

NONPARTISAN VOTERS GUIDE

PRIMARY ELECTION » MARCH 1, 2022

Governor » Lieutenant Governor » Attorney General » Comptroller of Public Accounts »
Commissioner of General Land Office » Commissioner of Agriculture »
Railroad Commissioner » Texas Supreme Court »
Texas Court of Criminal Appeals » State Board of Education

EARLY VOTING: February 14–25, 2022 »
ELECTION DAY: March 1, 2022. Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

» EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.

» VOTING IN TEXAS PRIMARIES

The upcoming Primary Election is extremely important for Texas!

Primary Election: Texas has *open* primaries, which means *all* Texas voters can participate.

- The Republican and Democratic Parties each choose their candidates in a primary election.
- The Libertarian and Green Parties each choose their candidates in a party convention.
- Since many districts in Texas heavily favor one party over the other, the primaries 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.

Note: Once you have voted in one party primary or convention, you cannot vote in another party's primary or convention, and you can only vote in that same party's runoff election.

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 General Election. You can still vote for any candidate of your choice, regardless of party, in the General Election.

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» ABOUT THIS *VOTERS GUIDE*

This *Voters Guide* is funded and published by the League of Women Voters of Texas. The League never supports or opposes political candidates or political parties.

» ONLINE *VOTERS GUIDE*

The online, interactive version of the *Voters Guide* is at VOTE411.org. By entering your address, you can view races and candidates that are on your ballot, compare candidates' responses to unbiased questions posed by the League, and create a print-out of your choices to take to the polls. If there is a local League in your community, you can also find information on local races. You can even find out where to vote!



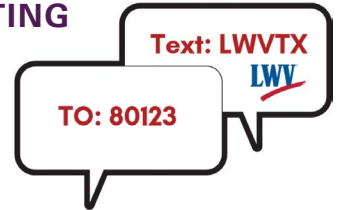
» LEAGUE *VOTERS GUIDE* POLICY

- Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification.
- References to opponents or specific persons are not allowed.
- In place of any inappropriate response, the *Voters Guide* will state "Candidate's response did not meet the criteria listed in this *Voters Guide*."
- Videos that do not comply are removed.
- This *Voters Guide* is organized by office, with candidates listed by party, including the names of unopposed candidates. (Ballot order at the polls may vary from county to county.)

- Candidates with no photo in this *Voters Guide* did not submit a photo by the print deadline.
- Candidates who do not respond to our questionnaire by the print deadline are listed with the notation "No response received." Their information may be in VOTE411.org.

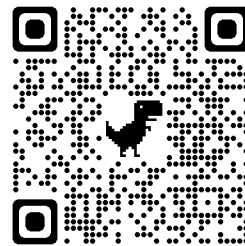
» SIGN UP FOR VOTING REMINDERS!

To get voting reminders on your phone, text LWVTX to 80123.



» SUPPORT THE *VOTERS GUIDE*

Help us fund the cost of this valuable resource for Texas voters by making a secure donation online at lwwtexas.org, or by mailing your generous donation to the League of Women Voters of Texas, 1212 Guadalupe #107, Austin, TX 78701.



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» BE A TEXAS VOTER!

The League of Women Voters of Texas fights for the freedom of ALL Texans to vote. Your vote is your voice . . . below are the ways to exercise your right to vote. Whichever way you choose to vote, be sure to first check your voter registration status at **VoteTexas.gov!** You must be registered before you can vote!

» VOTE BY MAIL

If you applied to vote by mail . . .

- Ballots are mailed out 30 to 45 days before an election or 7 days after the county election office receives an application.
- Be sure to:
 - Mark your ballot using a black or blue pen;
 - Place your ballot in the ballot envelope and seal it;
 - Place the ballot envelope in the carrier envelope;
 - Complete all information on the carrier envelope, seal it, and sign the flap of the carrier envelope;
 - Pay attention to the **voter ID requirements**.
- Mail in your ballot as soon as possible. It must be received by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- New: Track your ballot online at **VoteTexas.gov!**

If you want to hand deliver your vote by mail ballot . . .

- You may hand deliver *your* marked ballot in person to the county election office on Election Day while polls are open.
- You must show *your* photo ID when delivering the ballot, and sign a form.

» VOTE EARLY IN PERSON

- You may vote early at any voting location in your county.
- Find polling places at **VOTE411.org** or on your **county election website**.
- If you have a disability, you may request to move ahead of other voters in line.
- If in line before the poll closing time, you must be allowed to cast a ballot.

» VOTE ON ELECTION DAY

- In some counties, you can vote at any polling place. In other counties, you must vote at your precinct.
- Find polling places at **VOTE411.org** or on your **county election website**.
- If in line before the poll closing time, you must be allowed to cast a ballot.

» VOTE IN PERSON USING CURBSIDE VOTING

- If you are physically unable to enter the polling place without personal assistance or likelihood of injuring your health, you may ask that an election officer bring a ballot to your car.
- After you mark your ballot, give it to the election officer or hand it to a companion to deposit in the ballot box for you.
- It is best to call ahead so election officials will expect you!

» VOTE EVEN IF YOU ARE A SUSPENDED VOTER

You can still vote if your voter registration is in suspense! “Suspense” means that your county voter registrar needs to confirm your voting address.

» VOTE A LIMITED BALLOT IF YOU HAVE MOVED BUT NOT RE-REGISTERED

If you have moved to a new county and have not re-registered in the new county by the registration deadline, you may be eligible to vote a limited ballot in your new county. A limited ballot is one that allows you to vote on candidates and measures that are on the ballot for both your former county and your new county, such as statewide and national races. Voting a limited ballot is only available during early voting at the main early voting polling place.



» VOTER ID: WHAT TO TAKE TO THE POLLS

You may use one of seven forms of photo ID, listed below.

- Texas Driver License
- Texas Election Identification Certificate
- Texas Personal Identification Card issued by the Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Handgun License issued by DPS
- US Military Identification card containing the person's photograph
- US Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph
- US Passport (book or card)

Note:

- IDs may have expired up to four years.
- Persons 70 years or older may use an expired ID, regardless of expiration date.
- ID address does not have to match the voter registration address.
- The name on the photo ID should match the voter registration card or be "substantially similar." If the names don't match exactly but are substantially similar, the voter will initial a box for a similar name when signing in to vote.

Registered voters without photo ID, who cannot reasonably obtain one, may sign a form (described below) and present the original or a copy of one of the following documents with the voters name and address to vote a regular ballot:

- Texas voter registration card
- Certified birth certificate

- Current utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check
- Paycheck
- Any other government document such as an out of state driver's license or expired Texas driver's license.

The form to be filled out by registered voters without a photo ID is a "Voter's Declaration of Reasonable Impediment or Difficulty." The voter must mark on the form one of the following reasons for not providing a photo ID:

- Lack of transportation
- Disability or illness
- Lack of birth certificate or other documents needed to obtain an acceptable form of photo ID
- Work schedule
- Family responsibilities
- Lost or stolen identification
- Acceptable form of photo ID applied for but not received.

Voter Harassment

- Election officials cannot question a voter about the use of an ID type.
- Poll watchers may never question a voter about Voter ID issues.
- If you are harassed, call the Election Protection Voter Hotline!

GOVERNOR

Four-year term. The governor is the chief executive of the state. The governor appoints members to boards and commissions; appoints statewide executive officials, and, when vacancies occur, state judges and district attorneys; delivers the State of the State address; provides guidance to the legislature; calls special sessions of the legislature and sets the agenda. The governor can veto legislation (including a line-item veto on appropriations), sign legislation, or allow it to become law without their signature. Current salary: \$153,750

» QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Elections: How would you ensure election laws do not create barriers to Texans' freedom to vote while maintaining safe and secure elections?

Power Grid: What further changes, if any, are needed to ensure that Texas has sufficient power in times of extreme weather conditions?

Health Care: What is your position on reproductive rights and how would you address the economic and health consequences for those who seek and cannot obtain abortions in Texas?

Immigration: What is the role of the state government in enforcing federal immigration laws?

Autonomy of State and Local Government: Under what circumstances should the federal government limit the authority of elected state officials? Under what circumstances should the state government limit the authority of elected local officials?

» Inocencio (Inno) Barrientez (D)

No Response Received



» Michael Cooper (D)

Qualifications: I was the President of the Southeast Texas Toyota Dealers association when I secured the naming rights of the Toyota Center. It is we're the Houston Rockets play. My team had great confidence that I could secure the more than 100 million \$ contract.

Elections: I was arrested in Washington DC fighting for voter suppression bills that are now Law. As Governor I will beto those bills and call special sessions to revoke those bills.

Power Grid: It is common sense Governing as we

just do the required maintenance. The current Governor is so focused on not working with a Democratic President. We should do repairs beyond what the federal Government requires. The same oil and gas companies made millions on Texans that donated 1 million in to his campaign.

Health Care: Again I have skin in the game as I arrested protesting in the streets of DC, against the heart beat bill. As a person that studied the HIPPA LAWS as I achieved my Masters in Psychology I found out that your medical issues are private and no one else's concerns. As Governor I will work to over turn that law.

Immigration: It is the federal Governments job to

» Michael Cooper (D) (continued)

secure the boarder. We can work alongside them, but we should not spend 250 million dollars on a fence that does not work. We need to spend any extra money or donated money on teachers pay raise, repairing Dilapidated schools and money for pre-K for all children. We should make all remaining non-citizens - citizens sooner than later.

Autonomy of State and Local Government:

If a State or local official is not acting in kind towards the citizens, I believe we would never had integrated schools if it were not for the federal Government forcing Governor Wallace to allow Blacks in all white schools. In Texas we are run by a Republican Party does not recognize all people equal. The federal Government should pass the John Lewis voters act to help.

