforce readiness, teacher support parental choice and equitable funding, while promoting innovation and career pathways to meet economic goals, and let's not forget accountability for student outcomes.

**Immigration:** The standard of the law foreign and domestic should be implemented by the law of the land.

**National Guard:** In critical and unruly disturbance. The National Guard should be called in an extremely emergency

weather. Weather related our crowd control not just for the standard of normal practice.



## Gina Hinojosa (D)

**Qualifications:** I have spent the last nine years serving in the Texas House, working tirelessly to advance bipartisan legislation and fight for working Texans on public education, health care, and affordability.

**Healthcare:** Right now, Texas women are dying because they cannot obtain access to life-saving medical care. This status quo is intolerable. Texans deserve safe and legal access to abortion care when they need it, and Texas doctors should not fear that they will be thrown in prison for following basic standards of care.

**Education:** Public education was so important to our founders that it's enshrined in the Texas Constitution. Attempts to sell off and privatize our kids' schools is a direct attack on their path to success. I fought hard against Greg Abbott's school voucher scam, and as governor, will route that money toward teacher pay raises and smaller classroom sizes to ensure every child has access to a good education.

**Immigration:** Every Texan wants to live in a safe community. When border security presents a risk to keeping our communities safe, it's important we address that. But what is currently happening—deporting children and breaking up American families—is doing nothing to make us safer. We need an immigration system that provides a pathway to legal status for hard-working and tax-paying fixtures of our communities.

**National Guard:** The Texas National Guard exists to serve our community and should only be deployed in times of genuine emergency. I do not believe sending National Guard troops to other states who have not asked for help when we have pressing needs at home is a good use of resources. Likewise, deploying the National Guard to local communities who do not need or want their help is ineffective and wasteful.

**Campaign Website:** [www.ginafortexas.com](http://www.ginafortexas.com)

## Jose Navarro Balbuena (D)

**Qualifications:** Tax Strategist, Engineer, Insurance agent Dad with the will and a plan to implement "Early College" across the state of Texas, with will to feed our kids, Hot School Lunch with a Farm to School model.

**Healthcare:** Focus on clemency, directing state agencies, ensuring consistent standards across state laws, Promote (EMTALA)/SB-31, 1. Issue Pardons for Providers/Aids, directing agencies to clarify exceptions for life/health 2. Executive orders to interpret existing laws with leniency, EMTALA/SB-31 orders to weaken SB8/HB7 until full Full Repeal 3. Elevate Community Members as Legislatures "To Move Needle"

**Education:** Education is the universal equalizer. States must have continual investments in software and infrastructure. Schools must adapt software that assists teachers in teaching for mastery of subjects, not grades. Texas will

serve our kids Hot School Lunches, before any super intendent receives bonuses or raises. Create a registry for school HVAC repairs, no child should be wearing layered clothing

**Immigration:** Partner with "consulados" to ensure everyone has registered address ID and Passport. Passports are tied to IRS Individual Tax Ident. Number (pay taxes). Paying taxes is what opens the opportunity for my Texas 2 year ITIN ID - Pilot Program. IRS ITIN and Previous 2 years of Tax transcripts are the requirements for a Texas ITIN ID. Providing everyone with a proper Identity helps ensure habeas corpus

**National Guard:** The national guard should focus on natural disasters and Oil Gas Post Seismic Response (Permian Basin/DFW) not to assist ICE in civil immigration enforcement. The Guard will provide crucial aid after quakes, offering rapid deployment for: Search and Rescue, Logistics (shelters/distribution), Security, Infrastructure, Damage Assessment, working with Bureau of Economic Geology and TX Railroad Comm.

**Campaign Website:** [tx22.net](http://tx22.net)



## Zach Vance (D)

**Qualifications:** My character, compassion, and my ability to relate to and understand people and their problems. I genuinely care about all people, and I just want to make their lives better.

**Healthcare:** Texans should have the right to choose when to become a parent and that means we must repeal the heartbeat bill and the ban on mifepristone. If I am Governor, I will enact an executive order that allows doctors to provide abortions in any case where the mother's life has the potential to be at risk, not waiting until their life is actually at risk.

**Education:** Texans deserve high quality public education and deserve a governor who cares more about public education than cares about private education. The state needs to take more of the cost of public education off of local governments than they do now. The state needs to not focus so much on test scores and figure out a way to rate students on different abilities than just being able to take a test.

**Immigration:** I believe we should have a strong border but the accomplishment of that goal should not fall on the state itself. Texas has spent billions securing the border when we could have used that money to significantly improve the lives of Texans. Immigration is a very important issue, but it is a less significant issue when people are losing their homes due to taxes and dying due to lack of healthcare.

**National Guard:** Only when the state asks for it or when the state is failing significantly in protecting people or promoting the common good or welfare. The National Guard does not need to be an occupying force in the streets acting as police officers if the state has not specifically ask for it or had worked out an arrangement with the governor of the state. There should also be a time limit.

**Campaign Website:** [www.4abettertexas.com](http://www.4abettertexas.com)

# STATE GOVERNOR

## Angela “Tia Angie” Villescaz (D)

No response received

## Andrew White (D)

Withdrawn

## Greg Abbott (R)

No response received



## R.F. “Bob” Achgill (R)

**Qualifications:** 67-year-old Texas A&M mechanical engineer with experience in chem. plants and the Space Shuttle program. I focus on protecting Texas water, power, and self-governance from long-

term financial pressure

**Healthcare:** Watching the birth of our first daughter, I could not see the doctor’s fear as he skillfully balanced life and death as both mother and child faltered. I owe him 38 years of blessing! I cannot imagine a world without my daughter—or my daughter without her mother. Over half of maternal deaths occur after birth, often postpartum, when care fades but risk remains. Thyroid, Thyroid, Thyroid.

**Education:** We assume earlier generations lacked wisdom, writing by candlelight. That illusion breaks when reading the U.S. Constitution—an unprecedented document that still endures. The family once grounded education, because more is caught than taught. As moral foundations faded, have our outcomes improved—or declined? And will early adoption of AI hasten that decline?

**Immigration:** Texas should enforce worker-verification laws consistently and lawfully, removing incentives for illegal hiring and increase enforcement through whistleblowing. I have seen legal labor work: employers who recruit seasonal workers on visas, train and house them, and send them home to their families. This approach respects due process, protects families, and avoids shifting social costs onto Texas.

**National Guard:** Texas has a long history of guarding its resources from excessive federal control. Today, federal pushes for massive data centers, untested nuclear projects, and space privatization are accelerating the depletion of Texas water security and straining power and governance. These efforts should pause until risks are understood and economic fairness for all Texans.

**Campaign Website:** [www.hishandsreader.org/bob.html](http://www.hishandsreader.org/bob.html)

## Evelyn Brooks (R)

**Qualifications:** I have experience teaching and service on the Texas SBOE delivering Texans with the results they deserve. I have a strong moral compass with vision, effective communication, and people skills.

**Healthcare:** Protecting women is crucial and they should be kept safe with life-saving care in event of pregnancy complications. Texas abortion laws must require simplification

to ensure this care is provided without legal ambiguity for doctors and patients. Medical ethics recognizes a woman’s fundamental right to life, which means her well-being is not secondary to the baby when faced with severe risks.

**Education:** The state’s role should be limited as seen in provisions like (TEC) Section 7.003, which reserves powers to districts. Texas public education has shifted away from local control and community-driven schools and universities to state centralization through unconstitutional mandates. Public education must be restored back to traditional teaching and pedagogy practices where the focus is academics.

**Immigration:** I would limit state cooperation with federal enforcement that threatens to take away the Constitutional rights, liberty, and privacy from Texans and state sovereignty. Due Process must be given to all within our borders. I would support clear and reasonable enforcement actions and assess our state’s vulnerabilities to make swift solutions to restore and maintain our statewide security.

**National Guard:** My position is to follow U.S. and Texas State Constitutions for the deployment of the National Guard in Texas cities. By using this dual system I hope to avoid the federal Posse Comitatus Act to limit federal military involvement in domestic law enforcement. My goal would be to keep the Federal government separate from policing duties in Texas cities unless a clear legal exception applies.

**Campaign Website:** [brooksfortexasgovernor.com](http://brooksfortexasgovernor.com)

## Pete “Doc” Chambers (R)

No response received



## Charles Andrew Crouch (R)

**Qualifications:** A bible believing son of God. Ex-Navy SEAL who understands the threat of Islam. A Business owner who understand the economy. An Author on the subject of Godly Leadership

which is what Texas needs.

**Healthcare:** No changes to the law need to be made. Our current healthcare system does a great job keeping women safe in the event of pregnancy complications.

**Education:** This issue is one of my top 3 issues. Our current education system is a joke and viewed by most a simple daycare system for parents to hold full time jobs. Our current education system does not prepare kids for life. And when people throw more money at the problem, the problems only grow. That’s because it’s not a money problem, its a culture problem. Please view my stance on education!!!

**Immigration:** Immigration legally is a celebrated event. I love our state and I love it when people who love those same values come here as well. Due process is reserved for those who follow the law. People here illegally will be deported. . . and deported quickly. At the same time, I know what it’s like to be on the front lines. As governor, I am prepared to allow our BP to enforce strict laws.

**National Guard:** It is appropriate under the Insurrection Act of . This usually requires the governor to declared that help is needed. As your future Governor, we need all the help we can get and I will be accepting all the help offered for the time being. Long term, my leadership will develop a self sufficient Texas without any help needed.

## Arturo Espinosa (R)

**Qualifications:** The true statement begins with either verb intransitive or verb transitive in the present tense. Am Father Arturo Espinosa Professional Chemical Engineer (CH 5954). Am a truthful man: Am homosexual

**Healthcare:** Equate English adjective true to Greek adjective αληθής. Change, and define the Greek word αληθής: Utter the truth to each woman and to each man at every site. Ask the doctor to be one hundred percent truthful in every part of the pregnancy to ensure every woman has safe medical care.

**Education:** Teach to state and local government personnel that partial or complete money dependence and partial or complete money reliance is evil, wrong, abusive, and destructive: Know complete woman and complete man dependence and reliance is good and healthy, is necessary to exist and live in happiness, is necessary to live and exist in joy, and is necessary to live and exist in complete freedom.

**Immigration:** Announce one earth, one nation, one people, one constitution one truthful woman or one truthful man leading and teaching 8.2 billion people.

**National Guard:** Reject the National Guard in any Texas city.



## Mark V. Goloby (R)

**Qualifications:** Have been active in activism all my life. I founded and run TC Technologies that delivers the Internet of Things wireless solutions.

**Healthcare:** Key in my campaign is adoption and foster care. Here is a link to my website. <https://markgolobyfortexas.com/adoption%2Ffoster-care> IT would be more appropriate for women’s health to be directed to the medical procedures as outlined as complications. Most complications do not require aborting the pregnancy. In the case of miscarriages, there are prescribed DNC procedures going back decades.

**Education:** Going back to Texas 2nd President of Texas, Lamar Texas has declared the importance of an educated electorate. Texas has a significant role, unfortunately the current Governor and his appointed Commissioner has let our public education decline. First step is to have the Texas Public Education Commissioner elected not appointed. It is time to put the I back in Independent School District

**Immigration:** Governors have the Constitutional authority to enforce the state’s borders to protect the citizens, their livelihoods and property. That the Texas border and the US border are the same is a matter of geography not sovereignty.

# STATE GOVERNOR

## Mark V. Goloby (R) (continued)

Because someone inhabits Texas does not avail them the same protections as natural born or naturalized US Citizens. Justice requires their rights not be disregarded.

**National Guard:** The national guards are state functions. The Federalization of these troops was wrong. If an overwhelming need to bring force to bear, it is the Governor's role to be first to respond, then determine adequacy. But local cities have a responsibility to maintain safe healthy communities. Too many cities are doing anything but serve the law abiding citizens creating a situation in need of force.

**Campaign Website:** [markgolobyfortexas.com](http://markgolobyfortexas.com)

## Kenneth Hyde (R)

No response received

## Stephen Samuelson (R)

**Qualifications:** Military service, leadership experience, policy research, and hands-on work translating complex laws into plain English. Independent thinker focused on accountability, problem-solving, and serving Tex

**Healthcare:** Texas should clarify medical exceptions so doctors can act immediately in emergencies, protect physician judgment, and ensure timely care. At the same time, address root causes of abortion through better prenatal care, maternal health access, economic support, and family stability so fewer women face those choices.

**Education:** State government should set clear academic standards, protect funding fairness, and ensure transparency. Local control matters, but it must stay focused on education, not political or ideological agendas. Parents and communities deserve schools centered on learning, skills, and student success.

**Immigration:** Texas should secure the border by restoring order, verifying identities, and reducing trafficking and cartel influence, while ensuring due process through clear screening, lawful procedures, and cooperation with federal authorities. Safety, fairness, and the rule of law must apply to everyone in Texas.

**National Guard:** Federal deployment of the National Guard should be limited to true emergencies, natural disasters, or when state and local authorities request support. Texas should lead its own response, with federal involvement as a last resort.

**Campaign Website:** [www.texanresilience.net](http://www.texanresilience.net)



## Ronnie Tullios (R)

**Qualifications:** Police captain, project manager, State Guard member, and Shriners Chief of Staff with proven leadership over large teams and strong service to Texans.

**Healthcare:** I am pro-life but believe women must receive emergency care. I support clear laws and better education

so doctors confidently treat complications while protecting both mother and unborn life.

**Education:** I believe parents not politicians or activists should direct their children's education. State & local government should support schools, ensure transparency, & keep politics, DEI agendas, & ideological content out of the classroom. I support returning to traditional, biblically grounded values, strong academics, & empowering parents to make decisions for their children.

**Immigration:** I believe prior federal policies strengthened border security and that immigration enforcement is first a federal responsibility: secure the border and enforce laws on the books. Texas should cooperate to locate and process those here illegally, while every person is treated humanely and given due process. If you broke the law, you broke the law—but it must be applied fairly.

**National Guard:** I believe the Governor, not Washington, should deploy the National Guard to protect Texas communities. Federal involvement should be rare and only at the state's request. If the federal government must step in without Texas asking, it means the Governor failed to lead and did not fulfill his duty to keep Texans safe.

**Campaign Website:** [www.ronnietulliosfortexas.com](http://www.ronnietulliosfortexas.com)

## Nathaniel Welch (R)

No response received

# STATE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Women's Health:** What changes need to be made to Texas abortion laws to ensure women have access to proper medical care in the event of pregnancy complications?

**Healthcare:** What role should the state government play in promoting a healthy Texas population, and what steps would you take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Texans?

**Cannabis Legislation:** What legislation would you support regarding cannabis?

**Water:** What legislation would you recommend to ensure that Texans and Texas businesses have enough water for the future?

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## Vikki Goodwin (D)

**Qualifications:** I'm serving my 4th term in the TX Legislature; have been able to pass meaningful laws. I'm the owner of Goodwin & Goodwin Real Estate, involved community leader, graduate of

UT & the LBJ School.

**Women's Health:** We did not go far enough with the "Life of the Mother Act" that passed in 2025. The way to guarantee the best health outcomes for pregnant women is to allow women to make their own personal, private health care decisions in consultation with their doctors. Women who have adverse health conditions should have all options available for putting their own health before that of the fetus.

**Healthcare:** A healthy population is essential. The state should ensure no one falls through the cracks; focus on prevention and transparency. Programs that have proven records of success should be expanded, including Medicaid. Mobile health clinics that provide low-cost diagnostic tests

and checkups can help reach areas where there is a lack of doctors. Keeping people out of emergency rooms will lower costs.

**Cannabis Legislation:** I support treating cannabis like alcohol with regulations: must be 21 years of age to purchase, can't be sold next door to schools, can't be marketed to kids, labels must clearly indicate the contents and strength. We don't need a nanny state. People with cancer, PTSD, and all types of ailments should be able to continue buying a product that has helped them without the broken TCUP.

**Water:** We should pass the TX Stewardship Amendment to ensure our water isn't polluted. We must update and improve our Texas Water Plan using the latest science. Now it includes plans for many reservoirs that aren't feasible, and not enough emphasis on re-use. We need to ensure we aren't developing the most expensive water. Desalination of ocean water is expensive, while storing rainwater is less costly.

**Campaign Website:** [Goodwin4Texas.com](http://Goodwin4Texas.com)

# STATE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



## Courtney Head (D)

**Qualifications:** My legal expertise, negotiation experience, budget oversight, and policy analysis make me qualified to serve as Lt. Gov and effectively lead the Senate for Texas.

**Women's Health:** Texas must repeal its abortion ban so doctors can provide urgent, evidence-based care during pregnancy complications without fear of prosecution. We must also expand healthcare access in minority and rural communities, where maternal mortality is highest. Every woman deserves timely, safe medical treatment when pregnancy becomes dangerous.

**Healthcare:** The state must invest in public health if we want a thriving Texas. Affordable healthcare strengthens families, communities, and our economy. Expanding Medicaid is just the start, I support a Massachusetts-style model that ensures universal, affordable coverage so every Texan can access the care they need.

**Cannabis Legislation:** I support full legalization and regulation of cannabis in Texas. Legalizing it would reduce black-market activity, strengthen public safety, generate new tax revenue, and create a sustainable, transparent economy for Texans. A regulated system also ensures product safety, supports farmers and small businesses, and allows law enforcement to focus on serious crime.

**Water:** Texas must modernize its water laws to protect long-term supply. I support strict regulation of high-consumption industries, especially data centers, and stronger limits on corporate groundwater use. We need updated statewide conservation standards, incentives for recycling and reuse, and investment in sustainable infrastructure so Texans and Texas businesses have reliable water for generations.

**Campaign Website:** [www.texas4alltexans.com](http://www.texas4alltexans.com)

## Marcos Isaias Velez (D)

No response received



## Timothy Mabry (R)

**Qualifications:** Former fire lieutenant, Navy veteran, and small business owner. Proven under pressure, mission-focused, and skilled at bringing people with different views together to solve complex problems.

**Women's Health:** I believe life begins at conception. Medical treatment for ectopic pregnancies or non-viable pregnancies should never be classified as abortion or delayed, as it can endanger a woman's life. Elective abortion is not a right.

**Healthcare:** Texas must lower healthcare costs through price transparency and reasonable caps on hospital charges. ER visits should result in one clear, fair bill, not layers of inflated fees so care is affordable and accessible.

**Cannabis Legislation:** I support regulating, not criminal-

izing cannabis. Industrial, medical, and recreational uses must be clearly separated. Medical access should allow low-potency products without excessive barriers. Recreational use should be treated like alcohol, with strict age limits and impairment testing, not mere presence.

**Water:** Water policy must prioritize people, agriculture, then business. We should limit excessive water use by data centers, require recycling, expand rain capture, reservoirs, and explore desalination and infrastructure to protect Texas' future supply.

**Campaign Website:** [mabryfortexas.com/](http://mabryfortexas.com/)



## Perla Muñoz Hopkins (R)

**Qualifications:** Perla serves as policy & ed advocate. She's a USAF Veteran. In 2010 Gen Rice presented her the Inaugural AETC Key Spouse of the Year Award, San Antonio. Perla has collaborated w/legislators since '19.

**Women's Health:** Perla protects women and children. She is a mother of 3 adult children. More education, funding, and services (ultrasounds) need to be allocated to women pregnancy centers to ensure that every woman, unborn child, and family has the opportunity to thrive and achieve the American Dream. It is a detriment to witness any efforts to deny a mother-to-be, the joy of God's most precious gift, a child.

**Healthcare:** We must ensure that TX Families have the best access to nutritious foods and real beef. Perla promotes improved measures for TX farmers and ranchers. She plans to begin the ban on bio-engineered foods, such as meat. Make Texas Healthy Again is a priority for Perla. TX is served by some of the world's most renowned professionals & she's proposed a med LT Gov Task Force(s) for improved healthcare.

**Cannabis Legislation:** Many populations rely on medicinal products, including our U.S. veterans and patients with chronic pain. Texas should consider medical subject matter experts, studies, research, findings, and the most recent schedule policy, as well as federal regulations when drafting and/or implementing this form of legislation.

**Water:** The LT Gov & Texas Senate must do everything possible to continue working w/everyday Texans on Water Conservation legislation and measures. We must be forward thinking and tackle Data Center water consumption implications and improve water recycling and irrigation. Citizens are concerned, and with good reason, over well limitations or lack there of. NO Texan should be forced to leave their home.

**Campaign Website:** [perlahopkins.com](http://perlahopkins.com)

## Dan Patrick (R)

No response received



## Esala Wueschner (R)

**Qualifications:** 1: I helped uncover the Investigation into ActBlue democratic money laundering scheme 2023. 2: Defended Free Speech and exercised my Freedom of Speech as a Pro-Se against the

Judo-Christian Zionist.

**Women's Health:** This scientific evidence proves that life begins at the moment of conception according to Buddhism. When a sperm enters an egg at the moment of conception, it produces a "Light" called "zinc spark,". This Biochemical event release creates a visible burst of light resembling tiny fireworks. I will look into the existing bill proposals and do my best to protect women's pregnancy complications.

**Healthcare:** I will look into making Texas Hospitals and Insurance companies "non-profit" in order to reduce healthcare costs.

**Cannabis Legislation:** Legalize cannabis in order to help Texans to be able to grow their spirituality and help point them in the direction of their spiritual growth that we need in order to compete with A.I like we used to be over 6,000 years ago based on Buddhism and Hellenistic Paganism before Monotheism, before Abraham.

**Water:** I will look into sanctioning California and the northern states that are diverting their rain water which runs down the Colorado river to the ocean instead of the proper aquifers.

**Campaign Website:** [www.wueuniversal.com](http://www.wueuniversal.com)

## IF YOU ARE A VOTER WITH A DISABILITY, YOU HAVE RIGHTS

You have the right to have reasonable accommodations under federal law.

You have the right to vote privately and independently under federal law.

You have the right to choose your assistant, if needed.

Polling places must be accessible, and one voting machine at each polling location must be accessible (including headphones for visual impairment, adjustable contrast or font, puff or switch, and wheelchair height).

Don't hesitate to ask questions about accommodations. Call ahead to your polling place to ensure they have the accommodations you need ready to go.

If you aren't receiving the support you need or you have any issues, call Disability Rights Texas at 888-796-VOTE (1-888-796-8683).

# STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Elections:** How would you protect Texans' freedom to vote while maintaining safe and secure elections?

**Immigration:** How would you address immigration issues affecting our state while ensuring all individuals within our borders have access to due process protections?

**Priorities:** How would you identify, evaluate, and prioritize which state legal cases to pursue?

**Leadership:** What specific improvements or reforms do you envision for the Texas Attorney General's office in the coming years?

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## Anthony "Tony" Box (D)

No response received



### Joe Jaworski (D)

**Qualifications:** Courageous fighter in courtroom and public square. 8 years as Galveston mayor/councilmember; 35 years as Texas trial lawyer/mediator; loyal husband to Rebecca for 35 years; proud Dad to my two kids.

**Elections:** I will staff a voter expansion division in the Texas OAG which will daily focus on removing the stain of voter suppression from Texas law. I will be known as the Attorney General who finally enforced the law which requires Principals to offer registration to all high school seniors. I, with local District Attorneys, will personally prosecute offenders who intentionally break our voting laws.

**Immigration:** I will lead Texas on immigration issues by reminding voters that immigration and criminal justice are two very different American institutions. I will demand that Congress perform its Constitutional duty to reform our immigration laws. I will support asylum as a proper tool of legal immigration, I will support Texas Dreamers who seek in-state college tuition to better themselves and our state.

**Priorities:** I will create/staff a Division of Affordability within the Texas OAG; it will use the power of government to reduce the cost of living in Texas for all 32 million residents of the state. I will measure performance and announce results. The OAG will expressly focus on helping young adult Texans to achieve the American Dream - affordable home ownership, debt free education, and starting a family.

**Leadership:** End persecution of vulnerable citizens. Reform Child Support Division: promptly collect/disburse child support and assist payor and payee to collect correct amounts. Assist school principals to register every 18 year old senior to vote. Remain widely accessible to the public, rather than reclusive or partisan only. Focus political and legal decisions on affordability for everyday working Texans.

**Campaign Website:** [JaworskiForTexas.com](http://JaworskiForTexas.com)



### Nathan Johnson (D)

**Qualifications:** Eight years as a state senator: passing > 100 bills, killing and shaping bills, building coalitions, making government work, exercising independence, leadership, and political judgment; law practice.

**Elections:** We have good laws to keep elections secure, provided that enforcement and audits are fair and consistent. As AG, I will work with DAs around the state to ensure security. As a Senator, I filed bills to protect election workers from harassment (safe and secure), allow voter registration online and same-day, enable citizen ballot initiatives, and move redistricting to an independent commission.

**Immigration:** Work with the federal government to speed processing of asylum claims and treat applicants humanely, intercept and deter trafficking of drugs and people, revise Texas' ill-conceived 287(g) agreement, vastly expand guest worker program, work with other nations to stem the flow of migrants. The U.S. Constitution grants due process to everyone in the United States, including undocumented immigrants.

**Priorities:** I would ask three questions: whether there are actions that are harming Texans, whether the actions are illegal, and whether I can prove it. I would emphasize blocking federal overreach, promoting competition in markets, protecting people against violence and commercial scams, and rooting out political corruption. I would end the practice of using the office for personal and political purposes.

**Leadership:** Better leadership is needed more than structural reform. I'll recruit great staff, including attorneys, who are committed to serving the public over serving an ideology. I'll devote resources to performing the work of the office rather than the work of a political machine. There may be administrative changes and laws yet to pass or change, which we'll address in concert with the Legislature.

**Campaign Website:** [www.nathanfortexas.com](http://www.nathanfortexas.com)

### Joan Huffman (R)

No response received

### Mayes Middleton (R)

No response received



### Aaron Reitz (R)

**Qualifications:** Endorsed successor to AG Ken Paxton. U.S. Marine officer. Senior Trump DOJ official. Deputy Texas AG. Chief of Staff to Sen. Ted Cruz. Texas Supreme Court law clerk. Winning legal record.

**Elections:** Secure elections are essential to liberty and self-government. As AG, I will aggressively enforce the Texas Election Code, protect lawful voters, prosecute fraud, and stop Left-wing efforts to weaken and steal elections, enhance ballot security, and restore public confidence in election outcomes.

**Immigration:** I will work hand-in-glove with President

Trump and Texas law enforcement to reverse the Biden-era invasion of aliens and remove those here illegally. The rule of law and sovereignty must be restored. Illegal aliens are entitled only to swift identification, detention, and deportation—not endless delays and meddling by anti-American, pro-alien leftist organizations.

**Priorities:** I will prioritize cases by fidelity to the U.S. and Texas Constitutions and the law as written. I will aggressively litigate, investigate, sue, defend, and appeal to protect Texans' sovereignty, liberty, and public safety, and to defeat the forces of the Left that threaten everything we hold dear—just as my record shows I've done throughout my career.

**Leadership:** I will build on AG Paxton's legacy with even greater speed, strength, and resolve. With senior Trump DOJ experience, I will fully align Texas with the Administration to deliver uncompromising law enforcement, border security, and an America First Law and Order Agenda without apology.

**Campaign Website:** [AaronReitz.com](http://AaronReitz.com)



### Chip Roy (R)

**Qualifications:** I have courtroom and prosecutorial experience as a US Attorney, a nationally recognized conservative voting record in Congress, and senior leadership experience as First Assistant Attorney General.

**Elections:** As Attorney General, I will rigorously enforce Texas election law so that every eligible voter is protected and every unlawful ballot is prevented. This includes prosecuting election fraud, defending voter ID and citizenship verification requirements, and resisting federal attempts to undermine Texas's election safeguards.

**Immigration:** Texas must use every lawful tool available to defend itself: litigation against unlawful federal policies, support for state and local enforcement efforts, aggressive action against cartel networks, and NGOs that facilitate illegal activity, and prosecution of crimes tied to human trafficking. As Attorney General, I will treat border security as a top priority and have a record of doing so.

**Priorities:** As a former First Assistant Attorney General, I understand how the office functions day to day and how to align its work with clear strategic priorities. I would prioritize defending Texas sovereignty against federal overreach, aggressively prosecuting human trafficking, cartel activity, election fraud, and corporate cronyism and misconduct; and protecting Texans' constitutional liberties.

**Leadership:** As First Assistant Attorney General, I effectively served as the chief operating officer of the office overseeing daily operations, coordinating across divisions, managing personnel, and ensuring the Attorney General's priorities were executed. My goal is an office that is feared by criminals, respected by the courts, trusted by law enforcement, and dedicated to serving the people of Texas.

**Campaign Website:** [chiproy.com](http://chiproy.com)

# STATE COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Rainy Day Fund:** How do you think Texas should use its Rainy Day Fund?

**Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs):** What oversight measures will you support to ensure that ESAs are funded and administered transparently?

**Budget Management:** How will you ensure budget transparency so taxpayers can easily see how their money is allocated and spent?

**Priorities:** What do you see as your greatest challenge as Comptroller over the next four years, and how will you address it?

## Sarah Eckhardt (D)

**Qualifications:** Lawyer; Master in Public Affairs; State Senator; Travis County Judge; etc - two decades of experience on and managing professional teams, budgets, tax rates, purchasing and contracts.

**Rainy Day Fund:** The Rainy Day Fund is projected to hit \$28B. I would tap the fund immediately to assist low income Texans with health insurance costs in the first year after loss of ACA tax credits. I would also advise the Legislature on the cost avoidance and economic benefits of 1-time Fund investments in water infrastructure, statewide extreme weather communications, and rural public hospital capacity.

**Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs):** I will honestly measure & report the distribution of benefits from the ESA subsidy by family type, educational entity type (public, private, or home school), and region. I will vigorously pursue performance data under the \$50M Odyssey contract to administer the program, and seek to rebid or break administration into smaller contracts if Odyssey fails to honestly measure and report.

**Budget Management:** I will maintain a web-based dashboard providing easy-to-navigate categories of revenue and expenditures with textual and graphic explanations, linked to current and historic reports and analyses on how public funds are and have been invested, who is benefitting most/least today and in the past, and suggestions under discussion for investments to improve the economic outlook for all Texans.

**Priorities:** As the 2nd richest state in the world's richest nation, Texas can afford to meet its obligations to a growing population. The challenges will be honestly estimating the cost of its obligations & bravely pursuing funding to meet them, e.g. the cost of necessary water infrastructure is at least \$154B over the next 50 years but the state has pursued funding to meet less than half of this need.

**Campaign Website:** [saraheckhardt.com](http://saraheckhardt.com)



## Michael Lange (D)

**Qualifications:** 40 Years experience as a Finance Professional. 30 years as a Senior Executive in Multi-Billion dollars companies in Texas, US and worldwide. 10 years in small business space. Ready Day One.

**Rainy Day Fund:** State emergencies, weather emergencies, healthcare emergency shortages, water emergencies, education shortage emergencies

**Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs):** Believe this money belongs to Texans. Will support 100% transparency not only on funds spent but also how expenses are incurred. Six month audits with results made public. End of Year Review of Impact with all results made public each year. Full Transparency.

**Budget Management:** Show Texans the financial reports and extra-ordinary, "Emergency" reports. Make information publicly available in a timely matter. Hold meetings in person around Texas at least 12 times per year to explain Texas Financial situation. Not Sit in Austin all year but travel around the state every month to ensure accuracy with strong audit back up. Make sure people are competent.

**Priorities:** Ensuring Transparency of Financial information. Ensure the economy of Texas moves forward positively so Texans get value for their Hard-Earned Money. Make Texas financially more efficient but also get Texas economically Future-ready. Grow Small business, Rural and Urban. Deal now with Water, Electricity and School Voucher issues. Bottom Line is People of Texas are safer and better off.

**Campaign Website:** [TexansforLange.com](http://TexansforLange.com)

## Savant Moore (D)

**Qualifications:** Howard University graduate, former Army Ranger and minister known for integrity, discipline, and service. Business owner and investor, elected HISD Trustee overseeing a \$2.5B budget and on boards.

**Rainy Day Fund:** The Rainy Day Fund should be used quickly after disasters to help Texans recover while federal aid is delayed. It should also be used, when appropriate, to increase the basic student allotment for public education, focusing on real emergencies, protecting taxpayers, and maintaining long term fiscal stability.

**Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs):** ESAs are school vouchers that use public dollars for private education costs. If used, they must have strict audits, full transparency, and an exit clause for companies that fail. Oversight should be Texas based or clearly qualified to protect taxpayers and students.

**Budget Management:** I will require audits of all state agencies at the start of my term and modernize transparency tools using my experience in tech as a software engineer. Texans should be able to easily see where their money goes without needing to understand Austin politics.

**Priorities:** The greatest challenge is restoring trust and

making government work for everyday Texans. I will focus on restoring the Texas HUB program, expanding broadband statewide, influencing full funding for public education, and supporting policies that keep Texas affordable while protecting its economy.

**Campaign Website:** [savantmoore.com](http://savantmoore.com)



## Michael Berlanga (R)

**Qualifications:** I am the only certified public accountant on the ballot and would make Texas history as such if elected. In addition, I am also licensed as a senior property tax consultant and real estate broker.

**Rainy Day Fund:** The Texas Rainy Day Fund should be used for one-time emergencies, like natural disasters or sudden revenue drops, to prevent service cuts, fund major one-time projects (water, education), and stabilize the budget during downturns. It should not be used for chronic underfunding or ongoing programs. I understand prioritizing prudence while allowing investment for growth while funding efficiently.

**Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs):** As a CPA I am uniquely trained and committed to ensure transparency and accountability, Annual audits, programmatic reporting, defined qualifying expenses, account suspension/fund recovery procedures, digital wallet technology are legislated measures that will only safeguard taxpayer dollars ensuring that funds are used strictly for their intended purposes when quality oversight is my authority.

**Budget Management:** Implementing user-friendly online tools like "Where the Money Goes," data charts, graphs on spending by agency/category, citizen-centric reports, and the Transparency Stars program for local governments, designed to make complex state finances accessible and understandable for taxpayers. Simplifying state finances, foster greater trust and more participation in fiscal oversight unlike before.

**Priorities:** Achieving the Governor's goal of eliminating school property tax 3 years & 10 sessions ago. My God given talents to calculate and communicate will influence the Legislature to do what Texas has ever done before. The Constitutional Duty of the Legislature is to fund education efficiently. My priority will make property more affordable for every Texan and achieve universal choice truly universal

**Campaign Website:** [www.mikeberlangafortexas.comptroller.com](http://www.mikeberlangafortexas.comptroller.com)



# STATE COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS



## Christi Craddick (R)

**Qualifications:** Having served and managed a large state agency as Commissioner of the Railroad Commission since 2012; Bachelor's Degree as Plan II graduate and a Doctorate of Jurisprudence from UT Austin.

**Rainy Day Fund:** The Comptroller doesn't pass laws, but plays a key role in how we budget. Priorities change all the time. I would partner with legislators to protect conservative priorities, ensure accurate revenue forecasts, and keep Texas a low-tax, pro-growth state.

**Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs):** Real-time auditing and verification systems to prevent misuse or double-billing; Vendor and provider audits to confirm compliance and quality in approved services; Public transparency dashboards so taxpayers can see exactly how ESA dollars are being spent; Close coordination with the TEA and the Legislature; Swift penalties and clawbacks for any individual or vendor found abusing the program.

**Budget Management:** Audit everything, launch a local government efficiency task force, and upgrade outdated technology. Texas taxpayers deserve to know where their money is going. I will launch a top-to-bottom audit to ensure every dollar is tracked, every program is reviewed, and

no waste goes unchecked. From city budgets to special districts, there should be reviews of local budgets to help communities cut waste

**Priorities:** Ensuring that the office is responsive to taxpayers. At the Railroad Commission I led efforts to cut permitting delays from months to 48 hours. I'll bring that same approach to the Comptroller's Office to bring faster refunds for Texas businesses. When small businesses overpay their taxes, they shouldn't have to wait months to get their money back.

**Campaign Website:** [christicraddickforcomptroller.com](http://christicraddickforcomptroller.com)

## Kelly Hancock (R)

No response received



## Don Huffines (R)

**Qualifications:** I exposed a multi-million-dollar corruption scandal that sent six to prison and saved taxpayers millions. As senator, I refused salary and perks. As Comptroller, I'll audit spending and fight fraud.

**Rainy Day Fund:** The Rainy Day Fund belongs to taxpayers, not the government. I'll examine how the ESF is invested to maximize benefits for its rightful owners, Texas taxpayers.

It should be reserved for true emergencies so Texas can pay its bills on time. As a lifelong businessman, fiscal discipline matters to me, and I earned a 99% scorecard as a Texas Senator from Texans for Fiscal Responsibility.

**Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs):** I've always fought for education freedom and real competition, because competition lowers costs and raises the quality. As Comptroller, I'll manage Texas' new Education Savings Account program so parents can choose the best school for their child. I'll ensure it's transparent and empowers parents with no strings attached.

**Budget Management:** We need a budget that's simple, transparent, and easy to understand, not just for the Legislature, but for every Texas taxpayer. Too many in government forget whose money they spend. Every dollar belongs to taxpayers, not government. The Comptroller must do more than track revenue, it must ensure dollars are spent wisely, efficiently, and transparently.

**Priorities:** The greatest challenge is ending the culture where bureaucrats treat taxpayer money like it's theirs. As Comptroller, I'll make the office a watchdog: audit government, expose fraud, waste, and corruption, and work with law enforcement to put thieves in jail. Then I'll fight to return the savings to Texans.

**Campaign Website:** [donhuffines.com](http://donhuffines.com)

# STATE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Disaster Recovery:** What measures should the state take to respond quickly and effectively to disasters?

**Veterans:** Explain how you will support veterans through programs and resources your office oversees?

**Coastal Management:** What policies would you endorse regarding development in flood-prone areas?

**Challenges:** What is the greatest challenge facing the General Land Office, and how would you address it?



## Benjamin Flores (D)

**Qualifications:** I'm serving my third year as Councilman in Bay City, with almost three decades of Cybersecurity and Risk Management. I also started a small farm raising heritage pigs almost four years ago.