CampaignWebsite:<https://www.cooper2022.com>



» Joy Diaz (D)

Qualifications: Learned about public service from missionary parents who served people who lived in garbage dumps in MX City Former public school teacher & public radio reporter who learned about the intricacies of TX from the stories of Texans Graduated UT's LBJWCS

Elections: In a Joy Diaz administration, we will ensure that everyone who is entitled to vote, has access to safe and secure elections. Recent restrictions in Texas affect families like mine. My husband is a naturalized US citizen - the perfect target for some of the state's recent voter purges that only serve to intimidate and even suppress the vote. Those laws have to go.

Power Grid: We need to ensure fines to companies that don't winterize are not symbolic — meaning, fines are not cheaper than winterization. At the moment, they're a cheap loop-hole. Texas' focus ought to be - first - to protect the lives of Texans. The interest of for-profit companies should be second. To ensure oversight, the PUC board can't be made up solely of political appointees.

Health Care: As a woman who has gone through

all her reproductive cycles & as the only woman on the Dem ticket running for governor - my goal is for every woman in TX to have access to an array of options - from free and easy access to contraceptions to - if necessary - abortions. She and her doctor are the only ones who can decide over her reproductive life. The disrespect stops now.

Immigration: The Constitution establishes the federal government controls the border - therefore immigration has been and always will be a federal responsibility. But, Texas has a role to play. We need to partner with both the US and MX governments. At the moment, TX has not been a helpful partner. Instead, state policies have contributed to the chaos for political gain.

Autonomy of State and Local Government:

Only extreme circumstances merit the intervention of the federal government in state matters. The same is true for the state overpowering local governments. By "extreme", I mean emergencies such as natural disasters or circumstances in which public health or human rights are threatened. During COVID, TX has overpowagaint the wisdom of health experts.

Campaign Website: <http://texasneedsjoy.com>



» Beto O'Rourke (D)

Qualifications: Beto O'Rourke is a fourth-generation Texan, born and raised in El Paso where he has served as a small business owner, a city council member and a member of Congress. He founded Powered by People, a Texas-based voting rights and service organization.

Elections: We can't have fair, safe, and secure elections if our laws are designed to make it harder for communities of color to vote. We must repeal SB1 and then pass online and same-day voter registration, establish nonpartisan redistricting commissions, require the convenient and fair allocation of voting sites, and expand eligible forms of voter ID.

Power Grid: To ensure power for all Texans we must weatherize all elements of the grid – including gas supply, connect to the national grid, provide backup generation at critical facilities like nursing homes, invest in targeted energy efficiency programs, starting with low-income Texans most in need of ratepayer assistance, and provide immediate relief and protection for ratepayers.

Health Care: We should trust Texas women to make their own reproductive health care decisions. If elected governor, Beto will immediately work to repeal SB8 and the dangerous system that places a bounty on the heads of anyone who supports a woman in deciding her own future.

Immigration: We need predictability, order, and the rule of law at our border. We need a governor willing to collaborate with, not work against, the federal government to enforce our immigration laws and update those laws when they don't meet the challenges of today.

Autonomy of State and Local Government: The divisions of authority between state and federal officials and state and local officials, are described in the federal and Texas constitutions (and subsequent statutes), respectively. An elected official's authority should be limited when the official acts in excess of their constitutional and statutory authority or otherwise violates the constitution or law.

Campaign Website: <http://www.betofortexas.com>



» Rich Wakeland (D)

Qualifications: Licensed Engineer & Attorney & Business Owner; Policy Advisor to Commissioner Anderson, Public Utility Commission of Texas April 2013 - April 2018; Retired nuclear submarine Navy Reserve Captain w/ 4 Commands; Power generation and ERCOT expertise.

Elections: Trust but verify! Make registration simple, secure and verifiable. Increase the time period for early voting. Remove restrictions on Church organized voter turnout efforts and restrictions on Church organized voter transportation.

Enable Church based efforts to register their parishioners and deliver them to the polls.

Power Grid: Reliability can be achieved by a balance of thermal & renewable generation coupled with grid and generation testing. Since 2015 ERCOT has lost 3,000 MW of thermal generation while experiencing growth of over 17,000 MW of wind & solar. An 83%-17% thermal to renewable ratio provides reliability and allows Texas to satisfy the EPA's Clean Power Plan goals. Invest in Texas!

Health Care: U.S. Supreme Court Decisions establish the law of the land, whether or not one agrees with the decisions. Attempts by states to

» Rich Wakeland (D) (continued)

subvert or undermine those decisions are a direct attack on the U.S. Constitution. Women must have the right to control their own bodies. Texas women who seek abortions consistent with Supreme Court law should not be denied access by state laws.

Immigration: None, Both party's administrations have been inept at stopping illegal immigration; therefore do not follow the federal government's approach. Immigration is caused by economics. Texas must build an economic wall, not a physical wall. If we make them pay to be in Texas, we will reduce il-

legal immigration. Don't wait on the Feds, Texas can take its own economic action.

Autonomy of State and Local Government: Federal limiting of State Officials: Only if the health, safety, or welfare of the public is in danger by state official's actions. State limiting of Local Officials: Only if the health, safety, or welfare of the public is in danger by local official's actions. Authority for decisions should be held at the lowest level of government to keep citizens engaged and empowered.

Campaign Website: <http://wakelandfortexas.com>

» Greg Abbott (R)

No Response Received



» Paul Belew (R)

Qualifications: Although possessing no political experience, I am a criminal defense attorney and as such have a very strong personality and strong presence. My ability to navigate through many jury trials have given me the proper tools and education to be elected.

Elections: We should all want secure yet accessible elections. I believe voter id and poll watching are viable non-restrive options. Also I am not opposed to expanding voter locations IF properly secured and against voter fraud. We all should strive to make voting accessible, yet those elections should be valid and elections with integrity. THOSE elections we can trust as valid.

Power Grid: Power grid needs to be managed by Texans. Texans know Texas and as such Texans should govern over the power grid. It is my un-

derstanding that the turbines in certain areas are still not insulated and ready for what happened last year. This is unacceptable. People in charge need to take charge and ensure that protocols are developed and followed; if not consequences result.

Health Care: As a criminal defense attorney, I am bound what is called "The Rule of Law." At this time, Roe v. Wade is the law of the land. Texas has tried indirectly to supplant that decision and it will be interesting to see what the result will be as not everyone agrees with Roe v. Wade. At this time though it is the seminole case on reproductive rights, but that may change soon.

Immigration: State government especially a border state such as Texas should have great authority in enforcing federal immigration laws, however, in reality we as a state do not. The Feds normally prosecute illegal aliens. Our hands are tied somewhat in that if we take a position contra to that of the Feds,

» Paul Belew (R)

the Feds threaten and do at times with hold certain state funding; unacceptable.

Autonomy of State and Local Government:

Federal government should only limit the authority of elected state officials in very limited and special circumstances as any intervention by the Fed-

eral government could lead to an intrusion on the 10th Amendment. As to state government limiting authority, I believe at times it is necessary when the actions and/or policies of local officials adversely affect Texas State.

Campaign Website: <https://www.paulbelewin2022.com>



» Danny Harrison (R)

Qualifications: Current Small Business owner and manager of a \$6 million dollar per year business that

is growing in size every single year. Former: Texas State Historical Commission; Former Luxury hotel manager. Former Rural Development Specialist

Elections: I would propose making our local national guard units conduct fair and secure elections for all counties.

Power Grid: That is a simple question for me. I think we need to improve old electrical grid infrastructure and make it compatible with current usage demands. Simply put, some of our older lines that went down had never been replaced and when we chose energy deregulation to get cheap electric, companies like Oncor and Texas New Mexico and others stopped investing.

Health Care: I strongly support the idea that Roe must be overturned in the courts and the abortion

under any voluntary circumstance should be made illegal. Point blank it saves lives and public money.

Immigration: We need a human shield and our national guard should be used as a wall until we can get one built. Point blank—if the Federal government is not going to protect our border then Texans will and if we need to deputize and train Texans to serve and defend our border then I say that we do it.

Autonomy of State and Local Government: Everything boils down to local support and control. Who knows better than local leaders how to manage their local government? Simply put—nobody. That being said, I do believe that County Judges and Mayors should operate independently, as well. They each have their own jurisdiction and they each should be able to make their own judgement calls for their constituents.

Campaign Website: <http://www.dannyharrisonfortexas.com>



» Kandy Kaye Horn (R)

Qualifications: I am an educated and successful businesswoman, able to make decisions, delegate responsibilities and hold people accountable for their results. I have compassionate and empathetic concern

for post Pandemic Texans experiencing hardship. I bring Hope.

Elections: As Texans are allowed to vote by mail, every vote must be validated as true and correct to ensure accurate results. It should be electronically possible to verify the identity of voters. Election laws cannot be passed that would prevent Texans

» Kandy Kaye Horn (R) (continued)

the right to cast a vote in an election, regardless of mailing in a ballot or voting in person at precinct.

Power Grid: In order to alleviate power surges on the power grid, additional forms of power must be used to assure that the grid can service our growing population, including more wind turbines and Nuclear power plants. Nuclear energy has proved to be safe and efficient in other states. Infrastructure upgrades to the current power grid should be made for power surges due to weather.

Health Care: I believe there are alternatives to abortion, including many organizations that can assist a woman through gestation and delivery of a child. Adoption is an option. Due to personal religious beliefs, I cannot support the act of abortions. I believe life begins at conception.

Immigration: The federal government has neither the manpower or the ability to stop illegal immigrants from crossing our vast border without cooperation of state law enforcement personnel. People who pass through our border without proper documentation are breaking the laws of immigration and shortcutting the path to citizenship. Illegal immigration is an intentional crime.

Autonomy of State and Local Government: When federal laws are broken by states, federal government has a right to intervene and protect citizens.. The same authority is given to state government to protect the citizens of any municipalities. The system of checks and balances is the cornerstone of democracy and prevents individuals from taking the authority of heir office to detrimentally harm Americans.

» Don Huffines (R)

No Response Received



» Rick Perry (R)

Qualifications: Originally the founding fathers set up our form of Government for citizen legislators to serve. We need more citizens to step up and less “experienced” politicians. I am qualified for that reason. I believe in the Constitution and will fight for it.