**Disaster Recovery:** Beginning with the statewide implementation of the Community Emergency Response Team program by FEMA. Next, from a GLO perspective, establish working groups within the different Regional Councils chapters, to develop processes for efficient and effective recovery work. Lastly, any vendors wishing to participate in recovery efforts, will be vetted in advance of any potential disaster.

**Veterans:** Look to address gaps in healthcare options for veterans in the valley, verify the presence of Service Officers in all counties, drastically reduce the timelines for veteran mortgage applications, fully fund the Hazelwood Act program.

**Coastal Management:** Support the adoption of new weather forecasting models, and newer roofing construction techniques, along the coast. This would help with insurance prices. Second, speedup the current state efforts for flood **Challenges:** Not maximizing nor diversifying the sources of revenue for the Permanent School Fund. Solar, wind, geothermal should all be considered. We could provide additional funding for our schools and property tax relief.

**Campaign Website:** [letsgowithben.com](http://letsgowithben.com)



## Jose Loya (D)

**Qualifications:** Marine Corps war veteran, former oil refinery worker, and union staff rep with 8 yrs negotiating wages, safety, and benefits statewide. Lifelong Texan committed to accountability and working families.

**Disaster Recovery:** Texas faces disasters too often, and recovery must be faster and more transparent. The state should use CDBG-DR funds to speed housing repairs and prioritize communities that are hit the hardest, especially rural and working-class areas. It must also invest CDBG-MIT funds in

mitigation, coastal protection, and erosion control to reduce future damage and better protect families and infrastructure.

**Veterans:** As a Marine Corps veteran who deployed twice to Iraq, I understand the challenges veterans face. The Veterans Land Board offers home, land, and renovation loans, veteran assisted living, and a dignified place to be laid to rest beside those who served. I will reach out to every veteran and increase transparency so they can access the resources they've earned.

**Coastal Management:** Through permitting, enforcement, and endorsing responsible coastal policies, I will limit risky development in flood-prone areas, protect public safety, and preserve our coast. Developers must be held accountable so taxpayers aren't left paying the price for irresponsible building. Texas beaches belong to the people, not special interests.

**Challenges:** The greatest challenge at the General Land Office is transparency. The GLO manages billions in public land, school funding, and disaster aid, yet too many Texans don't see how decisions are made. With my kids in public school and years spent helping veterans access earned benefits, I'll ensure this office puts schools, veterans, and working families first—not special interests.

**Campaign Website:** [www.joseloya.com](http://www.joseloya.com)

## Dawn Buckingham (R)

Unopposed

# STATE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Food Assistance for Children and Schools:** How would you ensure the nutritional needs of Texas children are met year-round?

**Tariffs:** How would you protect Texas farmers from potentially higher costs or lost sales due to tariffs?

**Rural Development:** What is the greatest challenge facing rural communities, and how would you address it?

**Water:** What policies would you support to balance water usage between farming and other uses?

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## Clayton Tucker (D)

Unopposed



### Sid Miller (R)

**Qualifications:** With decades in Texas agriculture and years serving as Ag Commissioner, I bring proven leadership, real-world experience, and a Texas-strong commitment to serving the people of this great state.

**Food Assistance for Children and Schools:** Under my leadership, Texas ranks first in delivering healthy meals to schoolchildren. By expanding year-round nutrition pro-

grams, supporting community efforts like the MAHA movement, collaborating with leaders such as Robert F. Kennedy, and serving on Governor Abbott's newly created Texas Food Nutrition Committee, I work to ensure every Texas child receives the nutritious meals they deserve.

**Tariffs:** I work hard every day to protect Texas farmers by advocating for fair trade policies, standing with President Trump on strengthening American agriculture, and pushing for relief tools that offset higher costs or lost sales. By promoting Texas-grown products, expanding new markets, and fighting for producers at every level, my focus always remains on keeping Texas farmers strong and competitive.

**Rural Development:** The greatest challenge facing rural communities is access to healthcare, markets, infrastructure, and opportunity. I work every day to expand broadband, strengthen local economies, support rural schools and hospitals, protect our water, and ensure state resources reach small towns. By championing rural voices and cutting red tape, I stay focused on keeping rural Texas strong and thriving.

**Water:** I support protecting farmers' water rights while promoting long-term conservation through rainwater harvesting, desalinating brackish supplies, recycling fracking & oil-field produced water for irrigation, tapping newly discovered deep-water sources, improving storage, and offering incentives for efficiency. My focus is ensuring Texas agriculture and communities have reliable water for the future.

**Campaign Website:** [sidmiller.com](http://sidmiller.com)



### Nate Sheets (R)

**Qualifications:** Lifelong conservative Republican, Navy veteran, Christian w/ a decade in full-time ministry. Built the nation's #1 honey brand from one backyard hive by championing transparency & purity for consumers.

**Food Assistance for Children and Schools:** Texas ranks 44th in school lunches under current leadership. I'll reprioritize state food dollars toward Texas-grown produce and meat to improve nutrition, support farmers, and get better results for kids.

**Tariffs:** Farmers once earned over 40¢ of every food dollar—today it's about 14¢. I'll reform outdated, inefficient programs to help producers sell directly to consumers, keep more profit, and strengthen Texas agriculture.

**Rural Development:** The biggest challenge in rural Texas is losing jobs and opportunity. Instead of subsidizing multinational processed food companies, I'll use the state's buying power to buy from Texas farmers and ranchers—keeping dollars local.

**Water:** I'll protect landowners' water rights, support common-sense conservation, and ensure agriculture isn't pushed aside by urban growth—balancing Texas water needs without mandates or overregulation.

**Campaign Website:** [NateSheets.com](http://NateSheets.com)

# STATE RAILROAD COMMISSIONER

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Environmental and public safety:** What steps would you take to eliminate the backlog of uncapped abandoned oil, gas, and injection wells across the state?

**Public Participation:** How would you improve transparency and public participation in the Commission's rulemaking and permitting process?

**Monitoring and Enforcement:** How would you ensure that the Commission is able to provide adequate monitoring and enforcement to the oil, gas, and mining sectors?

**Challenges:** What do you see as the two greatest challenges to the office, and how would you address them?

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## Jon Rosenthal (D)

Unopposed



### Katherine Culbert (R)

**Qualifications:** I am a Process Safety Engineer who helps Oil & Gas companies operate safely to protect communities and workers and follow regulations. I care about my fellow Texans and want everyone to thrive here.

**Environmental and public safety:** RRC received added funds in the last budget to plug orphan wells. This funding level needs to continue, and yearly plugging targets need to continue to be exceeded. New plugging requirement laws will help keep new wells from being added to the list. We need better oversight during the well-plugging activities to ensure our dollars are being spent effectively and wells are being properly plugged.

**Public Participation:** Texans deserve clear oversight, responsible stewardship of natural resources, and a Commission that is open about how decisions are made and how public input is used. Monthly RRC meetings are streamed,

and we need to allow remote public input to the meetings. Communication about upcoming rulemaking and permitting needs to be improved to allow for increased public participation.

**Monitoring and Enforcement:** The annual monitoring and enforcement plan defines strategic priorities. It is necessary to work with impacted community members and the professionals in the agency to develop a comprehensive plan. Adequate staffing levels and expertise are necessary for proper implementation.

**Challenges:** Texans need access to reliable and cost-conscious energy. I will pursue policies that help prevent unnecessary rate burdens and ensure that families, businesses and communities benefit from a stable and efficient energy market. Texas must be prepared for a rapidly changing energy landscape. From new tech to shifting market demands, we need to modernize operations and plan for long-term resilience.

**Campaign Website:** [www.katherine4texas.com](http://www.katherine4texas.com)

# STATE RAILROAD COMMISSIONER



## Hawk Dunlap (R)

**Qualifications:** Fourth generation oil and gas. Grew up around men who taught me to do it the right way. 30 years operational field experience from fighting oil well fires to excavating over 150 “plugged” wells.

**Environmental and public safety:** Texas has over 10,000 documented orphaned wells with at least 100,000 that will likely be orphaned in the next few years. We also have an over abundance of produced water. I propose a \$.10 per barrel tariff on each barrel of produced water that is injected. At 30 million barrels per day, we’ll have \$1 billion in new annual revenue to plug the riskiest wells the right way.

**Public Participation:** First, allow remote electronic participation by the public. Second, actually ask questions during the monthly public meetings the Commission currently has that goes through 600+ agenda items in 30 minutes. Third, I would have factually informative social media posts as opposed to the current propaganda. The regulators need to regulate, not brag about how many wells they issued drilling permits for

**Monitoring and Enforcement:** I’ll be in the field, not in the office. I intend to travel the state to each of the districts, and help ensure experienced oil and gas men and women are leading with integrity. Treating everyone equally. That means consistent and fair application of the rules. I will also help create a portal for the public to more readily report and check on the status of their complaints.

**Challenges:** 1. Lack of accountability to the public. I have experienced firsthand how Commissioners treat those making public comments at the open meetings. They are condescending. It’s unacceptable. 2. Getting oil and gas money out of the political arena. Not just in this race, but in politics generally. Operationally - see above for water injection and orphaned wells.

**Campaign Website:** [Hawk4texas.com](http://Hawk4texas.com)

## Bo French (R)

No response received



## James “Jim” Matlock (R)

**Qualifications:** I have twenty years in field experience in many areas of the oil and gas industry. I have worked with the service companies, SWD’s, leasing, pipelines, and right of ways.

**Environmental and public safety:** I have a plan to address this by working with the independent producers of the state. Plugging is not the right answer for most of the wells. Due to the high salinity and other corrosive properties under extreme pressure, the metal casing deteriorates over time which will cause subsurface damage long before it reaches the surface. We need to repurpose these wells for geothermal or lithium mining.

**Public Participation:** Since most people can’t take the time to drive to Austin, I plan to host district meetings monthly. That will give everyone the opportunity to come out and voice their concerns. I understand that there are a lot of concerns we need to address.

**Monitoring and Enforcement:** We need more inspectors. Or inspectors are overloaded with the territory they are expected to cover.

**Challenges:** Everyone has a vested interest in the industry they were elected to regulate. I have no vested interest in the industry. I do love the industry, but we need regulators, no more corporate self governance. We need representatives who are not afraid to have difficult conversations and take responsibility for issues such as lake Boehmer.

**Campaign Website:** [matlockfortexas.com](http://matlockfortexas.com)

## Jim Wright (R)

**Qualifications:** Currently Chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission. Started working in energy industry at age 19.

Later created a group of environmental management companies that service the energy sector.

**Environmental and public safety:** The RRC is currently working with the U.S. Department of the Interior to streamline and improve the federal Orphaned Wells Grant Program. That and recent legislative initiatives in the state legislature make it easier to cut through red tape and allow the RRC to utilize its world-renowned well plugging expertise and save taxpayers money.

**Public Participation:** We engage with the public through open meetings and the RRC website, making information available on proposed rules. We have sector based advisory groups and remote listening sessions, hosted by the Office of Public Engagement. Those allow energy experts to answer questions on rulemaking and permitting processes As chairman, I know transparency in what we do as a government agency is critical.

**Monitoring and Enforcement:** RRC has been hard at work to improve our efficiency in staffing and the use of new data tools to flag potential potential issues or questionable recordings. That commitment results in better follow up to serious complaints by the general public and ensures consistency in the reporting. Improved data results in improved monitoring and enforcement.

**Challenges:** 1. Support the best use of our natural resources to benefit Texans, while maintaining stewardship of the environment. 2. Balancing the needs and wants of the various sectors and sizes of energy related businesses from small businesses to multi-million dollar interests so that decisions are fair to all stakeholders.

**Campaign Website:** [wrightfortexas.com](http://wrightfortexas.com)

# STATE TEXAS SUPREME COURT

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Ethics:** How will you ensure your rulings remain impartial and free from both political pressure and the interests of your campaign donors?

**Equity:** What role should the Supreme Court play in expanding access to justice for persons or groups who may be underserved?

**Issues:** What do you see as the most pressing challenge facing the courts today, and how would you propose addressing it?

**Philosophy:** What is your judicial philosophy?

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## CHIEF JUSTICE, PLACE 1



## Maggie Ellis (D)

**Qualifications:** As an appellate justice, a former prosecutor and civil-criminal attorney with state and national legal certifications, I’ve handled thousands of matters in court. I’ve also led large organizations.

**Ethics:** Experience and a proven history of advocating fairly from all sides of the docket is a good indicator of a candidate’s likeliness to be fair and impartial. I have handled thousands of matters from all sides, including: ruling over cases fairly as a judge; defending individuals at risk of losing

their liberty, their children, and their homes; and advocating for justice as a prosecutor.

**Equity:** The TXSC should be a leader. As a child who grew up transient and homeless and with 15% of Texans living below the poverty level, I understand the need. I have been awarded for my work helping our most vulnerable have access to the court system by drafting legislation and establishing pro bono clinics. I will bring this experience to expand the TXSC commissions that address access to the courts.

**Issues:** We have been experiencing an erosion of our separation of powers and of our civil rights. This election comes at a critical time when our judiciary is under attack and under political pressure. As the first openly gay woman to serve as

# STATE TEXAS SUPREME COURT

## CHIEF JUSTICE, PLACE 1

### Maggie Ellis (D) (continued)

an appellate justice in Texas, I will bring balance back to our courts; I will not bow to political pressure; and I will protect the laws that protect everyone.

**Philosophy:** I believe deeply in what our courts are supposed to be: steady, independent, and grounded in the rule of law— that no one is above the law. Upholding my oath to defend our state and national Constitutions is important to provide confidence in our courts. I also believe that our laws should allow for flexibility to rise and shift in response to changes in our values but not to political pressures.

**Campaign Website:** [www.maggieforjustice.com/](http://www.maggieforjustice.com/)



### Cory L. Carlyle (D)

**Qualifications:** I served 6 years on the Dallas Appeals Court, am Board Certified in Civil Appellate Law, the fundamental law the Court does, and worked cases with over 30 justices, R and D, in my time on the bench.

**Ethics:** Each case presents a unique set of challenges that our law either answers or provides a guide to answer. I intend to follow the law and answer the questions presented by the cases before me. Politics want to invade but I found in my time on the Dallas Court of Appeals that focusing on the legal principles and the facts of the cases before me that I could most faithfully apply the law.

**Equity:** The Supreme Court is the highest arbiter of law in the state and should play an integral role in finding funding and people to make our justice system most accessible by the underserved. In my eyes, the court system is only as good as it treats those who need it most, meaning we must strive to meet them where they are when necessary. Our commissions are a good start, but their reach can grow.

**Issues:** The greatest challenge the courts face is the insidious creep of ideology to our highest courts' chambers. Some judges have begun judging more from a personal-political basis in ways that have become destructive to the role of the third branch. I will address it one person at a time, one case at a time, not allowing these judicial lapses go unnoticed, with the goal of eliminating them forever.

**Philosophy:** The true delight in deciding cases is finding the right answer. When settled law gives an answer, the quest is easy. But when the answer is unclear, we must apply the principles that came before us. Stare decisis is real, and when judges fail to follow precedent, they create uncertainty and diminish respect for the judicial system. I will follow the law in deciding our state's most important cases

**Campaign Website:** [Carlyle4justice.com](http://Carlyle4justice.com)

### Jimmy Blacklock (R)

Unopposed

## JUSTICE

### PLACE 2 (UNEXPIRED TERM)

#### Chari Kelly (D)

Unopposed

#### James P. Sullivan (R)

Unopposed

### PLACE 7



#### Gordon Goodman (D)

**Qualifications:** I served as Justice on the 1st Court of Appeals. Prior to that, I served in senior positions for DuPont, Conoco, and Occidental. In the community, I served on many school and

professional boards.

**Ethics:** I have published many articles on ethics for the ABA, the UC Business Law Journal, the Heidelberg Journal of International Law, and the Harvard Public Health Review. My articles emphasize that individuals must not only comply with the law in all matters, but also that they must do the right thing even when the law is silent or ambiguous, and even when doing the right thing is unpopular.

**Equity:** The Texas Supreme Court should be accessible to all citizens. There is an important role to be played by individuals and groups whose interests may be impacted by future rulings, and the court should be receptive and attentive to amicus curiae briefs (i.e., briefs filed by friends of the court).

**Issues:** The justices of every court in Texas swear an oath to uphold and defend the constitution and laws of the State of Texas and the United States. The judicial department of Texas is the third arm of the government, and under the Texas constitution, the separation of powers is explicitly stated. The justices of the Texas Supreme Court must base their decisions on the law and not popular opinions.

**Philosophy:** Like Justices Holmes and Brandeis, I believe a "common law" approach is the most vital. This was the prevailing judicial philosophy for most of the 20th century and is a form of pragmatism. A more popular judicial philosophy today is "originalism" which proposes to interpret the law as it was understood when first enacted. The "common law" approach acknowledges that the world changes over time.

**Campaign Website:** [goodmanforjustice.com](http://goodmanforjustice.com)

#### Kristen Hawkins (D)

**Qualifications:** I am board-certified in civil trial law and personal injury law. In 2021, I was Tex-ABOTA Judge of the Year. As a trial-court judge, I have presided over more than 200 jury and bench trials.

**Ethics:** As a trial-court judge, I base my decisions on the facts and the law—not on campaign contributions. If elected

to the Supreme Court, that would not change. I strive for predictability and consistency so the parties know what to expect when they come to court. I treat everyone with courtesy and respect, regardless of socio-economic status, political affiliation, or whether they have donated.

**Equity:** The Supreme Court chooses its cases, and should select cases that are important to all Texans—not just the well-resourced. It should also review cases mindful of the constitutionally embedded right to a trial by jury and should respect juries and their verdicts. The Court can adopt rules streamlining access to justice for those with fewer resources, including self-represented litigants.

**Issues:** The persistent attacks on judges—both at the state and federal levels. The judicial branch is a coequal branch of government, and maintaining judicial independence is necessary to sustain our democracy. I would rule based on the law and facts and strive for consistent and fair application of the law without favoring any party.

**Philosophy:** The Constitution requires every party appearing in Court be treated equally under the law and guarantees a right to a jury trial. My judicial philosophy is simple: apply the law equally to everyone who appears in court and ensure that juries and their verdicts are respected. Consistent and predictable application of the law is what every Texan should expect from our judicial system.

**Campaign Website:** [www.judgehawkins.com](http://www.judgehawkins.com)

#### Kyle Hawkins (R)

Unopposed

### PLACE 8

#### Brett Busby (R)

Unopposed

#### Gisela D. Triana (D)

Unopposed

## STUDENT VOTERS

Students may use either their parents' address or their college address for voter registration, whichever they consider to be their permanent address. Students cannot be registered in both places. Those who will be away from their permanent address on Election Day and during early voting may request a ballot by mail from their county clerk's office. Student voters should also know that college or university student photo IDs are not accepted at the polls. Be aware of the general ID requirements.

# STATE TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

## JUDGE

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Ethics:** How will you ensure your rulings remain impartial and free from both political pressure and the interests of your campaign donors?

**Issues:** What do you see as the most pressing challenge facing the courts today, and how would you propose addressing it?

**Philosophy:** What is your judicial philosophy?

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## PLACE 3

**Okey Anyiam (D)**

Unopposed

**Brent Coffee (R)**

No response received

**Lesli Fitzpatrick (R)**

No response received



**Alison Fox (R)**

**Qualifications:** I have almost 20 years in criminal appellate law, drafting opinions, reviewing records, and litigating writs. I am known for my rigor, neutrality, and fidelity to the Constitution.

**Ethics:** I will decide every case based solely on the law and the record. Ethical rules, precedent and judicial restraint - not politics or donors - govern my rulings.

**Issues:** I believe the greatest challenge is applying the law consistently and impartially while resisting political pressure, misinformation, and demands for results over justice. I can address these problems by applying the law consistently, writing clear opinions, respecting precedent, and maintaining independence from politics — courts build trust through fairness, transparency, and restraint.

**Philosophy:** My judicial philosophy is grounded in fidelity to the Constitution, respect for precedent, and judicial restraint. Judges must apply the law as written, decide cases on the record, and remain independent from politics or personal views.

**Campaign Website:** [www.foxforjudge.com](http://www.foxforjudge.com)

**Thomas Smith (R)**

No response received

## PLACE 4

**Audra Riley (D)**

Unopposed

**Kevin Patrick Yeary (R)**

Unopposed

## PLACE 9

**Holly Taylor (D)**

Unopposed



**Jennifer Balido (R)**

**Qualifications:** I have over 33 years of criminal law experience as a district judge, prosecutor, public defender, and criminal defense attorney, trying cases and arguing appeals, including death penalty cases.

**Ethics:** Transparency is key to the public's trust in the judiciary. Aside from accurate and timely reporting to the Ethics Commission, a judge should make the parties aware of any potential conflicts of interest, either personal or professional, however slight, and let the parties decide if they wish to ask the judge to recuse herself. As a district judge, I have recused myself when necessary.

**Issues:** The most pressing challenge facing appellate courts is the length of time it takes for a case to go through the appellate process. Delays occur at every turn, and victims of crime and defendants deserve a swift but thorough examination of the trial record and applicable law and a thoughtful appellate opinion addressing the issues raised in the case. Panel opinions could clear more cases quickly.

**Philosophy:** As a sitting district judge, people come before me facing the most difficult situations of their lives. Crime victims, defendants, their families, and their attorneys are looking to me to set the tone. I treat everyone with respect, I allow everyone to have their say, and I fully consider the arguments of both sides. You may not agree with my decision, but you will know that you were heard.

**Campaign Website:** [www.judgebalido.com](http://www.judgebalido.com)

### INFORMATION ON WHERE TO VOTE

Voters can look up information on where to vote at their county's election website:

[votetravis.gov/current-election-information/current-election/](http://votetravis.gov/current-election-information/current-election/)  
[wilcotx.gov/elections](http://wilcotx.gov/elections)

These websites list the most up-to-date information on the locations of polling places and their hours of operation.

For Travis County, there is also a live map with the current wait times for each polling location.

Remember, you can vote at ANY polling location in your county.



**John Messinger (R)**

**Qualifications:** Representing Texas in this court has been my job for 15 years. Few people have comparable experience: over 125 petitions for review, over 100 briefs, and 26 oral arguments in this court alone.

**Ethics:** We're blessed to be able to elect (and un-elect) judges. I have a long record of advocating for what the law requires, not what I would prefer. The voters will ensure that I keep my promise to continue enforcing the law as written.

**Issues:** Although the court has found many novel ways to reverse convictions in the last few years, the biggest problem is the time it takes. The average time it took the court to review a decision and issue an opinion was over 500 days last year. It used to be under 200. You fix this by electing people who've spent their careers analyzing complex legal issues in 30 days or less. That's me.

**Philosophy:** Justice through law enforcement. In a system of law, judges are not empowered to do whatever they think is fair or right in a given case. They must apply the law as written. If the law is properly interpreted and the result is not what the legislature intended, it is the legislature's job to rewrite the law. Judges should have the humility to accept their limited roles and limited wisdom.

**Campaign Website:** [messengerforjustice.com](http://messengerforjustice.com)



### IF YOU HAVE ISSUES AT YOUR POLLING LOCATION

Please call one of these nonpartisan hotlines if you have any issues at your polling location:

#### Election Protection Hotlines

ENGLISH: 866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)

SPANISH: 888-VE-Y-VOTA (888-839-8682)

ASIAN LANGUAGES: 888-API-VOTE (888-274-8683)

ARABIC: 844-YALLA-US (844-925-5287)

ASL (Video): 301-818-VOTE (301-818-8683)

DISABILITY RIGHTS TX: 888-796-VOTE (888-796-8683)

# STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Qualifications:** What training, experience and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Social Studies Curriculum:** How should the K–12 social studies curriculum balance state, national, and world history to best prepare students to be responsible citizens in today’s world?

**Teacher Support:** How can the SBOE strengthen teacher preparation, certification, and ongoing professional development to support high-quality instruction?

**Digital Education:** How can the SBOE balance technology use with traditional instructional methods to best support student learning?

**Religion in Public Schools:** Should Christianity or any other religious beliefs be incorporated into the public school curriculum? Explain your position.

**Other Issues:** What other issues do you believe will be the most pressing for the State Board of Education?

## DISTRICT 5



### Allison Bush (D)

**Qualifications:** I have 25 years in education, from classroom teaching and counseling to administration. With a student-centered focus writing curriculum, managed budgets, developed policy, and fundraising.

**Social Studies Curriculum:** A strong K–12 social studies curriculum should balance Texas and U.S. history with world history to build civic knowledge and global awareness. Students need accurate, inclusive content that develops critical thinking, civic responsibility, informed voting, and an understanding of how history shapes today’s democracy.

**Teacher Support:** The SBOE can strengthen teacher support by setting rigorous, practical preparation standards, protecting certification pathways, and ensuring ongoing professional development aligned to classroom needs. While SBOE doesn’t set pay, it should publicly advocate for competitive wages and benefits that attract and retain high-quality educators.

**Digital Education:** Technology should enhance strong instruction and reflect the evolving world students live in. The SBOE should support innovative, responsible use of digital tools alongside teacher-led learning and in-person interaction. When used well, technology increases engagement, expands access, and prepares students for college, careers, and civic life.

**Religion in Public Schools:** Public schools must uphold the constitutional separation of church and state and remain religiously neutral. Curriculum may teach about religion’s role in history and culture but should not promote or favor

any belief system. Respecting religious freedom means protecting every student’s right to learn in an inclusive environment free from endorsement or exclusion.

**Other Issues:** Key pressing issues include the teacher shortage, graduation standards that reflect diverse student pathways, student mental health support, and protecting public education from privatization. Decisions must prioritize students, educators, and local communities over political interests. The SBOE must be an education-focused board guided by evidence and expertise—not driven by political agendas.

**Campaign Website:** [www.allisonfortx.com](http://www.allisonfortx.com)



### Abigail Gray (D)

**Qualifications:** B.S. in Education & M.Ed in Curriculum and Instructional Design. Teacher and instructional coach for 7 years. Pursuing a Master’s in public affairs. Reviewed curriculum for the SBOE.

**Social Studies Curriculum:** An equal emphasis should be placed on each level of history. In an increasingly interconnected world, it’s just as important for students to understand the historical contexts of the rest of the world as it is to know the history of their state. A balanced approach to history should give students a better appreciation for differences across the world and avoid teaching intolerance and superiority.

**Teacher Support:** The SBOE votes to approve or veto rules developed by the State Board for Educator Certification. Before voting on rules, SBOE members should be well-informed about how the new rules impact what is taught to educators in preparation programs and the impact on instructional practices in the classroom. This will require research and a deep understanding of education philosophies.

**Digital Education:** Technology should support instruction, not replace what works. The SBOE can help strike that balance by approving instructional materials that use technology purposefully for practice, feedback, project-based learning, or accessibility. The board should focus on evidence-based use of technology in instructional materials and leave day-to-day instructional decisions to educators and districts.

**Religion in Public Schools:** Religious beliefs should not be incorporated into public school curricula. Parents have the right to direct their child’s moral and religious upbringing, and schools must remain neutral. While religion may be discussed in appropriate academic courses, curricula should not promote religious texts or practices, as this can marginalize students and misrepresent families’ beliefs.

**Other Issues:** The instructional materials adoption process is the board’s most significant responsibility and comes with real challenges. SBOE members must evaluate complex materials within a limited time, relying on well-trained reviewers with clear expectations. Strong training, transparency, and sufficient review time are essential, especially amid increasing political and ideological polarization.



### Kevin Jackson (D)

**Qualifications:** Only career public-school educator running; M.Ed. (Special Ed) & MPA degrees; Union advocate (TSTA); Daughters in public school; Active progressive Democrat; Board member

Black Austin Democrats

**Social Studies Curriculum:** Education is the foundation of a strong democracy. Recent SBOE actions have narrowed social studies and erased diverse voices. As a middle-school Texas history teacher, I’ve seen how powerful it is when students see themselves reflected in what they learn. I support balanced Texas, U.S., and world history that includes the voices of women and communities of color.

**Teacher Support:** Supporting teachers with high-quality instructional materials should be a top SBOE priority, especially for early-career educators. Certified teachers improve outcomes and reduce turnover, so the SBOE should strengthen preparation, ensure certification in classrooms, waive fees in high-need fields, reduce high-stakes testing, and reject culture-war content that drives teachers out.

**Digital Education:** Young children learn best through hands-on experiences. Paper and pencils support the development of fine-motor skills, creativity, and social development. As students progress into upper elementary, middle, and high school, technology should be used to build on those skills—supporting deeper learning, problem-solving, and innovation.

**Religion in Public Schools:** No. Public schools must not promote any religion. As a practicing Christian, I believe faith belongs with families and houses of worship, not the state. Adding religious doctrine to the curriculum risks coercion and bias and violates the Constitution. Religion should be taught only academically—its role in history, literature, and world cultures—without advocacy.

**Other Issues:** Only 5 of 15 SBOE members are career classroom teachers. Christian Nationalists are influencing curriculum and textbooks. Private-school vouchers drain public-school funding. Politicized and inaccurate curriculum standards. Weak oversight of charter-school approvals. State takeovers of districts like Houston ISD. I’ll fight so every Texas child can have an excellent public education.

**Campaign Website:** [www.kevinfortx.com](http://www.kevinfortx.com)



### Neto Longoria (D)

**Qualifications:** Graduate student at the LBJ School of Public Affairs; AISD Up-Close Class of 2025 alumnus; former bilingual special education teacher (PK–12); and Parent Support Specialist.

**Social Studies Curriculum:** The K-12 social studies curriculum should balance state, national, and world history while reflecting Texas’s diverse, minority-majority population. It must include the contributions of women, LGBTQIA+ communities, and diverse ethnic groups. World history, cultures

# STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Neto Longoria (D) (continued)

and geography ought to be examined to best prepare students for a global society.

**Teacher Support:** The SBOE can strengthen teacher support by promoting a diverse workforce, reducing barriers to preparation, and expanding mentorship and culturally responsive training. Certification should include more robust, practice-based pathways. Ongoing professional development must support teacher mental health, responsible use of AI, urban school needs, and protect teacher rights and professional autonomy.

**Digital Education:** The SBOE can balance technology and traditional instruction by ethically leveraging AI alongside in-person teaching, testing, and facilitation. Clear ethical and safe-use standards should guide AI for translation and evaluation, while positively reinforcing face-to-face interaction, collaboration, and student-centered learning.

**Religion in Public Schools:** Public schools should teach about Christianity and other religions in a neutral, fact-based, and nonpartisan manner. Instruction should acknowledge their historical and cultural impact in Texas, the U.S., and the world, while respecting religious freedom and maintaining the constitutional separation of church and state.

**Other Issues:** Key issues facing the State Board of Education include protecting teacher rights and professional autonomy, ensuring accountability and transparency for charter schools, improving fair and meaningful accountability systems, and advocating for equitable, sustainable school funding that meets the needs of all Texas students.

**Campaign Website:** [Netofortexas.com](https://netofortexas.com)



## Stephanie Limon Bazan (D)

**Qualifications:** I'm a former educator, current nonprofit leader & board member with experience making policy-driven decisions & recommendations, overseeing \$100M+ budgets & collaborating

across differing viewpoints.

**Social Studies Curriculum:** Students deserve a social studies curriculum that is historically accurate and sets a foundation in geography, government and economics while also incorporating culture to help them grow into informed and

engaged citizens. By learning multiple perspectives and developing critical thinking skills, students are better prepared to participate actively and contribute thoughtfully in their communities.

**Teacher Support:** Policies should support multiple, high-quality pathways into the classroom and remove barriers to entry while maintaining high standards. We must respect and treat educators as professionals and ensure professional development is meaningful, not merely compliance-driven. Focusing on a strong, sustainable pipeline will help ensure every student has access to well-prepared, supported teachers.

**Digital Education:** SBOE can support responsible, age-appropriate access to technology that helps prepare students for college and careers, while affirming that strong instruction is grounded in skilled educators and proven teaching practices. Technology should be a tool that enhances learning, expands access, and supports differentiated instruction, and not a replacement for teachers.

**Religion in Public Schools:** A broad understanding of world religions is an important part of a well-rounded education, helping students understand diverse perspectives and cultures. Public school curriculum, however, should remain grounded in the separation of church and state, and no single religion, including Christianity, should be promoted as an exclusive viewpoint, nor should any faith be elevated or denigrated.

**Other Issues:** Other important issues facing the SBOE include supporting English Language Learners, addressing the impact of poverty on student achievement, recruiting and retaining bilingual educators, and meeting the growing needs of students receiving special education services. All while making sure we are strengthening public schools and better supporting all students, teachers and families.

**Campaign Website:** [stephaniebazan.com](https://stephaniebazan.com)



## Victor Sampson (D)

**Qualifications:** Former teacher, current UT professor, and curriculum expert with 20+ years improving STEM education, teacher training, and policy. Committed to evidence-based decisions and

strong public schools.

**Social Studies Curriculum:** We must teach honest, research-based history that builds critical thinking, not rote recall. Standards should be drafted by educators, textbooks chosen on objective criteria, and laws like HB 3979/SB 3 implemented responsibly. Students deserve rigorous, accurate, inclusive curriculum that prepares them for civic life in a diverse and global society.

**Teacher Support:** Teaching is hard and students deserve skilled teachers. Texas should ensure teacher certification programs are meaningful and effective, grounded in research and classroom practice. We must support pre-service teachers through scholarships and fellowships so they can focus on learning and fund high-quality, sustained PD that meets district needs and helps in-service teachers grow.

**Digital Education:** Technology should support learning, not replace schools. In-person instruction that centers interactions between people and ideas is essential for social and emotional development and academic success. The SBOE should view EdTech as a tool to enrich community schools in a way that increases access to high-quality instruction not as way to create alternative pathways.

**Religion in Public Schools:** Public schools must respect the separation of church and state. All students, regardless of belief, have the right to an education free from religious indoctrination. Social studies can, and should, teach how religions have shaped history, but no single faith should set standards for values or behavior that all students must follow.

**Other Issues:** The SBOE must create academic standards that promote critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving rather than memorization; support schools that center student motivation, engagement, and belonging; adopt policies that empower teachers as professionals; foster innovation in teaching; and drop high-stakes testing in favor of an accountability system that supports opportunity and growth.

**Campaign Website:** [www.victorsampson.org](https://www.victorsampson.org)

## Mica Arellano (R)

Unopposed

# STATE 3RD COURT OF APPEALS

## CHIEF JUSTICE

### Darlene Bryne (D)

Unopposed

### Cory Liu (R)

Unopposed

# STATE TEXAS SENATE

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Education:** What steps, if any, should the Legislature take to ensure all Texas students have access to quality and equitable public education?

**Energy:** What steps, if any, should the Legislature take to ensure Texas has reliable, affordable energy while protecting the environment?

**Healthcare:** What role, if any, should the state government play in promoting a healthy Texas population, and what steps should the Legislature take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Texans?

**Elections:** What changes, if any, should be made to Texas election laws to protect voting rights and voting access for all eligible voters?



## DISTRICT 5

**Paul Thomasson (D)**

No response received



**Kevin Nelson (D)**

**Qualifications:** As a graduate of Texas A&M, a UT assistant instructor, and as a long-time resident of the area, I have seen how decisions of the Legislature affect ordinary people (and not always in a positive way).

ways in a positive way).

**Education:** One step will be to curtail the enormous tax breaks that have been given to data centers and other corporate projects. That will provide additional revenue to local school districts and help ensure that education is properly funded.

**Energy:** Texas has been a leader in energy for a long time. We need to preserve our lead with aggressive expansion of renewable energy alongside oil and gas. Sunlight and wind power will be key resources in the years ahead, and since Texas has been blessed with both we should make full use of them.

**Healthcare:** The most immediate step is to expand Medicaid, which will make medical care more accessible and affordable for over a million hard-working Texans.

**Elections:** I believe we need a nonpartisan redistricting commission that will draw lines in a fair, non-political manner and assure representation for everyone. Ordinary Texans should be made members of that commission, and career politicians should be excluded.

**Campaign Website:** [www.nelsonforstatesenatetexasfive.com](http://www.nelsonforstatesenatetexasfive.com)



**Apollo Hernandez (R)**

**Qualifications:** Former Recon Marine, multi-tour combat veteran, and cybersecurity professional with graduate degrees from UT Austin and Texas A&M Law, committed to fiscal responsibility, education, and public safety.

**Education:** Texas should fully fund classrooms, raise teacher pay, and reduce unfunded mandates that pull time and dollars away from students. Expand career and technical education, strengthen school safety, support parental transparency, and respect local control so communities can meet their students' needs.

**Energy:** Texas should prioritize grid reliability by investing in natural gas, nuclear, and responsible renewables, while strengthening transmission and weatherization. Streamline permitting, encourage new energy technology, and protect air and water without driving up costs for families or businesses. We also need to increase cybersecurity resilience for our critical infrastructure.

**Healthcare:** The state should expand access to affordable care by strengthening primary and rural healthcare, supporting mental health services, and increasing transparency in pricing. Reduce regulations that drive up costs, encourage competition, and empower patients and doctors to make healthcare decisions, not bureaucrats.

**Elections:** Texas should protect election integrity while ensuring access for eligible voters. Maintain secure voter ID, accurate voter rolls, and transparent processes. Invest in voter education so Texans understand ballots, candidates, and issues, ensuring informed participation and confidence in our elections.

**Campaign Website:** [apollofortexas.com](http://apollofortexas.com)



**Larry Nance (R)**

**Qualifications:** I have an MBA degree, with over 10 yrs of public service leadership chairing committees, & 37 yrs of private sector mgmt. experience. I am a veteran & know how to listen, lead, & deliver results.

**Education:** The Legislature should ensure funding is equitable across districts, reduce unfunded mandates, and give teachers the tools and support they need to succeed. Local educators and parents should have a stronger voice in decisions, with a focus on student safety, workforce readiness, and accountability for results.

**Energy:** Texas should continue to support and explore a diverse energy portfolio that includes traditional sources, nuclear power and renewable sources to ensure long term reliability and affordability. The Legislature must strengthen grid reliability, encourage innovation, and promote responsible environmental stewardship, without placing unnecessary burdens on consumers.