Elections: It is extremely easy to vote in Texas. Texans need to have confidence their lawful votes will be counted and be assured that people who commit fraud are punished. Many jurisdictions now cannot be audited because there is no paper trail. We need auditable elections and harsher penalties for vote harvesting and voter fraud.

Power Grid: The deregulation scheme we have in Texas did not work last February. Yes deregulation can drive prices down, but as we saw in the power outage last year it also can be exploited by the politically-connected for profit. We need to ensure our grid is independent, secure, and reliable, and that it serves the needs of the people, not the politically-connected.

Health Care: Killing babies in the womb is not healthcare. Dressing it up as women’s healthcare does not change that fact. Abortion clinics don’t provide healthcare — they kill babies. Fifty-nine percent of abortions were people in their twenties. Seventy-four percent are black. Abortion is a genocide of a race of people.

» Rick Perry (R) (continued)

Immigration: The Federal Government was created by the States. Texas is a sovereign State that is being invaded by hoards of immigrants that have no desire to make America any better than where they've come from. Texas has a duty to her citizens to secure the border and resist the Federal officials who are trying to undermine that duty.

Autonomy of State and Local Government:

This issue is also about sovereignty. The Federal Government has no authority to limit anything in our State without our consent. The States created the Federal Government to serve them not the other way around. There is a reason why the Constitution limits what the Federal Government can do. Local officials should be limited when they act against the will of the people.

Campaign Website: <http://PerryForTexas.com>



» Chad Prather (R)

Qualifications: 20 year resident of Texas 49 years old Current: Television host, Blaze TV and Blaze Media

Former: Executive with Granger Industrial (Fortune 300 company) Senior church pastor in Georgia and Alabama

Elections: We must ensure legal, valid voter rolls. Texas must focus on in-person voting with absentee ballots utilized when legally necessary. We must not allow the practice of mail in voting or ballot box drops. Polling places must be easily accessible and a valid ID should be required. Ballots are to be counted manually and forensic audits should be utilized.

Power Grid: Our coal plants need to be turned on and not dormant. In our last weather crisis coal could have been utilized effectively and saved lives. Our grid must be maintained and managed properly by directors within the state of Texas. Green

energy must no longer be subsidized by taxpayer dollars when they fail. More nuclear should be added when it makes sense financially.

Health Care: I believe that life begins at fertilization and is created in the image of God. Abortion should be illegal in Texas. In the case of a mother's health being placed at risk by pregnancy then there must be physician guided assistance. However that is a statistical anomaly that is extremely rare and should be handled on a case by case basis.

Immigration: State government must establish state sovereignty which includes protecting state borders from illegal crossings. Article 4 Section 7 of the Texas Constitution states that the governor is the commander in chief of the state with direct authority to enforce such immigration.

Autonomy of State and Local Government: In the case of constitutional violations or illegal actions or proceedings.

Campaign Website: <http://Prather2022.com>

» Allen B. West (R)

No Response Received

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Four-year term. The lieutenant governor is powerful because of their position as president of the Texas Senate, where they appoint the chairs and vice-chairs of committees; appoint senators to committees; assign bills to committees; and control the Senate's agenda. The lieutenant governor is also a member of several commissions and boards, and serves as governor in the governor's absence. The salary is that of a State Senator when serving as President of the Texas Senate and that of the Governor when serving in that capacity.

» QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Power Grid: What further changes, if any, are needed to ensure that Texas has sufficient power in times of extreme weather conditions?

Autonomy of State and Local Government: Under what circumstances should the federal government limit the authority of elected state officials? Under what circumstances should the state government limit the authority of elected local officials?

Health Care: What is your position on reproductive rights and how would you address the economic and health consequences for those who seek and cannot obtain abortions in Texas?

Public Safety: What are some solutions to enhance public safety in Texas? How do we balance these solutions with protecting civil rights?



» Michelle Beckley (D)

Qualifications: I was elected to the Texas Legislature in 2018 and became the first Democrat to ever represent

District 65 in Denton County. I said I would fight for healthcare, education, & the environment and did. This led to an improved margin win in 2020.

Power Grid: The 87th legislature did not do enough. Texas needs to reverse the course of deregulation and consider the option of connecting back to the national grid. El Paso & Texarkana did not lose power like the rest of the state, both are connected to the national grid.

Autonomy of State and Local Government: Texas has been controlled by the GOP for over 25 years. State officials are running amuck due to checks & balances that no longer exist. The federal government needs to address the Voting Rights

Bills. We saw our freedom to vote diluted as well as extreme gerrymandering in 2021. The state government should not interfere with local health regulations.

Health Care: The attacks on women's healthcare should not continue. I voted against HB8. There should not be \$10,000 bounties on women & health professionals. A woman's choice on abortion is between her and her doctor.

Public Safety: I had a city come to me with the issue of a police officer that had been fired with cause now working at a neighboring city. Municipalities should be able to know this information upon hiring or the problems can't be addressed and will continue. Texas needs to look into solutions to address these issues and solve them.

Campaign Website: <http://www.michellebeckley.com>



» Carla Brailey (D)

Qualifications: I have served Texas as an educator, advocate, and Texas Democratic Party Vice-chair as a champion of people and working families. Equity in education, economics, opportunity, and justice is the best way to move Texas forward for all people.

Power Grid: We must fully weatherize our grid to prepare for extreme weather conditions. We need to fully accept the recommendations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and prepare all of Texas for climate change. We must build better oversight, accountability, and transparency to insure Texans from another failure.

Autonomy of State and Local Government: It is the responsibility of each government entity to work together for the benefit of the people that they serve. We live and serve in a representative democracy and to limit the authority of a government to

do what is best for the people is taking away their representation.

Health Care: I am in full support of a woman's right to make choices for her reproductive health. We must provide education and access to every woman in Texas to make the best choice for her and her family. We also must support women by advocating for safe abortions across this state and making way for that to happen even under this archaic law.

Public Safety: Every community should feel safe in their own home and neighborhood and experience their civil rights and liberties. We must start with continuous training for our officers with emphasis on inclusion and diversity, including (1) recruiting, hiring, and promoting women in leadership and (2) increasing community-centered policing, particularly in communities of color.

Campaign Website: <http://carlafortexas.com>



» Mike Collier (D)

Qualifications: Mike spent his career as a CPA and an auditor at PriceWaterhouseCoopers before becoming a CFO of a Texas energy company, helping create good-paying jobs. His experience as an accountant gives him a deep understanding of how our state's budget works.

Power Grid: For years, our state leaders were warned about the grid's vulnerability and did nothing. As a result, Texans froze, Texans died, and corporations got rich. We must winterize our gas supply, invest in smart grid technology, and increase power storage. We must also ensure that Texas families do not pay more when companies pay less for an unreliable grid.

Autonomy of State and Local Govern-

ment: If the behavior of any official is inconsistent with our constitutional rights, then it is the responsibility of the federal government, particularly the courts, to step in. That said, local control is key to accountability, and it's at the heart of a healthy democracy. So, as Lt. Governor, I will work closely with duly elected local partners—not against them.

Health Care: Mike will defend our constitutional rights so that women will be masters of their own health and their own destinies. The Principles laid down by *Roe v Wade* and have guided us for nearly the last fifty years are reasonable and are supported by the vast majority of Americans.

Public Safety: Mike will work to reverse laws that allow criminals to access firearms and put our

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | *(continued)*

» Mike Collier (D) *(continued)*

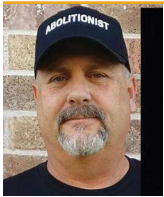
communities and law enforcement officers at risk. Further, we all want law enforcement that we know, trust, and are accountable to our local communi-

ties. We must also invest more in mental health training and restorative justice to create safer, more prosperous communities across Texas.

Campaign Website: <http://CollierforTexas.com>

» Trayce Bradford (R)

No Response Received



» Todd M. Bullis (R)

Qualifications: I am and have been a Local Precinct Chair in Denton Texas for the last two sessions and have been a delegate during that time as well. I have worked and supported abolition across this nation.

Power Grid: We need to oppose the federal Gov, rules and regulations. Nullification would work just fine.

Autonomy of State and Local Government: I believe Texas needs to oppose the federal Gov and leave the USA. It is time for Nullification to start with while we work on Secession.

Health Care: I am an Abolitionist, Abortion must become a crime. If Abortion becomes a crime 99% of it will go away. The Government is not the parent and people need to be responsible for themselves. Family and churches should step up and help. I believe in equal protection under the law and abortion is murder.

Public Safety: I believe we harshen many of the criminal penalties. Abortion, rape, murder, molesting, and attempted murder should be death penalty crimes. No more housing and parole for death penalty crimes. We need to allow everyone that is not in jail to carry a gun.

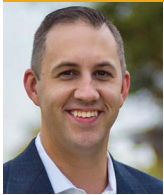
Campaign Website: <http://electtoddbullis.com>

» Daniel Miller (R)

No Response Received

» Dan Patrick (R)

No Response Received



» Aaron Sorrells (R)

Qualifications: Successful small business owner with 26 employees and growing. Managed people most my life with corporations and now

as an owner. I understand how to manage people, money, and budgets.

Power Grid: Winterizing the grid is borderline impossible and ultimately won't work because when the roads are frozen, nothing can move on the road. We need to move away from green energy and start utilizing the resources of Texas like Natural gas plants, Clean Nuclear, and coal. No one is going to make those plants though when they are only utilized in an emergency. Too expensive.

Autonomy of State and Local Government: The federal government only has authority delegated to them by the Constitution. Anything out-

side of that belongs to the State. It's that simple. We no longer follow those rules and that's why we are in this position today.

Health Care: There is no such thing as a reproductive rights. I don't care how the left wants to word it. This is another way to get around the concept of Abortion. Abortion should be abolished. I do not believe we should criminalize the women who still manage to get abortions illegally and instead prosecute the doctors that disobey the law.