**Healthcare:** The state should help ensure healthcare is affordable, accessible, and patient-centered. The Legislature should promote transparency in pricing, provide access to care, especially for seniors and rural communities, promote nutrition education, and preventive measures to protect health. Stop the misuse of technology, including AI, to deny medical services or claims.

**Elections:** Texas should protect election integrity with required voter ID while ensuring all eligible voters have reasonable access to vote. The Legislature should support secure elections, clear and consistent rules, accessible polling locations, & transparency and accountability in the election process. Requiring the disclosure of a candidate's pending legal action to the public should also be expected.

**Campaign Website:** [larrynance.com](http://larrynance.com)

**Charles Schwertner (R)**

No response received

## DISTRICT 21

**Cortney Jones (D)**

**Qualifications:** Master's-level social worker, nonprofit CEO, and former DFPS state office staff. Served five years on the DFPS Council, LBJ Women's Campaign School graduate with lived and policy experience.

**Education:** The Legislature should fully fund public education, update the school finance formula, and ensure resources are equitably distributed across districts. This includes competitive teacher pay, mental health supports, early childhood education, modern facilities, and accountability systems that address disparities so all students can succeed regardless of zip code.

**Energy:** The Legislature should strengthen grid reliability through strong oversight, modernization, and long-term planning. Texas should invest in a diverse energy mix, support energy efficiency, and improve infrastructure resilience. Protecting air, water, and land while keeping energy affordable is essential for families, businesses, and long-term economic stability across the state.

**Healthcare:** The state should promote public health by expanding access to affordable, preventive, and mental healthcare. The Legislature should strengthen the health-care workforce, support community-based care, improve maternal and behavioral health services, and reduce cost barriers so Texans can access care when and where they need it.

**Elections:** Texas should ensure elections are secure, fair, and accessible. The Legislature should protect voting rights by expanding access to early voting and vote-by-mail, ensuring adequate polling locations and staffing, improving voter education, and maintaining transparent election administration for all eligible voters.

# STATE TEXAS SENATE

## DISTRICT 21 (continued)



### Judith Zaffirini (D)

**Qualifications:** 76,000+ consecutive votes; passed 1,500+ bills, more than any legislator in Texas history; B.S., M.A., PhD from UT-Austin; former teacher, businesswoman, and award-winning communication specialist.

**Education:** Texas should define education as a right, not a privilege, from early childhood through higher education. The state must fully and equitably fund public schools, expand flexibility to meet local needs, support libraries, technology, special education, mental health, and broadband access, and pay educators significantly better to recruit and retain excellence.

**Energy:** Legislators must ensure Texas energy is reliable, affordable, sustainable and protective of the environment; highest users pay fair share of infrastructure costs, balance economic development with environmental concerns; modernize the electric grid, create more reliable/resilient systems, expand battery storage, close regulatory gaps; incentivize wind and solar energy; and raise efficiency goals.

**Healthcare:** Legislators should ensure healthcare is accessible, accountable, affable, affordable, available and excellent for all Texans, including low-income families and rural residents. Options include telemedicine, mobile medical units, incentives for medical providers/facilities in rural and low-income areas and Medicaid expansion. Eliminating waiting lists for critical services is imperative.

**Elections:** Texas election laws should be changed to protect voting rights and access for all eligible voters by making it

easier to vote, especially by mail, drive-by and longer hours/periods; modernizing election administration; expanding voter access, especially for persons with disabilities; evaluating and perhaps reconsidering impact of controversial bills; and establish a Redistricting Commission.

### Julie Dahlberg (R)

Unopposed

## DISTRICT 24

### Joe Paz Herrera (D)

Unopposed

### Pete Flores (R)

Unopposed

# STATE TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 19

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Issues:** What are the most pressing issues facing the next session of the Texas Legislature?

**Priorities:** What are your three top priorities for the next session of the Legislature?

**Water:** What steps should the Legislature take to make sure that enough water is available for all Texans?

**Voter Concerns:** What legislation would you support or introduce that would address the top concerns of voters in Texas House District 19?



### Kelly Hall (D)

No response received



### Javi Andrade (D)

**Qualifications:** I served as a leader in the military for 20 years, providing strategic counsel to General Officers and Commanders on national security concerns and planning. My responsibilities included facilitating communications for President Bush during international engagements while stationed in the European Theater. Following my retirement from military service, I joined the Department of Veterans Affairs, where I contributed to the advancement of initiatives focused on

Veteran care. I later transitioned to the Department of Treasury and led cybersecurity efforts to safeguard the nation's financial data, overseeing a budget of \$26 million. Additionally, I have dedicated three decades to youth mentorship.

**Issues:** Pressing issues facing the next session of the Texas Legislature are affordability, public school funding, and healthcare. As we look ahead, it is imperative that lawmakers prioritize measures to make everyday necessities more attainable, bolster the resources and support available to educators and students, and expand healthcare coverage for families throughout the state. By focusing on these core areas, the Legislature can help create a more stable and prosperous future for all Texans, ensuring that essential services remain accessible and fostering opportunities for continued growth and security.

**Priorities:** Emphasis on maintaining affordability in daily life is essential. Efforts should be directed toward reducing healthcare expenses, increasing access to affordable housing, and addressing inflationary pressures. Advocate for the interests of working families. Promote equitable compensation and meaningful opportunities for individuals across Texas. Promote the development of robust public schools by enhancing educational infrastructure, investing in teacher professional growth, and broadening access to job training and apprenticeship programs.

**Water:** Texas counties are facing diminishing water supplies amid increasing contamination incidents and data center overuse. The Texas Water Development Board has highlighted critical requirements for aquifer protection, enhanced drought resilience, and improvements to wastewater infrastructure. I will push for legislative measures to address

illegal dumping, groundwater theft, and unreported spills through enforcement actions. In addition, funding will support rainwater collection initiatives, rural pipeline repairs, and the development of climate-resilient water systems, all implemented through public works contracts that uphold wage standards and prioritize local employment.

**Voter Concerns:** Establish TexCare Public Option - A significant number of Texans have incomes that exceed Medicaid eligibility but are unable to afford private insurance. The proposed TexCare public health option will be available to individuals earning less than \$50,000 annually, as well as to households meeting this threshold per adult member. Funding for TexCare will be sourced by reallocating current state healthcare contracts, eliminating excessive billing practices, and streamlining administrative expenses associated with intermediaries. Enrollment in the program will not incur any penalties, and its implementation will not require additional taxation.

**Campaign Website:** [javifortexas.com](http://javifortexas.com)

### Ellen Troxclair (R)

Unopposed

## DISTRICT 20

### Matthias-Jonah Early (D)

Unopposed

### Terry M. Wilson (R)

Unopposed

# STATE TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 46

### Sheryl Cole (D)

Unopposed

## DISTRICT 47

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Education:** What steps, if any, should the Legislature take to ensure all Texas students have access to quality and equitable public education?

**Energy:** What steps, if any, should the Legislature take to ensure Texas has reliable, affordable energy while protecting the environment?

**Healthcare:** What role, if any, should the state government play in promoting a healthy Texas population, and what steps should the Legislature take to ensure that healthcare is affordable and accessible for all Texans?

**Elections:** What changes, if any, should be made to Texas election laws to protect voting rights and voting access for all eligible voters?



### Joseph Kopser (D)

**Qualifications:** I bring leadership from military service, entrepreneurship, and work in energy and transportation, plus years helping organizations manage change—grounded by raising three daughters along the way.

**Education:** As the father of a former public school teacher in Texas I am convinced, the Legislature should fully fund public schools, pay and retain great teachers, reduce class sizes, and ensure resources follow student needs—not ideology. Strong public schools are essential to opportunity, workforce readiness, and healthy communities across Texas. Choice only works if our public schools are strong.

**Energy:** Texas should pursue an all-of-the-above energy strategy that prioritizes reliability and affordability while reducing environmental risk. That means investing in grid resilience, modern transmission, energy efficiency, and a diverse mix of energy sources—guided by data, not special interests. Texas is the energy state, and families should see lower utility costs because of it.

**Healthcare:** The state should promote public health by reducing the number of uninsured Texans, lowering healthcare costs, and expanding access to care. Nearly one in five Texans lacks coverage, contributing to poor preventable outcomes and workforce challenges. As Texas grows, we must ensure affordable care so families, communities, and our economy can thrive.

**Elections:** Texas should protect voting rights by expanding access while maintaining election integrity. That means clear, consistent rules, adequate polling locations and staffing, secure voting systems, and removing unnecessary barriers so every eligible voter can participate confidently and fairly. And most importantly we should thank our poll workers on election day! Just like our teachers!

**Campaign Website:** [www.KopserForTexas.com](http://www.KopserForTexas.com)



### Pooja Sethi (D)

**Qualifications:** Attorney. Mom. Chief of Staff for this district for over four years. Former Travis County Democratic Party Chair. Wrote bills, passed laws, trained advocates. Ready to serve on day one.

**Education:** Our schools are shutting down and the state refuses to fund public education. We must raise the basic allotment, reform recapture to keep local dollars here, increase teacher pay, and roll back vouchers. Public dollars belong in public schools. Every student deserves better but it starts with the Legislature choosing to invest in our kids.

**Energy:** Texas must modernize the grid, invest in renewables, and protect consumers. That includes building microgrids around nursing homes, schools, and hospitals to keep the lights on in a crisis. Data centers and growing demand strain our outdated system. We need real planning, grid upgrades, and oversight so Texans aren't left in the dark again.

**Healthcare:** It takes months to see a doctor in HD 47, and too many go without care. Texas needs more healthcare providers. Expand Medicaid to improve access and affordability. Lower drug prices, protect IVF and reproductive care, and invest in prevention and mental health. Legislation, budget amendments, and creative solutions are all needed to fix this crisis.

**Elections:** We must undo SB1 and restore access to voting. That means bringing back drive-thru and 24-hour voting, allowing online registration, and protecting vote-by-mail. Texas must end gerrymandering and establish an independent redistricting commission. Every eligible voter must be able to make their voice heard in a fair and accessible democracy.

**Campaign Website:** [Poojafortexas.com](http://Poojafortexas.com)

### Jennifer Mushtaler (R)

Unopposed

## DISTRICT 48

### Donna Howard (D)

Unopposed

### Anthony Gupta (R)

Unopposed

## DISTRICT 49



### Sam Slade (D)

**Qualifications:** As a precinct chair, organizer, strategist and TDP staff, I've worked behind the scenes for 20 years. I bring a new progressive voice and experience going on offense to build power and create change.

**Education:** Texas has been cutting education for decades, then complaining about the results. From technology and support staff to facilities and teachers being forced to take second jobs to make ends meet, let's invest strategically in our students. Top-down solutions haven't worked. Education policy should be based on what local educators and school boards tell us they need most, not on politics.

**Energy:** Failure to modernize cost us lives in '21 and millions of jobs after '23 as industries packed up and left. It's critical to invest now in public infrastructure to boost energy supply, efficiency, and security that lower costs for everyone. We must also break monopolies that exploit consumers in favor of billionaire corporations and overturn policies that prevent expansion of renewable resources.

**Healthcare:** Addressing healthcare, especially mental health and addiction, is at a critical point in Texas. It's not a virtue to let anyone suffer needlessly due to a chronic condition or medical emergency. Texas should join other states and expand Medicaid. This federal funding will sustain and uplift healthcare infrastructure and stimulate our economy by expanding career opportunities in the field.

**Elections:** The greatest threat to our elections is propaganda used to justify access barriers for women, students and minorities esp. A public official willfully making false statements about elections and voter fraud should be guilty of a felony. Overturn policies that suppress turnout and streamline access with same-day registration, and right to a mail-in ballot for students, seniors and the disabled.

## SAVE TIME—USE OUR INTERACTIVE VOTERS GUIDE

More information about the candidates can be reviewed by visiting [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org), a one-stop online resource for upcoming elections made possible by the League of Women Voters Education Fund. Simply enter your address to find your polling place, build your ballot with our online *Voters Guide*, and compare candidates side by side. Answers from candidates who didn't respond by the print deadline may be available online.

# STATE TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 49 (continued)



### Kimmie Ellison (D)

**Qualifications:** Nurse practitioner caring for uninsured folks. Peace Corps volunteer. Housing nonprofit board member. I'm a non establishment Democrat. We need real representation, not professional politicians.

**Education:** We need to fund education. When public education advocates tell law makers how much money they need, law makers need to allocate that amount of money. Let ISDs determine priorities for their districts instead of increasing red tape in the Texas Education Agency. Roll back the voucher program. Education is the most important investment we have to ensure success and safety in our communities.

**Energy:** Population growth, EVs, and big data are skyrocketing our energy needs. We need to source dispatchable energy (gas, geothermal) responsibly while investing in renewables (wind/solar) and battery storage. Households deserve tax credits for efficient use and should always be prioritized over big data. The cost of living (including energy use) should not be cost prohibitive.

**Healthcare:** People are dying because the system is rigged against them. I see this first hand at work. Small business owners can't provide health insurance because it's cost prohibitive. Folks often have to cobble together 2 or 3 part time jobs that have no healthcare benefits. We need to ensure everyone has access to primary care and preventive health services. We can do this by expanding Medicaid.

**Elections:** We need laws that encourage (not hinder) voting. Voting by mail needs to be easier. We need more polling places. We need same day voter registration. We need to explore ranked voting. Gerrymandering is used by parties with bad ethics and losing ideas; it should be ruled unlawful. Democrats need to work harder than ever to appeal to broad coalitions to increase voter turnout.

**Campaign Website:** [www.ellisonforaustin.com](http://www.ellisonforaustin.com)



### Robin Jennifer Lerner (D)

**Qualifications:** A senior Obama State Dept official, U.S. Senate Counsel, and civil rights lawyer with 25+ years in public service, women's rights, and K-16 ed., I will protect District 49's autonomy and rights.

**Education:** We must fully fund public schools and universities, and keep culture wars out. I will stop the demonization of our teachers and faculty, increase the basic student allotment for inflation, and invest in mental health. I'll ensure schools prepare students for a global workforce and preserve and protect critical thinking. Every child deserves a high-quality education and parents deserve security.

**Energy:** Rather than fighting back bills that penalize energy, the Lege must support its advancement. As Texas gets hotter and drier, we must advance bills that create shade, incentivize water sustainability, and help homeowners reduce energy costs. ERCOT must be held accountable for weatherizing the grid. With smart oversight and a focus on the future, we can build a resilient energy system for Texas.

**Healthcare:** Texas must expand access to care and provide accountability for every dollar it spends. Every woman in Texas should have full access to maternal care and reproductive rights. We must expand Medicaid, protect children's health insurance, invest in public health, mental health, preventive care, and ensure no Texan is shut out for any reason. Let's reduce cost and provide real solutions for Texans.

**Elections:** I've supervised elections around the world and democracy is precious. We need an Independent Redistricting Commission to end gerrymandering and restore fair maps. I support online voter registration and mail-in and early voting. As a civil rights attorney, I will ensure every eligible Texan can vote safely, and that poll workers are not intimidated. One person, one vote. There is no alternative.

**Campaign Website:** [www.robin4texas.com](http://www.robin4texas.com)



### Gigs Hodges (D)

**Qualifications:** In the Texas Legislature, I learned how policy and power work. I'm running to build community power, reform recapture, tackle affordability, and shape a government that delivers for working Texans.

**Education:** There are big steps the Legislature must take. While lawmakers celebrate incremental "progress," Texas students are losing teachers, resources, and neighborhood schools. We must fully fund public education, pay teachers competitively, and reform recapture so every district can support students equitably.

**Energy:** Texas must invest in a clean, renewable energy grid with weatherization and resilience to ensure reliable, affordable power. Additionally, the Legislature must hold companies accountable, protect consumers from price spikes, and back solutions that cut pollution and secure a sustainable future.

**Healthcare:** The state should prioritize ensuring all Texans have access to affordable, quality healthcare. The Legislature must expand Medicaid, raise provider rates, and invest in community and mental health services. Preventive care saves money and keeps families healthy.

**Elections:** Online voter registration is long overdue. Texas must expand access to voting and fight aggressively against any attacks. Lawmakers should protect early and mail-in voting, ensure well-staffed polling places, modernize infrastructure, and end voter suppression and intimidation.

**Campaign Website:** [gigsforall.com](http://gigsforall.com)

### Montserrat Garibay (D)

**Qualifications:** A bilingual pre-K teacher, I became a union leader after organizing to save funding for full-day pre-K in Austin ISD. Later served as an officer at TX AFL-CIO and in Biden-Harris Dept of Education.

**Education:** We must increase education funding, tie it to inflation, and close corporate tax loopholes. We should guarantee full-day Pre-K, free and healthy school meals, multilingual programs, and more funding for special education. Our teachers and staff need living wages and respect, not book bans, curriculum censorship, and partisan attacks. I also support lower tuition, academic freedom, and free speech.

**Energy:** Texas must strengthen its electric grid and transmission systems without putting the cost on consumers. I support investing in energy storage; improving efficiency; prioritizing wind, solar, and renewables; and expanding job training. We must cut pollution, protect land & water, keep energy affordable for families and businesses, regulate data centers, and hold utilities and industry accountable.

**Healthcare:** Every Texan deserves high-quality, affordable healthcare close to home. We should expand Medicaid and strengthen mental health care. We must restore reproductive freedom and ensure abortion, IVF, and birth control are accessible and affordable. I also support increasing access to primary care and improving state programs for early childhood screenings, vaccinations, and chronic disease prevention.

**Elections:** I became a citizen in 2012, and the right to vote is sacred to me. Texas should remove barriers that suppress participation, especially for young voters, people of color, seniors, and new citizens. I support online, same-day, and automatic voter registration; extended in-person voting hours; universal vote by mail; curbing interference from partisan poll watchers; and an end to voter purges.

**Campaign Website:** [www.MontserratForTexas.com](http://www.MontserratForTexas.com)

## JOIN THE LEAGUE— BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Be part of a respected national, state, and local grassroots organization where individuals like you are actively engaged in creating positive change on all levels. Add your voice to more than 100,000 members and supporters across the country in Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy. Membership is open to everyone at least 16 years of age.

The Austin Area needs you to be part of the solution, to help ensure our communities are strong, safe and vibrant places to live. Joining is easy online at [LWVAustin.org/join-us](http://LWVAustin.org/join-us).

# STATE TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 49 (continued)



### Josh Reyna (D)

**Qualifications:** For 16 years, I've worked in the House and Senate as a policy expert, legislative lawyer, and Senate Chief of Staff and General Counsel writing laws, passing strong bills, and defeating bad ones.

**Education:** Education is our society's greatest equalizer. Texas must fully fund public schools and reduce reliance on local property taxes. We should raise and index the basic allotment to inflation, move to enrollment-based funding, replace the broken recapture system to keep local tax dollars in our local schools, give teachers permanent pay raises, and stop vouchers that drain public school resources.

**Energy:** Texas must lead with a balanced energy strategy that keeps power affordable, reliable, and clean. We should further diversify with solar, wind, geothermal, and battery storage to lower costs, not create disincentives. We should modernize the grid, enforce strong weatherization, and invest in transmission and storage to power our growing economy and keep the lights on for families and businesses.