Public Safety: There are no solutions to enhance public safety. Safety is an illusion. Our government was not meant to keep us safe and protected. It was meant to keep us free. The government needs to stop interfering in our lives and we will have less civil rights problems because most people just want to go to work, live their lives, and be left alone.

Campaign Website: <http://s4tx.com>



» Zach Vance (R)

Qualifications: I am truly a good person who loves Texans and wants to make their lives better and easier.

I'm a Marine who will always do the right thing, especially when no one else is looking! And most importantly I believe in bipartisanship and working together.

Power Grid: I believe we can have both affordability AND reliability. Energy companies and gas providers make enough money to ensure that they are prepared and protected from extreme weather WITHOUT additional costs to the consumer.

If elected I will charge the "Temporarily Winter Storm Surcharge" on your utility bill to gas providers that posted profits of 20 percent or higher.

Autonomy of State and Local Government: The balance between Federal, State, and Local control is a tight line to walk. The line breaks though when ANY of the elected officials stop doing what is in the best interest of the whole and only do things to appease their base. I believe most author-

ity should remain under local control, but it depends on the issue. I believe city and county leaders know what is best.

Health Care: I believe in freedom and limited government and that means that lawmakers don't have the right to tell a woman she cannot choose when to become a mother. Instead of focusing on ending abortion, the state needs to focus on giving foster children better lives and make it easier for loving families to adopt a child. Abortions should be easily accessible and affordable.

Public Safety: We need to severely punish violent criminals, thieves, sex criminals, and people who use a firearm to commit offenses. Helping women get out, and stay out, of abusive relationships will be a top priority of mine. As well as severely punishing the offender/abuser while doing a better job of protecting the victims. Texans safety is of the utmost importance to me!

Campaign Website: <http://www.4abettertexas.com>

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Four-year term. The attorney general is the chief law enforcement officer of the state; represents the state and state officials in legal matters; issues opinions; oversees collection of child support; administers the crime victims compensation fund; enforces the open records/open meetings acts; approves public bond issues; and enforces consumer regulations. Current salary: \$153,750

» QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Elections: What is the Attorney General's role in protecting Texans' freedom to vote while maintaining safe and secure elections?

Health Care: What is your position on reproductive rights and how would you address the economic and health consequences for those who seek and cannot obtain abortions in Texas?

Immigration: What is the role of the state government in enforcing federal immigration laws?

Priorities: As Attorney General, what would be your highest priorities for the next four years, and how do you intend to accomplish them?



» Mike Fields (D)

Qualifications: I am a former Harris County Assistant District Attorney, former Assistant Texas Attorney General and Retired Judge of twenty years. I have a Criminal Justice degree from Texas State University and a Law Degree from St. Mary's Law School.

Elections: The Attorney General should ensure that all laws passed concerning voting rights and redistricting pass Constitutional muster. If they don't, the AG should work to see that they do.

Health Care: I firmly believe all persons, even those who choose to make the difficult decision of terminating a pregnancy, are "pro-life." Suggesting otherwise is unfair and offensive. Women should have free access to reproductive care and a Constitutionally protected right to make their own repro-

ductive decisions. The AG should fight to make that right a reality.

Immigration: Federal laws should be left to the federal government. The full faith and credit of the United States depends heavily on the consistent application of our federal laws. When individual States interfere in the consistent application of our laws, the entire Nation suffers.

Priorities: Texas is seeing unprecedented population and economic growth due, in large part, to our business friendly laws. My highest priority would be to ensure that laws regarding voting, equal rights, reproductive rights and civil rights for all, including the LGBT community, continue to encourage that growth.

Campaign Website: <http://www.mikefieldsforag.com>



» Rochelle Mercedes Garza (D)

Qualifications: I have experience in immigration, family, criminal, and constitutional law. My work

has resulted in the "Garza Notice," a requirement that teens in immigration detention have a right to access abortion, reinforcing a constitutional right nationwide.

Elections: As AG, I will dismantle the wasteful

» Rochelle Mercedes Garza (D) *(continued)*

“election integrity unit” — which is really about enforcing the GOP’s voter suppression measures, instead of protecting voting rights — and replace it with a voter protection unit under a fully funded civil rights department. I will ensure voting rights are protected, not undermined, especially for voters of color.

Health Care: Abortion care is health care, and health care is a human right. Reproductive choice is a moral imperative and an issue of racial, economic, and gender justice. I’m committed to restoring abortion access in TX and defending the rights of women and pregnant people anywhere they’re threatened. I’ve defended reproductive rights before and will do so as TX AG.

Immigration: Immigration enforcement falls un-

der federal jurisdiction. As an immigration attorney & border native, I understand the complexities of our immigration system. I have litigated against bad policies, like Remain in Mexico, that have created a humanitarian crisis at the border. Texas’ enforcement efforts at the border are unconstitutional, wasteful and only worsen the issue.

Priorities: As AG, I will fight for our Texas families. This means protecting constitutional rights, including voting & abortion rights; consumer protection, so our energy grid doesn’t fail; and prioritizing public health, so municipalities & schools can protect people in the middle of a pandemic and our rural communities have the infrastructure they need, like clean drinking water.

Campaign Website: <http://RochelleGarzaforTexas.com>



» Joe Jaworski (D)

Qualifications: Licensed TX attorney; 30 years’ experience in trial/appellate litigation in TX state and federal courts. TX mediator; 8 years local govt. experience: councilmember, mayor pro tem and mayor of Galveston, TX. Mentored by my grandfather Leon Jaworski.

Elections: I will form a voter access unit from the ashes of the AG’s fake voter fraud division because TX voters should turn to the AG’s office when their voting rights are suppressed. District and County attorneys may initiate fraud prosecution to keep our elections safe, but access is the key. I will ensure principals are registering high school seniors. Elec. Code 13.046(d)

Health Care: I support the Rule of Law set forth in Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood vs. Casey. Abortion should remain legal and available before fetal viability outside the mother’s womb. Government should get out of the way of family planning

education and broad reproductive healthcare access. As Texas AG, I would advocate for these positions in court.

Immigration: State government should partner with the federal government to enforce federal immigration laws. For example, as Texas AG I would dedicate part of my \$1.1 Billion budget to hire eight SAUSAs (Special Asst. U.S. Attorneys) to work under the direction of the United States Attorneys for the Southern and Western Districts of Texas to prosecute cartel immigration crimes.

Priorities: On day one of my administration, I will dismiss any lingering lawsuits brought by the Texas AG against the ACA before lunch. I will testify in the 2023 Legislature for cannabis legalization (for jobs, to help our veterans, and to give our police a break so they can fight real crime). I will ensure principals register every 18 year old pursuant to Tex. Elec. Code 13.046(d).

Campaign Website: <http://www.JaworskiForTexas.com>



» Lee Merritt (D)

Qualifications: I have spent my legal career doing the work of the “people’s lawyer” and running one of the leading constitutional firms in the country. My work has been recognized by Our Revolution, NAACP, ACLU, Innocence Project, National Bar Association, and SPLC

Elections: I am committed to engaging more voters, fighting gerrymandering, providing felons with the right to vote, making election day a federal holiday, providing drive through voting, and opposing voter ID legislation. I would also challenge voter suppression laws using, inter alia, the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Health Care: I will litigate on behalf of organizations that provide safe abortions, end over-policing of women who choose to have abortions, and work to expand accessible healthcare. I will work with law makers to codify the protections offered in

Roe v. Wade and side with Texas women against extremist conservative legislation.

Immigration: It is a responsibility of the state government to take actions such as conducting immediate investigations on unfair conditions in detention facilities, fighting against private immigration centers, allowing access of overseers in immigration facilities, and providing more resources such as additional judges, attorneys, translators, and social workers at our borders.

Priorities: My highest priorities are to improve voter protection, ensure women’s reproductive rights, and to protect our public schools. I will focus on engaging new voters through community outreach and work towards public financing of elections. I will cooperate with state and federal legislators to codify Roe vs. Wade. I plan to fight for policies like the College Act.

Campaign Website: <http://www.leemerritt4texas.com/>



» S. “TBone” Raynor (D)

Qualifications: Fresh out of SMU Law School, I became General Counsel at a nationwide financial group involved in hundreds of lawsuits. I jawboned many Sec. of State. Managed two Pro Bono Legal Clinics. General Practice. I believe in balancing Science and Economics.

Elections: The A.G. needs to promote access and justice allowing each citizen to vote and for each vote to count equally. Five years ago, I donated \$10,000 to The Carter Center for election monitoring. A.G.’s role is not to subvert democracy wasting millions. A role of the A.G. should be to help unvaccinated disabled citizens get current ID’s through home visits so they can vote.

Health Care: U.S. Judge Jack scolds Texas for abandoning abused foster children-all 250 Texas facilities failed; Texas declined billions in Federal tax dollars for basic health care for millions of Texans who then clog our ER’s when worried parents could have taken their kids to an Internist. I have protected children in CPS, assisted adopting parents. I support Planned Parenthood.

Immigration: United Methodist ministers got me to start a pro bono immigration clinic, Justice For Our Neighbors, staffed with SMU law students from all over the world. We ethically helped some folks but turned away others. My firm has assisted school Superintendents for years. The immigration system is broken and the border a mess. I would follow Federal laws tempered with mercy.

Priorities: Choosing what laws to enforce using

ATTORNEY GENERAL | *(continued)*

» S. “TBone” Raynor (D) *(continued)*

Micah 6:8, not through political corruption requiring loyalty oaths of Collin County Judges. Using the Courts/media to fairly reduce: jail populations

by mental health treatment; foster care sanctions using churches who have successful people who know how to help; our property taxes. Jail people committing fraud; collect child support.



» George P. Bush (R)

Qualifications: *Candidate’s response did not meet the criteria as listed in this Voters Guide.*

Elections: The AG must ensure that our elections system is fair, just, and secure. As Attorney General, I will rebuild trust with our District Attorneys, lead the charge in prosecuting cases on election fraud and expand our state’s election integrity unit.