**Healthcare:** Texas must expand Medicaid to cover over a million working Texans and bring our federal tax dollars home. We need major investments in primary care and GME so families aren't stuck waiting months for care, real oversight to stop insurers from hiking premiums without added benefits, lower drug costs, cap insulin, protect reproductive freedom, and expand access to mental health care.

**Elections:** Texas should expand voting rights, not suppress them. I support online and same-day voter registration, automatic registration, universal vote-by-mail, longer early voting hours, and independent redistricting. Our elections must protect every eligible voter's right to vote and remain secure, transparent, and free from partisan manipulation.

**Campaign Website:** [joshfortexas.com](http://joshfortexas.com)



### Shenghao "Daniel" Wang (D)

**Qualifications:** I'm a proud product of AISD, MIT and Harvard Law School. I currently serve you on the TCAD. I'm an energy attorney by trade, and have been active in the Democratic eco-

system for over a decade.

**Education:** Texas should treat public education like critical infrastructure: fully funded, fairly distributed, and insulated from culture-war micromanagement. As a product of AISD public schools and as your next State Rep., I would focus on raising the basic allotment and tying it to inflation, fix school finance including reforming Robin Hood so AISD dollars stay in AISD, and continue opposing voucher scams

**Energy:** Texas can have reliable, affordable power and protect the environment but only through intelligent policy. My expertise will be crucial to fixing the grid. I prioritize re-

liability, consumer protection, and non-partisan expertise. We need smarter oversight over data centers and our grid needs to be modernized with union labor. Texas also needs a diversified generation mix, including renewables.

**Healthcare:** Healthcare is a human right. A healthy Texas is more productive, more affordable, and more free. When people skip care because it's too expensive, we all pay later in ER overload, medical debt, and preventable tragedies. As your next State Rep, I will prioritize expanding Medicaid, invest in mental health, fight to roll back post-Dobbs restrictions, and strengthen community clinics

**Elections:** Texas should make it easy to vote and hard to cheat. Right now, too many rules are designed to discourage participation and create confusion especially for seniors, people with disabilities, students, and working Texans with long shifts. As your next State Rep, I will focus on online voter registration, expanding early voting, and better funding election administration.

**Campaign Website:** [www.wangfortexas.com](http://www.wangfortexas.com)



### Kathie Tovo (D)

**Qualifications:** I'm an educator, researcher, and mother. A Council Member for more than a decade, I led major initiatives and stopped bad policies. I know how to stand up to the GOP. I am

trusted, tested, and tough.

**Education:** The Legislature should fully fund our public schools by increasing the per-student allotment; eliminating private school vouchers; and fixing the broken recapture system that requires AISD to send more money to the state each year than it keeps to meet the needs of its students. It should also implement a school accountability system that relies on more than just standardized test scores.

**Energy:** The Legislature must stop creating barriers for renewable energy. The Legislature should secure the reliability and resiliency of our state's electric grid; support and invest in solar and wind projects, battery storage, energy efficiency, and demand reduction; and expand air quality monitoring. Texas must also implement strong rules to regulate energy- and water-intensive data centers.

**Healthcare:** State government has a responsibility to support the health and welfare of Texans. To help promote a healthy Texas, the Legislature should expand affordable housing options and access to healthy food; address food insecurity; and invest in early childhood education. Texans deserve affordable healthcare; the state should expand Medicaid and thus provide more access to affordable health insurance.

**Elections:** Texas should stop enacting racist, gerrymandered maps and laws that restrict voter access. Texas should pass a Voting Rights Act to expand access for eligible voters to allow online and same-day voter registration, promote vote-by-mail options, accept more forms of ID at polls in-

cluding college photo IDs, and make it easier for eligible voters who have moved to have their votes count.

**Campaign Website:** [tovoforrep.com](http://tovoforrep.com)

## DISTRICT 50



### Jeremy Hendricks (D)

**Qualifications:** Neighborhood president and 20-year labor organizer with experience bringing people together, improving local services, and advocating for fair wages, safe job sites, and strong, resilient communities.

**Education:** Texas must fully fund public schools, raise teacher pay, invest in special education, and guarantee safe facilities and strong curriculum for every student. Ending burdensome testing and fixing recapture are essential so schools—especially in underserved communities—can keep the resources needed to support students, educators, and families.

**Energy:** Texas should strengthen grid reliability by investing in transmission, weatherizing power plants, and expanding energy storage. The Legislature must support a balanced mix of energy sources, lower costs for consumers, and reduce pollution by encouraging efficiency and clean technologies that protect communities and the environment.

**Healthcare:** The state should pass Medicaid expansion, bolster rural hospitals, and invest in mental health and community-based care. Strengthening Medicaid and lowering costs will make healthcare more accessible and reliable for families across Texas, especially in areas with limited medical resources and long-standing gaps in care.

**Elections:** The Legislature should expand early voting, improve mail-in ballot access, restore reliable polling locations, and modernize voter registration. Protecting election workers and removing needless barriers will ensure every eligible Texan can vote without obstacles or intimidation.

**Campaign Website:** [www.hendricksfortexas.com](http://www.hendricksfortexas.com)



### Nathan Boynton (D)

**Qualifications:** I bring real world experience as a working Texan who understands healthcare costs education needs and economic pressure. I am community focused and committed to people

over special interests.

**Education:** The Legislature needs to fully fund public schools. We need to ensure fair funding across districts, raise teacher pay, and guarantee free meals for all students. Every child deserves a quality education regardless of zip code. Texas school's need to meet students' basic academic and nutritional needs.

**Energy:** The Legislature should invest in a balanced energy grid that includes fossil fuels renewable energy and nuclear

# STATE TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 50

### Nathan Boynton (D) *(continued)*

power. Large data centers must help pay to modernize grid infrastructure so costs do not fall on everyday Texans. We must upgrade the grid while protecting air and water to ensure reliable affordable energy long term.

**Healthcare:** The state should ensure healthcare is affordable accessible and patient centered. The Legislature should regulate the cost of essential care and medications expand access to providers and protect personal medical decisions so Texans can seek care without financial or political barriers.

**Elections:** I believe Texas should allow mail in voting. We should increase the number of polling locations, expand polling hours, and ensure voting is accessible to all eligible Texans.

**Campaign Website:** [www.nathanboyntonfortexas.com](http://www.nathanboyntonfortexas.com)



### Samantha Lopez-Resendez (D)

**Qualifications:** 7 years of legislative experience, including 4 as Chief of Staff to Rep. Donna Howard, & experience as a former bilingual educator. I bring policy expertise, institutional knowledge, & ready to serve.

**Education:** The Legislature must increase the Basic Allotment and permanently tie it to inflation so school funding keeps pace with rising costs. We should reduce reliance on recapture, move toward enrollment-based funding and provide across-the-board pay raises for teachers and support staff. Stable, equitable funding is essential to ensure every student has access to a high-quality education.

**Energy:** The Legislature must invest in grid reliability and resilience while keeping energy affordable for consumers. That means strengthening transmission, improving weatherization, diversifying energy sources, and supporting innovation that reduces strain during extreme weather. We must protect the environment while planning proactively so Texas families and businesses have reliable, affordable power.

**Healthcare:** The state should play an active role in ensuring all Texans have access to affordable healthcare. That includes expanding Medicaid, strengthening maternal and mental health care, investing in public health, and reducing out-of-pocket costs. Access to care should not depend on income, geography, or insurance status, and healthcare decisions should be guided by medical expertise, not politics.

**Elections:** Texas should expand early voting, allow online voter registration, protect vote by mail, and ensure polling places are accessible and well staffed. The state should also shift the burden of distributing voter registration applications from public schools to the Secretary of State so civic participation is supported statewide, not treated as a burden on educators.

**Campaign Website:** [www.samanthafortexas.com](http://www.samanthafortexas.com)

### William Rannefeld (D)

**Qualifications:** I've worked with the Texas Ethics Commission and Legislative Council, giving me insight into how government works. I'm logical, steady, and committed to integrity, transparency, accountability.

**Education:** The Legislature should reject private school voucher programs and instead fully fund public education. Teachers deserve higher pay, smaller class sizes, and the professional freedom to teach critical thinking and real-life skills, not just train students to pass standardized tests. Strong public schools are essential to student success, workforce readiness, and thriving Texas communities.

**Energy:** The Texas Legislature must end corporate welfare to ERCOT while Texans face astronomical prices during peak demand. Lawmakers should connect our grid to the national system for emergencies, modernize aging infrastructure, and invest in clean energy, storage, and efficiency to lower costs while protecting our air, land, and water for future generations.

**Healthcare:** The Legislature's role is to act as a public safety and healthcare access guarantor. That includes ensuring emergency care within 30 minutes statewide, protecting and expanding rural hospitals, strengthening emergency infrastructure, and allowing doctors and nurses to practice evidence-based medicine without fear of punishment or losing their licenses for providing lifesaving care.

**Elections:** The Legislature should expand early voting, increase polling locations, and simplify voter registration so every eligible Texan can participate. Election laws must protect ballot access while ensuring accurate voter rolls, secure and transparent elections, and strong penalties for voter intimidation, misinformation, and election interference.

**Campaign Website:** [www.william4texas.com](http://www.william4texas.com)

### Kate Lincoln-Goldfinch (D)

**Qualifications:** Austin native, UT Law graduate, & immigration attorney with nearly 20 years of experience. Small business owner who's helped thousands of families and served on Austin's Immigrant Affairs Commission.

**Education:** The Legislature must fully fund public schools, pay teachers what they deserve, and give them the tools and respect to teach safely and effectively. We should invest in mental health, safe campuses, smaller class sizes, and equitable resources so every child, in every community, feels safe, supported, and able to succeed.

**Energy:** Texas should strengthen the grid with weatherization, transparency, and accountability while lowering costs for families. We must expand clean energy like wind, solar, and storage, invest in efficiency, and protect communities from pollution. Reliable, affordable power and a healthy environment are not competing goals – they go hand in hand.

**Healthcare:** The state has a responsibility to keep Texans healthy by expanding access to affordable care. The Legislature should close the coverage gap, invest in mental health,

support community clinics, and protect reproductive freedom so every Texan can get care when they need it, without fear or financial ruin.

**Elections:** Texas should expand access to the ballot by making voting easier, not harder. The Legislature should protect early voting and vote by mail, prevent voter intimidation, invest in safe polling places, fair maps, and transparent election administration, and ensure every eligible voter can register, cast a ballot, and have it counted.

**Campaign Website:** [klgfortexas.com](http://klgfortexas.com)



### John Hash (D)

**Qualifications:** I have a B.A. from UT Austin in Government and History. I spent over a decade working at UT Austin with underserved youth across Texas and I understand the challenges

we are facing as a state.

**Education:** The Legislature must ensure that tax dollars remain with public schools, therefore must remove the school voucher system entirely. We must increase funding from the state for teacher pay, hire more teachers to reduce class size, and continue to fund programs that feed students. Finally, we must allow the SBOE to develop curriculum which does not favor one religion over another in classrooms.

**Energy:** Texas needs reliable, affordable energy and a healthy environment. The Legislature should strengthen grid reliability and oversight, support a diverse energy mix, protect consumers from price spikes, invest in energy efficiency, and enforce environmental safeguards. With balanced, practical policy, Texas can remain an energy leader while protecting our future.

**Healthcare:** The Legislature should focus on access, affordability, and prevention. This means Medicaid expansion to bring coverage to millions of Texans, pricing transparency so families are focused on health rather than financial stress, and public health promotion through education and partnerships with local organizations.

**Elections:** The Legislature should focus on making it easier for eligible Texans to vote while maintaining secure, fair elections. We should increase polling locations and expand early and mail-in voting for eligible Texans. The Legislature should also expand voter education programs to increase voter turnout, improve transparency, and bolster voter confidence in the election process.

**Campaign Website:** [www.johnhashfortexas.com](http://www.johnhashfortexas.com)

### Howard Olsen (R)

Unopposed



# STATE TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVES

## DISTRICT 51

**Maria Luisa “Lulu” Flores (D)**

Unopposed

**Jessica Martinez (R)**

Unopposed

## DISTRICT 52

**Chris Jimenez (D)**

Unopposed

**Caroline Harris Davila (R)**

No response received



**Blayre Pena (R)**

**Qualifications:** I am an attorney with extensive experience advocating for clients. I understand how laws are written, interpreted, and enforced. I bring real world experience, a strong work

ethic, and family values.

**Education:** Texas children deserve access to a high-quality public education to prepare them for careers, college, or military service. The state must fix Texas’ broken school finance system while addressing property tax reform. We must invest in teachers. Parents should have a meaningful voice in their children’s education. When we invest wisely in education, we invest in Texas’ workforce, economy, & future.

**Energy:** Texas’s growing population & economy depend on reliable, affordable energy. The state must continue strengthening the grid. We need an “all-of-the-above” approach to energy. Oil and gas, renewables, nuclear, & emerging technologies all play a role in keeping energy affordable & dependable. The Legislature should support innovation & market-based solutions to allow energy sources to compete fairly.

**Healthcare:** The state has a limited but important role in promoting a healthy population by ensuring access to affordable, high-quality healthcare while respecting the role of families, faith organizations, & local communities. The Legislature should focus on increasing access by strengthening the healthcare workforce—particularly in rural & underserved areas—and removing unnecessary regulations driving up cost

**Elections:** Protecting the right to vote & ensuring confidence in our elections are both essential to a strong democracy. Texas election laws should make it easy for eligible voters to cast a ballot & hard for anyone to cheat. Clear rules, secure voter rolls, & consistent enforcement help ensure that every lawful vote counts & that election outcomes are trusted by the public.

**Campaign Website:** [www.BlayrePena.com](http://www.BlayrePena.com)

## DISTRICT 136

**John H. Bucy III (D)**

Unopposed

**Theodore Schramm (R)**

Unopposed



# LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

## DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

### 147TH CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT

**Cliff Brown (D)**

Unopposed

### 201ST CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

**Amy Clark Meachum (D)**

Unopposed

### 250TH CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

**Kennon Lily Wooten (D)**

Unopposed

### 261ST CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

**Daniella Deseta Lyttle (D)**

Unopposed

### 299TH CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT

**Karen R. Sage (D)**

Unopposed

### 331ST CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT

**Chantal Melissa Eldridge (D)**

Unopposed

### 403RD CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT

**Brandy Mueller (D)**

Unopposed

### 419TH CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

**Catherine A. Mauzy (D)**

Unopposed

### 455TH CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

**Laurie Eiserloh (D)**

Unopposed

### 459TH CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

**Maya Guerra Gamble (D)**

Unopposed

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## JUDGE, COUNTY COURT AT LAW

### COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 1

**Todd Wong (D)**

Unopposed

### COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 2

**Leslie Dippel (D)**

Unopposed

### COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 3

**Bianca Garcia (D)**

Unopposed

# LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

## COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 4

**Dimple Malhotra (D)**

Unopposed

## COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 5

**Mary Ann Espiritu (D)**

Unopposed

## COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 6

**Denise Hernández (D)**

Unopposed

## COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 7

**Elisabeth Earle (D)**

Unopposed

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## COUNTY PROBATE COURT NO. 1

**Guy Herman (D)**

Unopposed

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## COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK

**Velva L. Price (D)**

Unopposed

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## COUNTY CLERK

**Dyana Limon-Mercado (D)**

Unopposed

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## COUNTY TREASURER

**Dolores Ortega Carter (D)**

Unopposed

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## COUNTY JUDGE

**Andy Brown (D)**

Unopposed

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Housing:** How can the Commissioner Court improve affordability and reduce the number of people who are unhoused in the county? If so, how?

**Infrastructure:** How should the Commissioners Court implement infrastructure that supports quality living and business conditions in the county?

**Priorities:** What are the top three countywide issues you would like to address over your next term, should you be elected?

**Disaster Management:** What steps should the Commissioners Court take to ensure our community is better prepared for natural disasters, including coordination with neighboring jurisdictions?

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## PRECINCT 2



**Rick Astray-Caneda III (D)**

**Qualifications:** - 12 years - state & local government consulting building social service programs - 5 years - president of an HIV service nonprofit, Friends of the David Powell Clinic - PhD & Master of Public Affairs

**Housing:** The Commissioner's Court needs to partner with the City of Austin to develop affordable housing in empty commercial spaces under a new law allowing use of commercial property for housing (SB840) – it's a win for commercial property owners with empty space and for housing! In all affordable housing, we need social services helping families thrive today and build solid, independent economic futures.

**Infrastructure:** I was raised on a dirt road – I know what it's like to navigate ever-changing potholes. We should not have that in Travis County. Right now only 3.5mi of roads in Precinct 2 are up for repair under the Substandard Road Program – I'll fight for faster progress. We also have 257 county bridges of which 40 have a rating of fair – given recent flooding I will prioritize improvements focused on safety.

**Priorities:** Health: Ensuring everyone gets free or cheap vaccines, especially COVID. Focusing on equity and prevention. Affordability: Building affordable housing fast and supporting homeowners with energy credits and maintenance help. Civil Rights: Communities of color, immigrants, and our trans family are under attack. Fight back by building equity, supporting diversity, and not collaborating with ICE.

**Disaster Management:** My PhD focused on disaster resilience. To build a disaster-resilient community, planning must come from the people. As we build our next FEMA hazard mitigation plan due in 2028, I will lead in deeply engaging our residents. I will drive collaborative efforts that help counties

in our area develop and fund plans that build flood resilience across county lines because disasters know no boundaries.

**Campaign Website:** [www.rickforprogress.com](http://www.rickforprogress.com)



**Brigid Shea (D)**

**Qualifications:** I've led on Austin City Council and as County Commissioner for 14 years total. I help manage our billion-dollar budget, built 13,500+ affordable homes, and created our

Public Defender's office.

**Housing:** Build more affordable homes faster and require they stay affordable forever, not just 15 years. Help families avoid eviction through emergency rental assistance. House people experiencing homelessness in actual apartments with support services, not just shelters. Work with Austin and neighboring cities so we're all solving this together, not competing. Track results so taxpayers see what works.

**Infrastructure:** Bring high-speed internet to every home. It's essential for school, work, and healthcare now. Prepare for extreme weather with flood barriers, cooling centers for heat waves, and emergency alerts that reach everyone. Expand buses so people can get to jobs without cars. Build parks, libraries, and clinics in underserved neighborhoods. Fix roads and bridges before they become dangerous.

**Priorities:** Housing affordability: Working families shouldn't be forced out by rising rents. We need thousands more affordable homes with permanent protections. Climate preparedness: Extreme weather is intensifying. We must protect residents before disasters strike. Service equity: Every neighborhood deserves good parks, transit, healthcare access, and safe infrastructure, not just wealthy areas.

**Disaster Management:** The 2021 winter storm taught us hard lessons. Now we're installing better emergency alert systems, opening cooling and warming centers in every area, ensuring backup power at critical facilities, and coordinating closely with surrounding counties. We prioritize vulnerable populations: elderly residents, people without transportation, mobile home communities. Preparation saves lives and money.

**Campaign Website:** [www.brigidshea.com](http://www.brigidshea.com)



**Amanda Marzullo (D)**

**Qualifications:** I'm a civil rights lawyer & Gates Scholar w/law & criminology degrees from UPenn & Cambridge. I've advanced justice and criminal legal reform, key expertise for a job shaping courts & public safety.

**Housing:** Affordability is the issue I hear about most. Our cost of living has skyrocketed while wages have lagged. I want to invest in housing near jobs and transit, expand rental assistance, and support cooperative ownership so families can build equity. We need better relief tools: more childcare support, fair wages on projects, and holistic eligibility rules, so people can keep up and stay here.

# LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

## PRECINCT 2

### Amanda Marzullo (D) (continued)

**Infrastructure:** Our infrastructure should make daily life easier. I support improving roads, transit, sidewalks, and utilities so people can get to work, school, and services safely and reliably. We need more multimodal transit options, stronger water and power systems, and maintenance that keeps pace with growth—not years behind it. Investing now prevents higher costs later.

**Priorities:** 1. Affordable housing and security, making our County a safe place where families can afford to stay. 2. Public Safety that Actually Works, shifting resources to what keeps people safe: mental healthcare, diversion, reentry support, & fair courts. 3. Strong labor standards, as a major employer, the county can lead by example with w/fair wages & safe environments, even through its contractors.

**Disaster Management:** Extreme weather is our new reality, and our systems have to catch up. I will push to modernize emergency alerts, set up resource hubs across the county for power and supplies, and improve coordination with cities and schools. We also need stronger neighborhood-level communication so no community is overlooked during storms or outages.

**Campaign Website:** [www.amandamarzullo.com](http://www.amandamarzullo.com)



### Reese Ricci Armstrong (D)

**Qualifications:** I'm a student advocate with Mac & LASA YDSA, labor unionist, community organizer and proud democratic socialist. I'm now running for county commissioner to allow everyone

an affordable, dignified life

**Housing:** We need to make major investments in building social/public housing through the Housing Authority of Travis County, and cap the rents at 25% of the occupant's income which will ease burdens on tenants and lower the rent for everyone in Travis County. Right now, we're seeing almost no public investment from the County and that has to change if we want to transform the housing landscape.

**Infrastructure:** The role of the Commissioners Court is one of raising and spending money and I believe we need to be focusing our spending on public infrastructure for the working class. This looks like building social housing, expanding Central Health and delivering robust public transit. Currently, we spend ~40% of the annual general fund on a punishment bureaucracy, when we need to invest in our community.

**Priorities:** - Build social housing We must build thousands of permanently affordable social housing units to ensure that every Austinite has a place to call home. - Make ambulances free Invest in ATCEMS to eliminate out-of-network ambulance transport fees for all residents. - Expand public healthcare Expand Central Health to ensure everyone has access to quality, affordable healthcare as a human right.

**Disaster Management:** A climate change presents an existential threat to our community, we must build resilient infrastructure. Many places in Travis County are prone to flooding that could be mitigated with proper investment. Additionally, quick response to and from other jurisdictions is crucial to saving lives, and we need to have a regionally coordinated 'go' plan prepared in advance of any events to ensure this.

**Campaign Website:** [reesefortraviscounty.org](http://reesefortraviscounty.org)

## PRECINCT 4



### Susanna Ledesma-Woody (D)

**Qualifications:** I bring over a decade of experience as a Del Valle ISD Trustee, non-profit leadership, and private-sector project management. I'm collaborative, data-driven, and deeply rooted in the community.

**Housing:** The Commissioners Court can reduce homelessness and improve affordability by expanding deeply affordable and supportive housing, strengthening rental assistance and eviction prevention, and ensuring housing is built countywide. Public investments should include fair labor standards and accountability so taxpayer dollars deliver lasting results.

**Infrastructure:** The Commissioners Court should prioritize equitable infrastructure roads, drainage, sidewalks, transit access, and flood mitigation, especially in historically underinvested communities. Using tools like bonds, grants, and the annual budget, we must coordinate with cities and residents to deliver projects that improve safety, support businesses, and enhance quality of life across the county.

**Priorities:** My top priorities are: 1. Equitable infrastructure to close long-standing service gaps, 2. Affordable housing and homelessness prevention countywide, and 3. Responsible use of taxpayer dollars with transparency and accountability. These issues are deeply connected and essential to building a fair, resilient Travis County.

**Disaster Management:** The Commissioners Court should invest in flood mitigation, emergency infrastructure, and early warning systems, while expanding community preparedness and recovery resources. Strong coordination with cities, school districts, and neighboring counties is essential to ensure clear communication, efficient response, and faster recovery during natural disasters.

**Campaign Website:** [VoteSusanna.net](http://VoteSusanna.net)

### Ofelia Maldonado Zapata (D)

**Qualifications:** Completed 35 yrs variety trainings in leadership development; as client bd member for Austin Interfaith, TRLA, TLSC, NCLEJ, NLADA, Peoples Clinic; ARB; AISD Trustee, & TC PDO oversight committee

**Housing:** The "Community First" model is a great example of what we need to continue to develop not only for single adults but also for families. This model sustains com-

munity ownership. We also need to reduce the MFI from 80% to 60%.

**Infrastructure:** Commissioners must adopt TAPP's recommendation to create true community engagement with the residents at the forefront of conversations with businesses to ensure the community benefits. Travis County should create an enforcement office for accountability.

**Priorities:** Infrastructure to address residents water issues, Workforce development for adults & youth; & Criminal Justice to move from Divergence to a Deflection model.

**Disaster Management:** Travis County should invite, engage and train community leaders to be part of the disaster management team and the neighboring jurisdictions to ensure quick access to neighbors and the communities they live in. This diverse team will respond as a collective with efficient communication.



### George Morales III (D)

**Qualifications:** Our community deserves a leader who not only understands the issues we face but has lived through them. I bring over 20 years of experience working with Travis County and will push for real progress.

**Housing:** Commissioners Court can expand affordable housing by investing in affordable housing initiatives, continuing to work with trusted partners, and really listening to Travis County Residents. Proactive preventive outreach is key: educating the public about available services and providing wraparound services that help reduce homelessness and keep families rooted.

**Infrastructure:** The Commissioners Court should prioritize infrastructure that serves people. Investing in flood mitigation, safer roads and sidewalks, and expanded transit access across Southeast and South Austin. We need to ensure that every neighborhood is equitably represented and invested in, while making them safe and giving them a chance to thrive.

**Priorities:** Keeping families housed and rooted—through affordable, workforce, and senior housing. Community health and safety: expanding Integral Health partnerships, completing the mental health diversion center, and improving emergency response. Infrastructure that serves people: flood mitigation, safe roads and sidewalks, and better transit access across Southeast and South Austin.

**Disaster Management:** Travis County can improve disaster readiness by prioritizing coordinated response plans with neighboring jurisdictions to ensure quick regional action. Through our Emergency Response Department, we can invest in resilient infrastructure, improve communication networks, and fund rapid-response teams, so that our communities receive faster, more reliable support during emergencies.

**Campaign Website:** [georgeforcommissioner.com](http://georgeforcommissioner.com)

# LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

## PRECINCT 4 (continued)



### Gavino Fernandez, Jr. (D)

**Qualifications:** Travis County Commissioner, Pct 4, Chief of Staff 1991-1994. 3 years of Travis County governance. Supervised Staff. Senior Citizens and Veterans advocate. 50 years of community engagement

**Housing:** Invite developers to build affordable housing by providing them with tax exemptions/ Tax credits, /Building fee reductions. Voted no on Prop Q no More Taxes. Solar energy. Support climate change policy. Texas State legislature to reduce percentage charged on your balance payment of taxes per month that may reach 17%. Apply for State and Federal funds- CDBG - No tax increase!!

**Infrastructure:** Invest in roads, and flooding mitigation surrounding rural communities such as Elroy, Maha loop, Creedmore, Mustang Ridge, Garfield. No tax increases could be a reason small business may remain open. Encourage and support buy local to pct 4 voters. Preserve Rural and Urban land use Quality of Life in zoning and growth plans. Support land owners growth development plans in the urban&rural

**Priorities:** No Tax Increase. Keep Pct 4 affordable and maintain Quality of Life. Flooding mitigation of Onion Creek in the rural communities. Reduce Tax percentage fee on Tax payment plans which could reach 17%. Support land owners growth plans. Apply for Federal and State matching funds. I would also support a bond packages before voters to fund these safety hazard projects. Fiscal monitor

**Disaster Management:** Coordination with FEMA, U.S. Army Corps of engineers to manage Onion Creek banks over flooding. Travis County Sheriffs, EMS, Evacuation plan. local police enforcement. Install Alert notification House effective residents of displacement. Coordinate with the Central Texas Food bank. Provide health stations at County facilities. Ensure we have a effective social media alert campaign. Safe

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Disaster Management:** What steps should the Commissioners Court take to ensure our community is better prepared for natural disasters, including coordination with neighboring jurisdictions?

**Bail and Bond:** How would you fairly administer bail and bond conditions?

**Priorities:** How would you balance the many responsibilities of this position?

**Equal Access:** How would you ensure that all individuals who enter your court receive equal access to justice?

**Evictions:** How would you ensure landlords and tenants understand their rights regarding evictions and receive information on available resources?



## PRECINCT 1



### Ciara Parks (D)

**Qualifications:** I have 16 years of legal experience in criminal, civil, and administrative law. I have lived experience growing up in poverty, on government assistance, and family incarcerated.

**Disaster Management:** To ensure Travis County is better prepared for natural disasters such as flooding, extreme heat, and winter storms, the Commissioners Court must take a proactive, coordinated, and people-centered approach to disaster management. Central Texas faces increasing climate volatility, and preparedness must be treated as a core responsibility.

**Bail and Bond:** I would administer bail and bond fairly by prioritizing public safety while avoiding wealth-based detention. Decisions should be individualized, transparent, and guided by risk—not income. I support affordable bonds, non-monetary conditions when appropriate, and regular reviews.

**Priorities:** I would balance the responsibilities of a justice of the peace by staying organized, setting clear priorities, and focusing on fairness, efficiency, and service. By managing my docket responsibly, working closely with court staff, and listening to the community, I can ensure cases are handled promptly while maintaining respect, accountability, and access to justice for all.

**Equal Access:** I would ensure equal access to justice by treating every person with dignity and fairness, regardless of income, race, or background. I support clear communication, language access, and flexible options like payment plans and alternatives to fines so no one is denied justice because of barriers beyond their control.

**Evictions:** I would ensure landlords and tenants understand their rights by using plain-language notices, clear court instructions, and partnerships with legal aid and housing groups. My court would connect tenants to rental assistance, mediation, and community resources, while ensuring landlords receive timely, accurate guidance on the law.

**Campaign Website:** [CiaraforJP1.com](http://CiaraforJP1.com)



### Andrew Reginald Hairston (D)

**Qualifications:** For nine years, I have served as a civil rights lawyer focused on dismantling the school-to-prison pipeline. I am guided by principles of empathy, dignity, and a zeal to remediate past wrongs.

**Disaster Management:** Justices of the Peace are not called upon to directly respond to natural disasters, but I intend to be in regular and consistent communication with members

of the Travis County Commissioners Court if I'm elected. That engagement will extend to my colleagues serving in public positions in other jurisdictions across Texas.

**Bail and Bond:** Bail is often used as a tool to racially discriminate and disregard the socioeconomic status of someone appearing before a court. I will keep this history in mind when administering bail and bond conditions.

**Priorities:** I will work with veteran staff members and new employees to set up an efficient office. The primary goals of my team will be digitization, robust data collection, and the thorough, swift disposition of cases that appear before my court. I will be guided by humility and a heart for public service to learn what I don't know — and improve where I can.

**Equal Access:** I plan to work with legal clinics in central Texas and bar associations to increase access to counsel in the Precinct One Justice Court. In representing clients and observing proceedings in Justice Courts across the state, I often witness how Black and Brown pro se litigants face significant property deprivations. The right to counsel is incredibly important to me, and it will be a priority.

**Evictions:** I will invite legal aid organizations, like Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, into my court to share helpful information with litigants in eviction proceedings. I also intend to keep my court open to the public and advertise that fact, with the hope of connecting litigants with other beneficial resources in a very stressful process.

**Campaign Website:** [hairstonforpeace.com](http://hairstonforpeace.com)

## PRECINCT 2



### Mariel Kelley (D)

**Qualifications:** As a former public school teacher and attorney experienced in both civil and criminal law, I bring compassion, integrity, and a deep commitment to fair, accessible justice for all.

**Disaster Management:** The Commissioners Court should require quarterly coordination meetings with emergency managers and officials from all neighboring counties. Clear emergency response plans, shared resources, and consistent distribution of accurate, accessible emergency information will ensure faster, coordinated responses that protect lives and property.

**Bail and Bond:** I would administer bail by faithfully following the law, assessing each case individually, and balancing community safety with constitutional rights. Bond conditions should be no more restrictive than necessary, focused on court appearance and safety, and mindful that people are presumed innocent and should not be punished pretrial, while using clear findings and transparency in every case.

**Priorities:** I have consistently balanced heavy, competing responsibilities in my prior roles as a teacher and attorney. I developed clear systems and processes to prioritize urgent matters, manage deadlines, and delegate when appropriate.

# LOCAL TRAVIS COUNTY

## PRECINCT 2

### **Mariel Kelley (D) (continued)**

Those habits ensure efficiency, accountability, and thoughtful decision-making under pressure.

**Equal Access:** I will ensure equal access to justice by providing clear, plain-language information about community resources to everyone who enters my courtroom. Regardless of case type or background, all litigants will receive the same guidance on legal aid, services, and options.

**Evictions:** I would ensure clear, plain-language information is available in court and online, explaining rights, timelines, and resources. While the law must be followed, landlords often know the process while tenants face it for the first time. Providing guidance helps ensure fairness and protects the stability and security that housing provides.

**Campaign Website:** [marielkelley.com](http://marielkelley.com)

### **Randall Slagle (D)**

**Qualifications:** I've served as JP for the past 11 years, resolving more cases than any JP Court in Travis County. We created the first paperless JP Court in Texas, and started the first juvenile diversion program.

**Disaster Management:** The Commissioners Court has worked closely with the five Justice Courts to ensure our offices have the resources to serve the community in difficult times. During the Covid pandemic, the commissioners worked diligently with the courts to limit delays while also protecting the community. The increased communication in times of disaster limits mistakes, and helps to keep services operational.

**Bail and Bond:** Having been a lawyer for almost 20 years, I have handled all levels of cases from traffic tickets to serious felonies. Every case is different. It is incredibly important to consider the safety of the community and an individual's rights in assessing fair bond conditions. The inability to afford bail should never be the sole reason a person remains in custody while their case is pending.

**Priorities:** JP 2 is the busiest Justice Court in central Texas. After taking office in 2015, I reviewed every process and procedure to ensure that all laws were being followed, then looked for areas to improve. We implemented new technologies, removed almost all paper from our court processes, and found ways to shorten wait times through the use of virtual and in-person dockets, increasing access to justice.

**Equal Access:** I ran for this office because of a disparity in access to justice. For 11 years, I've hired a team of individuals from different backgrounds who truly reflect the diverse community we have within Precinct 2. We have created virtual courts to help individuals who may lack reliable transportation, and we've greatly reduced hearing wait times because justice delayed can be justice denied.

**Evictions:** Ensuring that all parties understand their rights is incredibly important. At JP 2, we provide all of our re-

sources, procedures and information on our website. Our civil team is always available to assist in eviction matters on the phone. In the courtroom, I personally explain the process, financial resources available and all timelines and appeal procedures with every landlord and tenant I meet.

**Campaign Website:** [randallslagle.com](http://randallslagle.com)

## PRECINCT 3

### **Sylvia Holmes (D)**

Unopposed

## PRECINCT 4

### **Raul A. Gonzalez (D)**

Unopposed

## PRECINCT 5

### **Tarisa Jeffers (D)**

Unopposed

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## COUNTY CONSTABLE

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Trust:** How would you build community trust and promote transparency in your office?

**Enforcement:** How would you ensure that all individuals, regardless of race or socioeconomic status, receive fair law enforcement?

**Training:** How would you prioritize training and education for yourself and your staff?

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## PRECINCT 4—UNEXPIRED TERM



### **Gabriel Padilla (D)**

**Qualifications:** I have 22 yrs of experience, 6005 training course hours, a Master Peace Office and have multiple certifications. I am currently the sitting appointed Precinct 4 Constable, dedicated to my community

**Trust:** Continue to be active in the community and have been for 17 years, we expanded to various communities in Pct. 4 to include Dove Springs, Easton Park, Montopolis, Travis Heights, Del Valle, Goodnight Ranch, East Austin and do multiple toy drives for Christmas, Do a Turkey Drive Thru of 1000 Turkeys, donate 5000 backpacks for schools filled with supplies and sponsor and collaborate various events

**Enforcement:** Our office treats everyone with fairness, compassion and with empathy. Our office believes in educa-

tion and prevention before enforcement. Our office has been consistently in the community since 2017 and have built trust and maintain healthy relationships with members and organizations. This effort has highlighted the true meaning of community policing that our office always get recognized for.

**Training:** I strongly believe in training and education. I collaborate with other agencies to fill vacant seats in their training classes and make training available to all of our deputies to ensure we provide members of the community the "best customer service" available with updated training and practices. We seek to attend additional training rather than settle for the bare minimum training needed.



### **Al Saenz (D)**

**Qualifications:** For nearly 20 years I've been mentored by outstanding Leaders, Constable María Canchola, Constable and Tax Assessor Bruce Elfant and currently under the leadership of Constable Carlos B. Lopez.

**Trust:** I'll support reforms that improves training, accountability and Community engagement. You earn trust by showing up, listening to your community and treating people with the respect we all deserve.

**Enforcement:** Fairness starts with Leadership, I'll set the standards from day one. I'll make sure that all the deputies understand that we serve all of Travis County with respect, patience and empathy. That means regular training and accountability.

**Training:** I would prioritize training by focusing on safety, professionalism, and community trust. That means regular training on use of force standards, de-escalation, law, civil process etc. Everyone must have strong, consistent understanding of the law and policy.

**Campaign Website:** [Votealsaenz.net](http://Votealsaenz.net)

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## COUNTY PARTY CHAIRS, PRECINCT CHAIRS

Your ballot will list candidate(s) for the Travis County Democratic or Travis County Republican Chair. The party's county chair is the leader of the party's executive committee. The county chair is responsible for performing duties such as managing party conventions and election coordination and administration in the course of the primary election process.

Your ballot may also include candidate(s) for the Travis County Precinct Chair for your precinct. The precinct chair is the political party's representative for your election precinct. The precinct chair serves alongside the party's county chair on the county executive committee. Precinct chairs are responsible for running the precinct conventions for their party.

# LOCAL WILLIAMSON COUNTY

## DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Equal Access:** How would you ensure that all individuals receive equal access to justice?

**Fairness:** What in your background demonstrates that you would ensure fairness when evaluating conflicting interests?

**Efficiency:** How would you balance the efficiency of proceedings with due process?

**Judicial Reasoning:** What steps, if any, would you take to reduce the rates of detention/incarceration and/or reoffending?

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## 277TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

**Stacey Mathews (R)**

Unopposed

## 368TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

**Sarah Bruchmiller (R)**

Unopposed

## 512TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

**Leslie Booker (D)**

Unopposed



**Ryan Bownds (R)**

**Qualifications:** I graduated from UT Law with honors. I've been a prosecutor for the past 13 years. This includes being Chief of the Special Victims unit, handling the toughest cases: child

abuse and sexual assaults.