Health Care: To me, nothing is more important than protecting life in Texas. As a lifelong catholic, where I stand on the issue is very clear. Life is not negotiable. Our children deserve an Attorney General who isn’t going to just file lawsuits in the name of life, but one who can file suits and find innovative ways to win on behalf of the right to life.

Immigration: Our Attorney General is the first line of defense against the federal government. As Attorney General, I will: 1) Work with the Governor to deploy more National Guard troops to the Texas/Mexico border; 2) Toughen criminal penalties on drug smugglers and human traffickers; 3) Finish President Trump’s wall and continue building the Texas wall.

Priorities: My top priorities will be restoring integrity back to the Office of Attorney General, protecting our borders and elections, standing up to the federal government to protect Texans’ constitutional liberties, and defending and standing with law enforcement. Texans can rest assured that I won’t just file suit against the Federal Government, but I’ll also win the cases filed.

Campaign Website: <http://georgepbush.com>

» Louie Gohmert (R)

No Response Received

» Eva Guzman (R)

No Response Received

» Ken Paxton (R)

No Response Received

COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Four-year term. The comptroller is the chief financial officer of the state; collects state taxes and fees; pays the state's bills; provides revenue estimates to the legislature; certifies the budget; reports the condition of the state's finances; and provides economic development assistance to local governments and private businesses. Current salary: \$153,750

» QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Rainy Day Fund: What is the optimal amount to be held in the Rainy Day Fund and what is the criteria for usage? What is your opinion on using the fund to pay down the state's debt vs. using it to help citizens that have been harmed by catastrophes?

Taxes: In your opinion, what is the proper balance of tax revenues sources to fairly fund state government, including public schools?

Financial Obligations: What needs to be done, if anything, to ensure that Texas can meet its long-term financial obligations such as infrastructure maintenance, state employee pensions and health care coverage for public school teachers and employees?

Priorities: As Comptroller, what would be your highest priorities for the next four years, and how do you intend to accomplish them?



» Janet T. Dudding (D)

Qualifications: I'm a certified public accountant (CPA) who's spent my adult life in governmental accounting, auditing, administration and even investigations.

Rainy Day Fund: Government Finance Officers Association recommends a minimum of 2 months of regular revenue or regular expenditures be maintained in a rainy day fund. Typically, rainy day monies mitigate the risk of unstable revenues or unexpected expenditures. Natural disasters fall into the second category. The state of Texas' general obligation debt currently is rated Aaa/AAA/AAA/AAA.

Taxes: The Texas Legislature added \$6.5 billion dollars in funding to public schools in 2019. Yet per a 2021 SPLC report, Texas currently ranks 40th in the nation. New revenue streams are needed. Legalizing adult-use cannabis could bring \$1 billion in tax revenue (and decriminalization could save \$300

million). Look at "green" taxes to build revenue streams from green energy.

Financial Obligations: Regarding infrastructure, Texas should accept the \$35 billion of federal Infrastructure and Jobs Act dollars. With fuel efficient vehicles, it would be interested to look at creating a revenue stream from alternative fuels to maintain roads. Public school employees in all but ~12 school districts do not participate in social security and they should. Find the money.

Priorities: Comptroller has the bully pulpit on how our money is spent. Expanding comp mental health & healthcare to 1.4 million adult Texans saves \$100 million in state tax and our property taxes. Work with local governments re broadband as a local utility, keeping the costs down and creating an income stream. Work with state agencies, reduce methane emissions on state property.

Campaign Website: <http://janetdudding4texas.com>

COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

(continued)



» Tim Mahoney (D)

Qualifications: Trained as a journalist in the 1970's (Texas Observer and DMN), went to the LBJ School of

Public Affairs (UT-Austin) in the 1980's, then to Law School. I have been a practicing attorney since 1992.

Rainy Day Fund: The Rainy Day fund was set up as a tool to smooth out a revenue source: oil and gas related tax collections. The Fund is not designed to correct chronic underfunding of state services. If there is a need for funding then the Legislature should find a way to provide additional funding. As Texas Comptroller, I will not play games with the important duty the position requires

Taxes: The proper balance between tax revenues and the proper funding of state government has been a wrecking ball. Texas officials have played a game of hide and seek regarding tax revenues and the adequate funding of state government for decades, especially including public schools. We need

to break out of the secret codes and share information with our fellow Texans.

Financial Obligations: Long-term financial obligations are not filtered through the legislative process, partly because the Legislature does not care, and the Comptroller has been complicit with that intentionality. Building more powerful regional information structures can thwart the inaction of the Legislature. Building long term policy changes requires a sustained regional interest.

Priorities: The Texas Comptroller is the largest public data center in Texas, and we should begin to produce information in a transparent form that enhances every region in Texas. If we understand that there is more power in collaboration than in division, we can begin to build a Texas government that belongs to all Texans. Our Redistricting process should result in compact districts.

Campaign Website: <http://www.TimMahoneyCampaign.org>



» Angel Luis Vega (D)

Qualifications: I am a purpose-driven professional offering over 20 years in business strategy, fi-

nance, operations, managing multimillion-dollar budgets, and large groups of people. Bachelor of Business Administration & Master in Management & Leadership.

Rainy Day Fund: We should increase the fund to 25 billion & allocate 1.75 to 2 billion annually. The primary purpose of these funds should be for natural disasters and recession to support our communities, support people keeping their homes, adequately fund our schools, support any healthcare

crisis, provide food assistance and guarantee public safety.

Taxes: Suppose we focus on boosting Texans entrepreneurship, attracting new business opportunities, eliminating the corporate tax loopholes, and reducing the unemployment rate to under 3%. In that case, the proper balance of tax revenue could be at 145 billion. For the spending budget, 140 billion annually, including public school funding and health care.

Financial Obligations: We need to have a transparent tax administration. Be effective in forecasting, identifying the fundamental long-term obligations, putting our community first without eliminating essential funds for our public school

COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

(continued)

» Angel Luis Vega (D) (continued)

teachers, employees, retirees, and community programs. Invest strategically, attract more business ventures to the state and legalize recreational marijuana.

Priorities: I would focus on transparency, accountability, efficiency, optimizing the office's capa-

bilities, boosting entrepreneurship, attracting new business opportunities, thriving jobs, and reducing unemployment under 3%. Guarantee retirement security & protect pensions. I will make decisions in the interest of all the people of Texas, not the special interest groups.

Campaign Website: <http://www.angelvega.com>



» Mark V. Goloby (R)

Qualifications: I have a BBA in Accounting from Texas A&M and began my career with Dresser Industries in Internal Audit and then worked as Texas

Region Controller for GTE Mobilnet. Before starting Total Cellular Technologies later shortened to TC Technologies.

Rainy Day Fund: The Comptroller should seriously investigate a reduction in the state sales tax rate. Texas is blessed with a significant surplus. That equates to taxpayers of Texas paying too much in taxes. A sales tax is the most regressive tax there is and a 1/2% reduction would be a relief across all socioeconomic levels. A healthy reserve for Texas is good, an exorbitant one is not.

Taxes: Current property taxes are out of control. But that is the fault of a fundamentally flawed appraisal district process and local taxing authorities that refuse to lower tax rates to at least offset some of the increase in the tax base. It is unconscionable that Texans are getting taxed out of their homes

while Chapter 313 is giving 37.5% discounts in ISD taxes.

Financial Obligations: These are critical obligations Texas has entered into and must be adhered. Even the completely egregious Chapter 313 agreements must be honored even though they will continue to cost Texas Taxpayers a \$1billion+ per year until 2037. The Comptroller is derelict in his fiduciary responsibility by not reviewing whether the companies getting these subsidies are honoring their

Priorities: The comptroller should be a watch dog on how the financial resources entrusted by the taxpayers to Texas as spent judicially. The legislature sets the spending plans, the Comptroller is in oversight to let the legislature know if the state is getting the best utilization of the taxpayer's dollars. Taxpayers know government needs funding, but not corporate bottom lines.

Campaign Website: <http://www.goodgovernance.today>

COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

(continued)



» Glenn Hegar (R)

Qualifications: I have served as Texas Comptroller since January 2015. I began as a member of the

Texas House in 2003 and continued my service as a member of the Texas Senate until my election as Comptroller. Working our family farm taught me hard work and integrity

Rainy Day Fund: Texas is blessed to have a strong Rainy Day Fund, which is designed and should be used to smooth out the state's revenues during an economic downturn, to assist in a disaster, and for one-time expenses that are strategic for Texas' economic health and well-being. I fought to manage these dollars more effectively to guard against inflation and protect them for generations.

Taxes: Funding public schools in Texas has been a shared burden split between state funds and local property taxes. Until recently the local share was allowed to grow unchecked creating increased pressure on local property taxes. I helped compress lo-

cal property tax rates and rebalance the burden between state funds and local taxpayers. But now more must be done to lower taxes.

Financial Obligations: Since practically my first day in office I have sought to shine a light on the state's balance sheet and the need to address our long-term obligations. I fought to address threats to our state's fiscal health and ensure Texas teachers can access quality healthcare. I helped lawmakers pass historic pension reform to put our state on firm footing and avoid credit downgrades.

Priorities: I will continue to focus on the core constitutional duties of my office and that means maintaining my attention on the Texas economy. Navigating the last 2 years has been incredibly challenging, but I have always remained focused on the trends, challenges and opportunities in our state economy. We must fight to keep Texas a place where freedom creates new opportunities.

Campaign Website: <http://glennhegar.com>

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Four-year term. As head of the General Land Office, the commissioner manages state lands, including oil and gas properties (which supply funds to the Permanent School Fund) and the Alamo. The commissioner chairs the Veterans Land Board, which administers programs for Texas veterans, and is responsible for environmental protection of Texas' coast. Other state boards chaired include the School Land Board and the Coastal Coordination Advisory Committee. Current salary \$140,938

» QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Allocation of Federal Funds: When federal funds for natural disaster relief and mitigation are allocated, how would you ensure that communities with the highest needs are prioritized?

The Alamo: As the head of the agency that manages the Alamo, what story do you believe it should tell?

Coastal Planning: What measures would you implement to restore and protect the coast, wetlands, and the built environment to minimize damage from major storms?

Priorities: As Land Commissioner, what would be your highest priorities for the next four years, and how do you intend to accomplish them?



» Jay Kleberg (D)

Qualifications: I grew up working on the King Ranch and have spent my whole career in conservation. I served as the Associate Director of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation, and now I own a land-based conservation business and work in environmental education.

Allocation of Federal Funds: I would use the GLO's discretion to administer federal funds to ensure that dense, urban areas are not penalized and that damage claims for lower income homeowners and renters are not ignored. I would also send teams into damaged communities to ensure the timely disbursement of FEMA funds and application for longer-term allocation of funds.

The Alamo: The Alamo is a symbol of Texan and Tejano pride and we should honor their contributions to the state. We should also consider the role of early Black Texans and slavery in Texas' history, as well as indigenous groups who inhabited the

site for centuries. As for the battle, the GLO should tell the comprehensive story and honor the facts of those historic events.

Coastal Planning: The GLO will incorporate climate change modeling into the Coastal Management Plan, which will increase the standard for all federal and state investment on the coast. These higher standards would be applied to the Coastal Resiliency Master Plan and the \$30 billion Coastal Spine. These standards would also maximize investments with GOMESA, NRDA, CEPRA and HUD-CDBG funds.

Priorities: My top priorities for the next four years are to adequately fund our Texas schools through the General Land Office's contribution to the Permanent School Fund, address the effects of climate change and diversify our state's energy portfolio to strengthen our grid, and to prepare for future natural disasters by fortifying our coast and other vulnerable areas of our state.

Campaign Website: <http://jay4tx.com>

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

(continued)



» Michael Lange (D)

Qualifications: See website. 40 years of small and large business, senior experience. GLO Budget is \$3.4 Billion. 800 Staff. Managed large, diversified groups with intensive risk, investment and leadership skills. City Knowledge/Rural Wisdom. Skillset to serve.

Allocation of Federal Funds: Federal Funds Allocation should be prioritized by where people are suffering the most from the disaster. It is never a political decision. It is a human needs decision. Disaster Priorities are based on human needs. When people get hurt by disasters, they need immediate help to rebuild and more. The people who need it the most get it first. Prioritize according to need

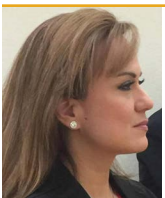
The Alamo: The Alamo is the Shrine of Texas Liberty and an essential part of the Spirit of Texas. The Alamo Defenders gave up their tomorrows so we could have Better Lives today. Most of the Alamo Defenders were Immigrants, like my fam-

ily. People forget that. The Alamo is the symbol of Texas, the world knows. To be preserved for future generations.

Coastal Planning: Our Coast is at constant risk. Each disaster can alter the shape of the land, sometimes dramatically. We need to reinforce/enhance the natural barriers that balance nature and the environment. The eco-system is critical and must be maintained. We need to prevent construction that reduces the effectiveness of these natural barriers and erodes the coast. Be prepared always!

Priorities: 1. The Safety of the People of Texas. 2. All People Treated with Equal Respect 3. Be a Man for Others. 4. Work constantly to Better the Lives of All Texans. Ensure Texas Veterans and Gold Star Families have the best state benefits in the nation, my plan TEXAS HAS YOUR SIX. Improve Reading levels in K-12. Currently 45th in the Nation. Unacceptable. Small Business Champion.

Campaign Website: <http://LANGEFORLAND.com>



» Sandragrace Martinez (D)

Qualifications: My expertise in trauma informed care, crisis management, my in-depth understanding of the legislative process, and the desire for educating my community, is a passion that has equipped me with the necessary skills to perform these duties.

Allocation of Federal Funds: Establish meaningful partnerships with all local governments and develop comprehensive insights on potential strains in our communities, is how we can pro-actively begin to manage and prioritize effectively. Mitigating and allocating relief from a natural disaster will de-

pend on the areas hit, the socioeconomics in that region, and their resources.

The Alamo: When I visit other cities or a different country, and I tour their historical structures and monuments, my initial questions are always, 'how did it get here, who built it, and why?' In essence, the story of the Alamo can only begin at that point due to chronological logic, so by default the story will have to involve explanations on how that evolved.

Coastal Planning: Our Texas Ports alone, have an impact of nearly 1.8 million jobs and generate somewhere around \$102 billion in personal income, so the protection of our coastline is imperative for supporting the financial well-being of citizens, and

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

(continued)

» Sandragrace Martinez (D) (continued)

projects along the Coastline must provide the required maintenance, development, and improvements to sustain those areas.

Priorities: Disaster readiness and prevention with fine tuning the logistics involved are paramount. Honoring our Veterans with the same level of de-

votion and allegiance that they made to this country, and applying that same devotion to their benefits and healthcare. I want to create more programs and initiatives to help provide funding for public education.

Campaign Website: <http://www.sandragrace4texans.com/>



» Jinny Suh (D)

Qualifications: Strong science background (B.S., M.S. biology), former teacher, licensed attorney, small

business owner, years as community organizer and advocate at Texas legislature, working mom of 2 young children, proven record of fighting for what's right.

Allocation of Federal Funds: State agencies should not play politics with the lives and livelihoods of Texans. Distribution of disaster relief funds should be managed with everyday Texans who need it the most treated as the priority. No Texan should be waiting for years with a tarp roof due to unfair biases, mismanagement, and inefficiency.

The Alamo: History should not be politicized or used by state leaders to score political points. The story the Alamo tells must be a full and honest history based on facts, evidence, and the standard academic understanding. That story includes

the perspectives, contributions, and experiences of all individuals involved—Anglo, Tejano, Mexican, Black, and indigenous peoples.

Coastal Planning: There is a lot to be done with our infrastructure in the coastal areas, including better construction to protect and restore our coastline and wetlands in combination with a robust scientific program. I also want to work with other organizations, NGOs, and government agencies that specialize in coastal wetland management, such as NOAA and Project Drawdown.

Priorities: I aim to bring all stakeholders to the table to craft proactive solutions including incentivizing development of renewables, preparing our state for weather disasters, and increasing funding for public schools by maximizing revenue generated by state contracts and advocating for an increase in the amount directed to the Permanent School Fund.

Campaign Website: <http://www.jinnysuhfortexas.com>

» Benjamin Armenta (R)

No Response Received

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

(continued)



» Victor Avila (R)

Qualifications: As a retired Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Homeland Security Investigations (ICE-HSI) Special Agent, I have the firsthand experience necessary to provide the battle-tested leadership Texas needs to secure the border.

Allocation of Federal Funds: Flood mitigation must be our first priority. For every dollar we spend mitigating flooding or other factors, we save several times that amount in relief, as well as avert the human costs of natural disasters. Furthermore, by lowering the risks associated with natural disasters, we can drive down outrageously high flood insurance in coastal Texas.

The Alamo: I am proud of my Mexican-American heritage. No matter what others may say, the Alamo is a symbol of Texan courage and fortitude. It reminds us there are causes greater than ourselves for which we should be willing to lay down our

lives. Recognition of the values that bind our nation together should be used to heal and unify, not to divide.

Coastal Planning: One of the most effective means to mitigate the damage caused by flooding is preserving coastal wetlands. Coastal wetlands also prevent coastal erosion and serve as a habitat to a variety of species. To that end, I plan to prioritize funding provided to the General Land Office through the Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act (CEPRA) to preserve coastal wetlands.

Priorities: We must secure the border by constructing the Texas wall. Construction of this wall is already underway, and the General Land Office is playing a key role as much of the wall is being built on public lands. After years of supervisory experience in the Department of Homeland Security, I have the knowledge and experience necessary to ensure Texas gets this project right.

Campaign Website: <http://victoravilatx.com>

» Dawn Buckingham (R)

Qualifications: Landowner experienced in land management & physician used to making major decisions. Senator & Sunset Commission member where I reviewed state agencies, fixed inefficiencies, cut waste, & improved outcomes for taxpayers. Ready to lead the GLO on day 1

Allocation of Federal Funds: I would immediately identify what communities were hit the hardest by a storm and also identify which communities have the most daunting path to recovery. We must ensure that these federal funds are going to communities that are directly impacted or are prone to be affected by the next storm on the horizon. Us-

ing the benefit of hindsight, we can plan before it's too late.

The Alamo: There will be no reimagining the Alamo under my watch. As a State Senator, I initiated the legal challenge that kept the Alamo Cenotaph in its rightful place, out in front, and passed the only piece of legislation protecting our historical monuments. The GLO is the tip of the spear in defending our rich Texas history we know and love, and I will always fight to protect it.

Coastal Planning: By protecting our wetlands and coast with land management practices such as proper sand dune rebuilding, we will be able to naturally minimize damage in our coastal communities. We must also work with the Federal Gov-

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

(continued)

» Dawn Buckingham (R) (continued)

ernment to ensure we build the Coastal Spine Barrier Project, known as the Ike Dike, to protect our Texans along the coast, oil & gas industry, and refineries.

Priorities: I'll secure our border by identifying available state lands on the border and begin building a border wall as soon as possible. I'll also con-

tinue to fight to preserve the Alamo as we know it for generations to come and keep our commitment to our Veterans and children by providing them with quality care and education through the Veterans Land Board & Permanent School Fund.

Campaign Website: <http://www.dawnbuckingham.com>



» Rufus Lopez (R)

Qualifications: I have been an attorney for 57 years, practicing in real estate, oil & gas, right of ways, surveys, and land development. I became Board Certified in both Residential Real Estate, and Farm & Ranch Real Estate, in addition to being a litigator.

Allocation of Federal Funds: As Land Commissioner receipt and allocation of funds for natural disasters is very important, since they effect our tidelands, gulf coast, oil & gas industry. Where our state lands and resources are involved, the funds would be prioritized to the areas most affected, such as the gulf coast and wind damage industry and development off shore.