**Equal Access:** Justice is intended for all, not for a few. Being firm, fair, and faithful to the constitution is key. Apply the law as written and intended, not based on personal opinion or feeling. That is the foundation that ensures justice is equally accessible to all. A judge should demonstrate understanding for the complexities of life and the fact that it isn't a cause number before them, but real people.

**Fairness:** Being a prosecutor and chief, I have had to evaluate disputes between those I supervise and attorneys on the other side. I've always been know to hear all sides of an issue and resolve conflicting interests based on the law and the evidence - not on personal feelings or desires. As an attorney I believe that everyone I've worked with, or against, knows I can be trusted to resolve conflict fairly.

**Efficiency:** Due process is essential, and should take priority over efficiency. That said, keeping timely court settings, checking in regularly with the parties, and not allowing cases to linger on the docket without resolution are essential. Nobody should have their rights violated through the court process, but failing to have timely justice is not an acceptable outcome either.

**Judicial Reasoning:** I fully support alternative court processes such as: mental health court, veteran's court, or DWI/Drug Court. Some offenders need to be removed from society as a whole for safety. Many offenders however, are capable of being rehabilitated through court ordered programs and frequent monitoring. Appropriate guardrails should exist to prevent danger to the community during that process though.

**Campaign Website:** [ryanbownds.com](http://ryanbownds.com)

**Sarah Moore (R)**

**Qualifications:** A trial attorney for almost 20 years, I'm Board Certified in Criminal Law and have tried over 100 felony jury trials. I regularly teach nationally & statewide on trial skills, ethics and leadership.

**Equal Access:** Equal access to justice is paramount to a successful legal system. As Judge, I will remove administrative barriers, if any, to ensure each litigant is given equal opportunity to appear and participate. Equally important, I will listen first, reserving judgment until all arguments have been made. Finally, I will rule quickly but thoughtfully, avoiding unnecessary delays.

**Fairness:** Having served in my career as both prosecutor and defense attorney, I understand that cases are more than cause numbers and a name: they are comprised of victims and persons accused, along with their families and community members affected by the crime. Seeing firsthand the consequences of a Judge's decision on each party gives perspective, which leads to a respect and appreciation for fairness.

**Efficiency:** "Justice delayed is justice denied" is truth. There is an overarching need to hasten the disposition of a case in order to avoid delays that can lead to injustice. However, efficiency helps a court avoid cutting corners or stomping on due process in pursuit of that quick resolution. I will create a streamlined, efficient docket and have proven I'll work very hard, something you should require.

**Judicial Reasoning:** I don't think focus should be on reducing detention/incarceration, it should be on the law which provides a roadmap for bond/bail eligibility and application. There should, however, be an intentional effort to reduce reoffending/recidivism, as this benefits the whole community. This is done through careful consideration of each case and addressing each offender as a unique individual.

**Campaign Website:** [www.MooreforWilco.com](http://www.MooreforWilco.com)

## JUDGE, COUNTY COURT AT LAW

### COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 1

**Brandy Hallford (R)**

Unopposed

### COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 2

**Laura Barker (R)**

Unopposed

### COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 3

**Kathryn Fowler (R)**

Unopposed

### COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 4

**David Oliver (R)**

Unopposed

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## COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK

**Cathy Mendoza (R)**

Unopposed

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## COUNTY CLERK

**Erin Block (D)**

Unopposed

**William Fairbrother (R)**

Unopposed

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## COUNTY TREASURER

**Brian Walbridge (D)**

Unopposed

**Carole Callahan (R)**

Unopposed



# LOCAL WILLIAMSON COUNTY

## COUNTY JUDGE

### Heather Jefts (D)

Unopposed

### Steve Snell (R)

Unopposed

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER

**Qualifications:** What training, experience, and characteristics qualify you for this position?

**Infrastructure:** How should the Commissioners Court implement infrastructure that supports quality living and business conditions in the county?

**Priorities:** What are the top three countywide issues you would like to address over your next term, should you be elected?

**Disaster Management:** What steps should the Commissioners Court take to ensure our community is better prepared for natural disasters, including coordination with neighboring jurisdiction?

**Decision Making:** How would you assure that decisions about county services and systems are based on reliable and accurate information?

## PRECINCT 2



### Rupal Chaudhari (R)

**Qualifications:** Attorney with LL.M., NY licensed. Accounting and economics background with CPA-level training. Small business owner, nonprofit founder, and governor-appointed pension trustee focused on solutions.

**Infrastructure:** High growth has caused infrastructure to lag, creating strain and confusion. The Commissioners Court must prioritize investments that work—sustainable roads, drainage, water, and utilities—using smart, responsible planning that coordinates with cities and developers to support quality living, public safety, and strong business conditions.

**Priorities:** My top three priorities are: 1) Building sustainable infrastructure—roads, drainage, water, and utilities—to keep up with growth; 2) Addressing high property taxes to ensure fairness and affordability; 3) Strengthening public safety to meet the challenges of a growing population while maintaining excellent service.

**Disaster Management:** The July floods (as an example) tested our readiness and resource management, with community support sometimes exceeding what we could han-

dle. The Court should ensure early warnings, coordinate resources with neighboring jurisdictions, and have strong post-disaster cleanup and recovery plans to protect residents and strengthen resilience.

**Decision Making:** Drawing on my experience as an attorney, business owner, and public servant, I would ensure decisions are data-driven and based on accurate, up-to-date information from county departments and experts. I would also promote transparency, seek community input, and review outcomes to ensure county services meet real needs effectively.

**Campaign Website:** [www.rupalforwilco.com](http://www.rupalforwilco.com)

### Jeff Mayes (R)

No response received



### David McDonald (R)

**Qualifications:** With more than two decades in dedicated public service, I aim to bring a unique blend of high-level municipal governing experience as well as emergency operations and

public safety expertise.

**Infrastructure:** Over two terms as a Leander City Council Member, I provided strategic oversight for an annual budget of \$338 million, ensuring fiscal responsibility while managing rapid community growth. My leadership also extends to the state level, where I worked as a Statewide Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Program Manager at TxDOT. Prioritizing infrastructure is key to ensuring a high quality of life.

**Priorities:** Lowering property taxes, increasing public safety, promoting smart growth, and saying NO to new toll roads. If elected, I will work to ensure our Sheriffs' Office has the resources and staff to keep our county a safe place to live, work, and play. We must also prioritize infrastructure development to prevent growth from outpacing residents' needs as well as grow our businesses and tax base.

**Disaster Management:** Our Commissioners Court should implement and provide mandatory regional training in emergency management annually with cities, adjoining counties, and state officials and develop SOPs for such events. We should also invest in early warning systems for flood prone areas, and prevent development in these same areas. And we must continue to invest in equipment and training for our first responders.

**Decision Making:** When I served on the Leander City Council, I served on our CIP subcommittee. We developed a scoring matrix to prioritize projects for our city, including quality of life, public safety, economic development, operational capacity. Other factors considered, such as project readiness and funding availability. As Commissioner, I would ensure that we utilize data driven processes in our decision making

**Campaign Website:** [mcdonaldforwilco.com](http://mcdonaldforwilco.com)

## PRECINCT 4

### Harmon Rhea (D)

Unopposed

### Russ Boles (R)

Unopposed

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

### PRECINCT 1

#### KT Musselman (D)

Unopposed

### PRECINCT 2

#### Angela Williams (R)

Unopposed

### PRECINCT 3

#### Evelyn McLean (R)

Unopposed

### PRECINCT 4

#### Rhonda Redden (R)

Unopposed

## COUNTY PARTY CHAIRS, PRECINCT CHAIRS

Your ballot will list candidate(s) for the Williamson County Democratic or Williamson County Republican Chair. The party's county chair is the leader of the party's executive committee. The county chair is responsible for performing duties such as managing party conventions and election coordination and administration in the course of the primary election process.

Your ballot may also include candidate(s) for the Williamson County Precinct Chair for your precinct. The precinct chair is the political party's representative for your election precinct. The precinct chair serves alongside the party's county chair on the county executive committee. Precinct chairs are responsible for running the precinct conventions for their party.

# VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE/CARD

The Voter Registration Certificate/Card provides the district numbers for each race, or you may go to [VoteTravis.gov/current-election-information/current-election/](https://VoteTravis.gov/current-election-information/current-election/), or [wilcotx.gov/elections](https://wilcotx.gov/elections) to receive the list of all candidates you will consider. All citizens wishing to vote must be on the official list of registered voters in their county of residence and provide ID.

The precinct number of where you live

State Senate district

County Commissioner precinct

Justice of the Peace precinct/ Constable precinct

Congressional district

State House district

U.S. REP.	ST. SEN.	ST. REP.	COMM.	J.P./CN.
37	14	51	4	4
ISD	ISD SMD	SBOE	CITY	CITY SMD
AISD	5	5	AUSFP	CA9

School district

School board member district

State Board of Education district

City Council district

Which city you may vote in

**VOTER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE**  
(Certificado de Registro Electoral)  
TRAVIS COUNTY (Condado de Travis)

VOID (VUID) [REDACTED] Gender (Sexo) [REDACTED] Valid from (Válido desde) 1/1/2024

Year of Birth (Año de Nacimiento) [REDACTED] Prec. No. (Núm. Pcto.) 413 thru (hasta) 12/31/2025

Name and Permanent Residence Address (Nombre y dirección residencial permanente) [REDACTED]

X  
VOTER MUST PERSONALLY SIGN HIS/HER NAME IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT, IF ABLE  
(El votante debe firmar esta tarjeta personalmente al recibirla, si puede.)

Party Affiliation (Afiliación del Partido)

# ADDITIONAL VOTING INFORMATION

## VOTING IN TEXAS

The upcoming Primary Election is extremely important for Texas!

**Primary Elections:** Texas has an open primary system. This means all eligible voters can take part. You do not have to sign up with a political party ahead of time. When you vote in the primary, you choose one party's primary election or convention to participate in.

This Primary Election is held on March 3. If no candidate gets enough votes, a Runoff Election is held on May 26.

- The Republican and Democratic parties choose their candidates through primary elections.
- The Libertarian and Green parties choose their candidates at party conventions held at other times.

Since many districts in Texas heavily favor one party over the other, the primary elections often determine the winner of the General Election! Even if you do not strongly identify with any political party, you can and should carefully consider the candidate choices and participate in one of the primaries or conventions to have your voice heard.

**Important Note:** Once you vote in a party's primary election or convention, you cannot vote in another party's primary or convention. If there is a runoff election, you may vote **only in the same party's runoff**.

The Democratic and Republican primary ballots may include non-binding propositions. These propositions gauge voter support on specific issues. The results help guide each party's legislative priorities, which are decided on at their respective conventions.

**General Election:** Voting in one party's primary election, convention or runoff election does NOT commit you to vote for a particular party or candidate in the November General Election. You can still vote for any candidate of your choice, regardless of party, in the General Election.

## VOTER ID REQUIREMENTS

You must use one of the seven forms of ID to vote:

- Texas driver license
- Texas Election Identification Certificate (EIC)
- Texas identification card issued by DPS
- Texas handgun license issued by DPS
- US military identification card with visible photograph
- US citizenship certificate with visible photograph
- US passport (book or card)

If you do not have one of the above photo IDs, as a registered voter you can still vote. You will be required to sign a Reasonable Impediment Declaration form and present one of the following documents:

- Texas voter registration certificate
- Certified birth certificate
- Current utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check
- Paycheck
- Any other government document such as an out-of-state driver license or an expired Texas driver license

## CHECK ID EXPIRATION DATE:

You can still vote with an expired photo ID. IDs may be expired up to four years. For voters age 70 or older, there is NO limit on ID expiration.

## STUDENT VOTERS

Students may use either their parents' address or their college address for voter registration, whichever they consider to be their permanent address. Students cannot be registered in both places. Those who will be away from their permanent address on Election Day and during early voting may request a ballot by mail from their county clerk's office. Student voters should also know that college or university student photo IDs are not accepted at the polls. Be aware of the general ID requirements.

## KNOW YOUR VOTING RIGHTS

- If you are still in line when the polls close, stay in line. You will be able to vote past poll closure as long as you stay in line.
- You may ask for another ballot if you have made a mistake.
- If voting machines are down, you may ask for a paper ballot.
- If you run into issues on Election Day, call an Election Protection Hotline.

**English:** 1-866-OUR-VOTE / 1-866-687-8683

**Spanish:** 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA / 1-888-839-8682

**Arabic:** 1-844-YALLA-US / 1-844-925-5287

**Asian languages:** 888-API-VOTE / 1-888-274-8683

**ASL (Video):** 301-818-VOTE / 1-301-818-8683

**Disability Rights TX:** 888-796-VOTE / 1-888-796-8683

## HOW TO VOTE BY MAIL

Any registered voter may vote by mail (VBM) if they:

- are 65 years of age or older (eligible for mail-in ballots for an entire calendar year).
- are sick or disabled (eligible for mail-in ballots for an entire calendar year).
- will be absent from the county during the entire early voting period and Election Day, AND provide an out-of-county address where the ballot can be mailed, AND include dates they can receive mail at the out-of-county address (eligible only for one election at a time). Voters who

are absent from the county because they are active duty military or because they reside overseas should complete a Federal Post Card Application. Information and forms are available from county and state offices.

- are confined in jail, but otherwise eligible to vote (eligible only for one election at a time).
- are expecting to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day.

The procedure:

1. Request the application, which is available for download from the county elections or secretary of state websites, or by calling or emailing the appropriate office. The application is known as an ABBM (application for a ballot by mail). [www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/reqabbm.shtml](http://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/reqabbm.shtml)
  2. IMPORTANT—The application MUST be completed and received by the early voting clerk in the Travis or Williamson County Elections Division office by February 20, 2026. NOTE: If you submit an ABBM by fax or email, it must also be submitted by mail and received in the appropriate office within four business days of your electronic submission.
  3. Once received and completed, the mail-in ballot MUST be mailed and postmarked by 7pm on Election Day and received by 5 p.m. on the 1st mail day after Election Day, or if civilians abroad the 5th day after Election Day, or if Military voters the 6th day after Election Day. A VBM tracker and "Cure" process is available at [VoteTexas.gov](http://VoteTexas.gov).
- Track your VBM application and VBM ballot throughout the election process.
  - Provide contact information on your VBM application so the county may contact you if you need to fix an error with your application or ballot.

## SCAN OR CLICK ON THESE QR CODES FOR INFORMATION ON WHERE TO VOTE AND HOW TO VOTE



Travis County



Williamson County

Each code will take you to links for polling locations in that county, how to check your registration, how to find a sample ballot, how to vote by mail, and so much more!

# ADDITIONAL VOTING INFORMATION

## VOTE411.ORG

More information about the candidates can be reviewed by visiting [VOTE411.org](https://www.vote411.org), a one-stop online resource for upcoming elections made possible by the League of Women Voters Education Fund. Simply enter your address to find your polling place, build your ballot with our online Voters Guide, and compare candidates side by side. Answers from candidates who didn't respond by the print deadline may be available online.



## HOW THE LEAGUE GATHERS CANDIDATE INFORMATION

To compile the Voters Guide information, the League of Women Voters Austin Area sends questions to all candidates in major **contested** races. League members verify accurate contact information provided by various election entities and the Texas Secretary of State. The League formulates all questions through a rigorous questions committee. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification of content. Due to space restrictions, candidates are given strict character limits. The form into which they enter answers prohibits them from violating the limit. If a response has been cut off due to this constraint, the response has [...] inserted at the end. Candidates are also asked to avoid negative references to their opponents. We reserve the right to redact portions of responses that do not meet our guidelines. Those appearing without a photo failed to submit one. Candidates must submit answers by the deadline provided in order to be included in the printed version. Answers on [VOTE411.org](https://www.vote411.org) may be updated after the print deadline.



Text VOTERINFO to  
512-595-3755  
to receive nonpartisan  
voting reminders!



## CANDIDATE RESPONSES

The League of Women Voters Austin Area reviews all candidate responses carefully for adherence to our guidelines. The league reserves the right to redact portions of a candidate's response, but avoids doing so as much as possible. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification of content. The league takes first amendment rights seriously and believes that the public has a right to know what the candidates think and what they stand for, even if it may be considered offensive. Each candidate is personally and solely responsible for the content of their response.

## HOW DOES THE LEAGUE HANDLE BALLOT MEASURES?

For each ballot measure (such as bonds, charter amendments, or other propositions), the league researches and analyzes the topic and provides information to help explain the background and effects of the proposed change. We do not always include pros and cons, and instead focus on explaining potential effects of the measure's passing. If we do offer pros and cons, we make sure they are balanced and include both points of view. The following information is typically included:

- Background: How did this get on the ballot and what group brought it forward?
- Ballot language explainer: What does the ballot language really say?

- Potential effects: What possible effects will this ballot measure have on our area?

For a more in-depth explanation of ballot measures, or updated information that may be added after printing, please check [VOTE411.org](https://www.vote411.org).

## LEARN WHAT LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS DO

Are you curious about what local elected officials do? Do you want to learn more about the positions you vote on? Check out our self-paced modules on our website. These learning modules can be completed at your convenience and in multiple sittings. They are interactive and will have activities you must complete before you move on to the next section. You can take the module on your computer, tablet, or phone. Visit our website at [lwvaustin.org/What-Local-Elected-Officials-Do](https://www.lwvaustin.org/What-Local-Elected-Officials-Do).

## LWV VISION STATEMENT

We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

## LWV MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.



## EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.

### ABOUT THIS VOTERS GUIDE

This *Voters Guide* is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of Texas (LWVTX) and the League of Women Voters Austin Area (LWVAA). We invite every candidate in competition for office to provide information. We list the names of unopposed candidates but do not send them questionnaires. The League reserves the right to redact portions of a candidate's response, but avoids doing so as much as possible and any redactions are noted. Ballot measure explanations are written by League volunteers with a focus on being informative and unbiased.

Learn more about our process at: [LWVAustin.org/voters-guide](http://LWVAustin.org/voters-guide).

### ABOUT THE LEAGUE

The League of Women Voters Austin Area is a grassroots, all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization promoting informed and active participation of citizens in government. Since 1919, both LWVTX and LWVAA have helped voters cast informed votes when going to the polls. No League organization supports or opposes any political party or candidate. As a nonpartisan organization, the League believes that all of us are stakeholders in making democracy work. We host informative programs concerning important public policy issues, organize and offer voter registration efforts, engage in get-out-the-vote projects, work with local area schools and universities to promote civic participation, and conduct fair and open candidate forums.

### FUNDING THE VOTERS GUIDE

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### DONATE!

Support the *Voters Guide* production with a contribution to the League of Women Voters of the Austin Area, a nonpartisan nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Mail to: 3908 Avenue B, Austin, TX 78751, or make a secure donation online at [LWVAustin.org](http://LWVAustin.org).



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Available in multiple languages!  
[LWVAustin.org/voters-guide](http://LWVAustin.org/voters-guide)

You can use [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) to get a personalized *Voters Guide* for your address.

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