The Alamo: The Alamo is our single most treasure of Texas Independence and the story should continue to be told of the defense needed to allow

Sam Houston the time needed to fight the ultimate battle. The story is one of bravery by all the defenders to stall the army of Santa Ana in the fight for Texas independence.

Coastal Planning: Build sea walls where needed; continuously maintain the coastline and help repair and restore the infrastructure of the communities. Increasing the energy development utilizing the new science and environmental safety mechanisms is the wave of the future, including the wind turbines.

Priorities: Promote and Protect the investments of the Permanent School Fund, through careful investments to increase the maximum returns. Promote the Oil & Gas drilling in the Texas owned lands by encouraging this development Promote greater benefits to the Texas Veterans by encouraging housing and land purchases Encourage the sale and development of state-owned lands. Promote Parks



» Weston Martinez (R)

Qualifications: visit www.westonfortexas.com for full details: Only person running who has served as a Texas Statewide Commissioner for almost 7 years, Oil and Gas ; Real Estate, Telecom

background that includes corporate infrastructure engineering-planning.

Allocation of Federal Funds: I have a plan for a new process in to deploy where we put Texans 1st. 2. The process is broken, FEMA reports that 30-70 % of flooding zones are under or unreported...so you have no way to provide real relief, because

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

(continued)

» **Weston Martinez (R) (continued)**

you're not using real data to solve problems. This is why, using my engineering, water development, infrastructure, disaster recovery background is vital

The Alamo: I am the only native of the Alamo city (San Antonio) running to serve & I know we should tell the heroic story of the 13 day battle of the Alamo at the Alamo. Day 1 *I will return the annual prayer service to the Alamo. *I will advise the united nations they are no longer welcome. *I will end burials taking place in the alamo grounds allowing remains to be comingled

Coastal Planning: This is another key area where my expertise professionally will allow me to serve and protect the people of Texas. I: inventory current

civic and stormwater drainage/mitigation plans, determine which flooded areas have been missed by .FEMA's own omission, overlay that with current development plans to create a updated model 4 storm water run off and watersheds impact

Priorities: We have an Alamo that is under siege, we have veterans nursing homes in Texas that suffered twice the death rate of the national average, we have a border that is unsecured, and we have school financing For both grade school and public universities that must be maintained but reigned in. We have veteran cemeteries that must be honored. visit www.westonfortexas.com

Campaign Website: <http://www.westonfortexas.com>



» **Don W. Minton (R)**

Qualifications: Don W. Minton, West Point graduate & former Texas Dist. Ct Judge is an investor/CLO of a mineral extraction company. Minton was also a FINRA licensed Financial Principal. He is ready to steward on Day 1 all Texas Public Lands, including the Alamo.

Allocation of Federal Funds: The highest need communities are best prioritized when communications with federal, state, and local officials are clear, candid, and concise. Having worked in the executive branch of both federal and local governments, I have the expertise and motivation to remove barriers and cut red tape to ensure that those communities in the greatest need receive the highest priority

The Alamo: The story of the Alamo is critical to our identity as Texans, and indeed what makes the Lone Star State unique. That story includes the story of the 200 souls who made the ultimate sacrifice in March

1836 on behalf of our new Republic, along with the countless other souls who walked those hallowed grounds in the years prior (and indeed after).

Coastal Planning: The GLO has slated 123 individual projects to make the Texas Coast more resilient. With a \$4.3 billion pricetag, the GLO needs a good steward over these projects to provide taxpayers with a positive return on investment. The Commissioner must balance the competing needs of waterborne commerce; energy & chemical industries; commercial & recreational fishing; and tourism.

Priorities: 1. Revamp the VLB to provide a mortgage route for Texas Veterans which is superior to a VA Loan. 2. Leverage critical minerals from Texas Public Lands, simultaneously increasing the Permanent School Fund while reducing our nation's vulnerability to its enemies. 3. Ensuring that every soul which has graced the grounds of the Alamo has his or her story told.

Campaign Website: <http://www.minton4glo.com>

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

(continued)



» Jon Spiers (R)

Qualifications: I am a heart surgeon, a former member of the US Army Reserve, and, after a hand injury, retrained as an attorney. Each experience has enhanced my ability to lead and relate to the needs of Texans. Texas needs a leader with guts. I am that leader.

Allocation of Federal Funds: There are many metrics utilized to determine where best to allocate funds; each community and group will have their favorite. To best address specific needs, impacted regions will be subdivided into small areas of action and administration. To avoid the temptation to divert funds to other projects, performance markers will be tied to fund release and waste recouped.

The Alamo: The Alamo is famous for the 13 day Battle of the Alamo. It is an enduring symbol of Texas grit and willingness to stand fast in the face of oppression. This is the story known around the

world, inspiring Liberty-loving people everywhere. This is the story that must always be central to the Alamo narrative.

Coastal Planning: We must recognize there is no perfect solution to the dangers posed by major storms. We must be decisive and proactive. Barrier projects, hardening of coastal industry, and coordinated drainage and flood control measures are all part of a comprehensive plan. A coordinated response will minimize damage and enhance recovery.

Priorities: We must restore the GLO's reputation with citizens and other state agencies. The GLO should adopt the role of a collaborative ally instead of a competitor. This would boost relations between the GLO and the public, restore faith and transparency in the operation of the Alamo, improve tarnished relations with Texas Veterans, and enhance Permanent School Fund performance.

Campaign Website: <http://DrJonSpiers.com>



» Tim Westley (R)

Qualifications: I am a former two-time nominee for U.S. Congressional District 15, PhD. in Educational Leadership, U.S. Army Veteran, & Non-profit Community Leader. I have researched, provided solutions, & worked on or with all the major areas the position covers.

Allocation of Federal Funds: I would have liaisons ready to work with mayors before disasters strike to map areas that fit into U.S. Depart. of Housing & Urban Development's (HUD) basic requirements for fund disbursements. Next, I would recommend placing them on a mapping database so that as disasters happen, they are quickly identi-

fied by area. Finally, ensure funding procedures are known by all.

The Alamo: The Truth. As Historian of the Republican Party of Texas, the story of the Alamo has already been written and told. It does not require a rewrite or revision. Such history I have shared in the city of San Antonio and beyond. This historical story is one I've told publicly at the foot of the Cenotaph in the Alamo footprint on many occasions and will continue to tell.

Coastal Planning: I would be proactive by view current studies for protection and seeing what we can readily implement. I would also encourage investment in hurricane surge protection projects. Ultimately, I would ensure consistent talks with experts in the field such as engineers, geoscientist, and

COMMISSIONER OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE

(continued)

» Tim Westley (R) (continued)

other partners to develop and implement mitigation plans at the earliest stage.

Priorities: Identify all public lands on our 1254 mile southern border and Partner with other organizations to secure it. Help advance oil, gas, & min-

ing exploration through increased land lease opportunities so that Texas leads the way to energy independence while providing jobs for Texans. Ensure the \$43 billion Permanent School Fund is used properly to raise level of education.

Campaign Website: <http://www.texans4tim.com>

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

Four-year term. The agriculture commissioner's principal job is promoting Texas agriculture. In that capacity, the commissioner facilitates trade and marketing of agricultural products; regulates weights and measures; regulates pesticide use; certifies organically produced products; administers the National School Lunch and School Breakfast programs; provides financial help to farmers; and helps solve issues related to natural disasters. Current salary \$140,938

» QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Immigration: Immigrants have been a vital part of the agricultural industry in Texas. How would you balance the needs of Texas agriculture with federal immigration policy?

Water Resources: As water resources become more scarce, how do we balance the needs of farmers and the growing demands of urban areas?

Opportunities: In your opinion, what are the opportunities for the growth of agriculture in Texas? What can we do now to ensure that Texas can capitalize on these future opportunities?

Priorities: What are the three most challenging issues for Texas farmers for the next four years, and what are your plans for dealing with number one on your list?



» Susan Hays (D)

Qualifications: As an attorney raised in and around agriculture with decades of Texas government

experience, I am adept at analyzing then solving problems. With my servant's heart, I will be dedicated to public service, helping farmers, and improving food quality.

Immigration: Federal immigration policy is bro-

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

(continued)

» Susan Hays (D) (continued)

ken and needs to be torn down to the studs. We need to be honest about that fact that Texas agriculture needs the labor. As commissioner, I will advocate to transform to a policy driven by our economic needs and implemented with humanitarian principles and compassion—just like we learned in Sunday School.

Water Resources: The Republicans have failed to even try to solve this problem. The Department of Agriculture (TDA) can research & promote sustainable practices and less-thirsty crops, but must work across agencies such as the Land Office, the Water Development Board, local water districts & others, and with the Legislature for a comprehensive plan to protect water quality and supply.

Opportunities: Texas ag can flourish by growing

more fruits, vegetables & high-value crops. California produces more than 80% of U.S. fruits and vegetables—too many eggs in one basket. We need to diversify & support small & medium size operators. Cannabis should be legalized & regulated to protect public health & safety giving Texans an opportunity to share in the economic opportunity.

Priorities: Economic survival, rural health care & climate change—and they are intertwined. I will look for opportunities, analyze the data, advocate to the USDA to change counter-productive policies, and help producers find a path to prosperity & environmental sustainability. Failing rural hospitals are an existential threat to rural communities and must be saved.

Campaign Website: <http://www.hays4ag.com>



» Ed Ireson (D)

Qualifications: I'm a businessman, new father, and proud Texan. My family has been running cattle in

Brazos County for 130 years and I've worked with Texas ranchers to help sell their beef direct to consumers across the state.

Immigration: If ranchers and farmers can't hire enough workers to meet market demands, we all suffer. I'll advocate for an immediate expansion of the H-2A visa program, so that we can alleviate labor shortages to help counteract the supply chain constraints faced by all Texans.

Water Resources: Texan farmers and Texan city-dwellers are deeply interconnected. The food, wood, raw materials, and water that comes from our rural environments are critical to the urban lifestyle. As Ag Commissioner, I'll support programs that work with farmers to promote efficiency

around their water use, including crop rotations and rotational grazing for livestock.

Opportunities: The Texas Dept of Agriculture oversees rural infrastructure grants and the development of rural internet services. We need roads, bridges, waterways, and internet connectivity in order to have a strong future for our agricultural sector. We must invest wisely so that the State of Texas provides infrastructure for all Texans, but especially ranchers and farmers.

Priorities: 1) Infrastructure 2) Supporting the next generation of farmers and ranchers 3) Access to financial and grant opportunities for rural Texans Our infrastructure is both expensive and slow — livestock trailers stuck in traffic jams because of failing roads and bridges, and slow or no internet in the homes of our young Texans limiting their educational opportunities.

Campaign Website: <http://edfortexas.com>

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

(continued)



» Carey A. Council (R)

Qualifications: 30 year Business owner and real estate investor and developer. 20 year Professor of Economics and Business at Texas Junior College Life-long 5th generation Farmer/Rancher owning and operating Cattle/Hay operation.

Immigration: * Tighten immigration * Stream line process for legalization and work visas * Migration based on merit

Water Resources: * Water desalinization in plants along the Texas coast Until then, water resources, when in high demand, must be limited in urban areas. No water for agriculture means no food for Texans and the United States.

Opportunities: Several grocery store support “buy local” campaigns. As more Texas retailers convert to “buy local” the more consumers will be aware of where their food comes from.

Priorities: 1. Disparity between consumers and producers. Solution: The disparity is with the top 4 in the packing industry. Texas must create a farmer co-op packing house. With the help of the Beef Check Off Program, a co-op could be established. 2. Water Rights 3. The border crisis that is directly affecting south Texas rancher/producers and indirectly all Texas rancher/producers

Campaign Website: <https://councilacrosstexas.com>

» Sid Miller (R)

Qualifications: Current 2 term commissioner, 8 generation farmer, BS in Agriculture, former Ag teacher, still make my living farming and ranching, former House Chairman of Agriculture and Livestock committee. I currently raise livestock and grow several crops.

Immigration: We need immigration reform, a new and workable guest worker program.

Water Resources: We use technology improvements, de-sal plants, rainwater harvesting, and recycling of our water.

Opportunities: I will continue the expansion of my global outreach initiative, on every continent. Texas was the only state where experts went up during the trade war with China. I have an office in Argentina , with plans to open one in China.

Priorities: government over regulation, trade wars, and Mother Nature. I will continue to search for new agriculture markets and fight back against over regulation.

Campaign Website: <http://Millerfortexas.com>



» James White (R)

Qualifications: Tx Agriculture Code 11.005 outlines the requirements. As a six-generation Texan, who is a small beef cattle producer and six-term

legislator, I satisfy paragraphs 1-3: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/AG/htm/AG.11.htm#11.005>

Immigration: Following current law, I will facilitate the existing agricultural visa program, H-2A, which Congress passed in 1986. H-2A visas discourage foreign worker exploitation, protect wage-

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

(continued)

» James White (R) *(continued)*

earning power of US workers, and is consistent with maintaining homeland security. <https://www.uscis.gov/working-in-the-united-states/temporary-workers/h-2a-temporary-agricultural-workers>

Water Resources: We must balance science and technology, championing property rights, and collaboration. We must continue laying the groundwork for desalinization expansion and brackish water use. Many agricultural producers own senior water rights. We must allow thoughtful discretion to maximize their farm income. More intra-state and interstate collaboration on conservation and flows.

Opportunities: Maintaining a favorable regulatory environment which continues to attract ag-

ricultural operations from states that have hostile business environments for animal production related agriculture; facilitating enhancements to our ports, roads, bridges, and oil/gas energy infrastructure; persuading the Texas Legislature to open new market opportunities (i.e., hemp/cannabis)

Priorities: Securing South Tx farms/ranchers from narco-transnational gangs (constructing barriers & funding law enforcement); meeting water needs (see above); avg age of producers is 59 yrs old (facilitate more youth and veterans to become producers); burdensome regulations (decrease state regulatory footprint & pushback against federal regulations); infrastructure (See above)

Campaign Website: <http://JamesWhiteForTexas.com>

RAILROAD COMMISSIONER

Six-year term. The Railroad Commissioner is one of the three-member Texas Railroad Commission. The commission regulates the oil and gas industry, gas utilities, pipeline safety, safety in the liquified petroleum gas industry and surface coal and uranium mining. It has no regulatory authority concerning railroads. Current salary: \$140,937

» QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Ethics: Since candidates for Railroad Commission often raise money from the oil and gas industry, how can citizens be assured that campaign donations will not influence how commissioners regulate that industry?

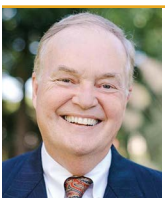
Emissions: How important is the impact of methane emissions on climate change? What are effective ways to reduce methane emissions in the oil and gas industry?

Natural Gas Facility Weatherization: What further changes, if any, are needed to ensure that Texas has sufficient power in times of extreme weather conditions?

Seismic Activity: What are the most important measures the Railroad Commission can implement to reduce the risk of seismic activity or earthquakes caused by water disposal from oil and gas drilling?

» Luke Warford (D)

Unopposed



» Wayne Christian (R)

Qualifications: *Candidate's response did not meet the criteria as listed in this Voters Guide.*

Ethics: Campaigns cost money to run, so all candidates for all offices must raise money. The standards for RRC are no different than any other office. My job is to represent the people of Texas and ensure they have access to cheap, plentiful, reliable energy. Contributions have not and will not impact my dedication to doing what is right for the people of Texas.

Emissions: A clean environment & a thriving oil & gas industry are not mutually exclusive. Since 1970, the six major pollutants regulated

by the EPA have decreased 77% while our economy has grown 285%, population has grown 60%, & energy consumption has grown 48%. We've reduced flaring/methane from 2.38% in Jan. 2019 to 0.21% in Sept. 2021 under my leadership w/out overregulation.

Natural Gas Facility Weatherization: The RRC recently designated natural gas facilities as critical during energy emergencies and put in place weatherization requirements to ensure our oil and gas assets are prepared for emergencies. We must also ensure we are prioritizing energy generation from reliable sources through eliminating subsidies and preferential treatment for less reliable forms of energy.

Seismic Activity: The Railroad Commission

RAILROAD COMMISSIONER | *(continued)*

» Wayne Christian (R) *(continued)*

takes seismic activity very seriously and has a seismologist on staff to advise the agency to ensure our regulatory actions are based on sound-science. In response to recent earthquakes in West Texas, the

RRC ordered the indefinite suspension of all deep oil and gas produced water injection in the Garden-dale Seismic Response Area.

Campaign Website: <http://ChristianForTexas.com>



» Tom Slocum Jr. (R)

Qualifications: I have over 15 years experience working in up-stream oil and gas in Texas, Louisiana, & offshore in the Gulf. I have plugged over 1,000 wells. I have operated two small oil and gas companies in Texas & I am a Texas-educated Aggie, 4th gen Oil & Gas

Ethics: I have not taken any campaign donations from oil and gas, but I also do not have any conflicts of interests. I do not own minerals or royalties, or working interests in wells. I will not allow cronyism to grow in Texas at the RRC and I will not take donations in return for favors down the line!

Emissions: Eliminating methane emissions from flared gas and vented gas can be done without implementing further regulations. By repealing the flared gas tax we can eliminate almost ALL of the flared gas in the state! Free market solutions to eliminate flared gas and secure our grid with more

electricity is what we will bring if I am elected. Smart regulations benefit all Texans.

Natural Gas Facility Weatherization: Texas must audit our Nat Gas power generation critical points and listen to experts hired by the RRC, who are from INSIDE the industry. There are Texans who can help us achieve energy freedom and keep us away from another February disaster. Leadership in Austin must listen and have a PLAN in PLACE. Our base-load power must be secured. We can't allow another black out!

Seismic Activity: We must monitor all seismic activity in the Permian Basin closer, & especially monitor damage to taxpayer infrastructure. If damage is being done that will cost property owners and taxpayers money, then we must re-evaluate the system of disposing SWD fluid & make necessary changes to protect the production of oil and gas as well as our property & infrastructure from harm.

Campaign Website: <http://Slocumfortexas.com>



» Sarah Stogner (R)

Qualifications: I am an attorney who has dedicated the past 13 years of my life to helping various stakeholders in the oil and gas industry with no desire to be a politician. I will end the crony capitalism preventing meaningful change to tackle the real problems.

Ethics: I'm not accepting donations because our

current regulators are bought by the industry they are charged with regulating. Plain and simple - the current regulators have enriched themselves and their friends at the expense of Texans. We're having earthquakes and losing our freshwater aquifers. Texas must handle or the federal government will intervene. End crony capitalism!

Emissions: We should not be venting or flaring methane. It's a vital energy source that should be put to beneficial purposes. We should incentivize

» Sarah Stogner (R) *(continued)*

leak prevention. We should incentivize alternative uses (such as cryptocurrency mining). And we have to hold bad actors accountable. Climate change will be the least of our concerns if we don't fix our groundwater and seismic issues.

Natural Gas Facility Weatherization: Natural gas facilities are vital to maintaining the integrity of the Texas grid. We need to consult with experts on how to properly winterize facilities and ensure we do not have a repeat winter where Texans die. But we cannot foist this expense on the taxpayers either.

Operators should not be able to opt out of vital winterization of natural gas facilities.

Seismic Activity: Seismic activity is a real issue. We need to look at the big picture of what is happening geologically. We are extracting & injecting into different zones millions of barrels of water per day in the Permian Basin alone. We should not be using fresh water for drilling or completing wells. We need to incentivize innovation to tackle this complicated issue.

Campaign Website: <http://www.sarah4RRC.com>



» Marvin 'Sarge' Summers (R)

Qualifications: 21 years of leadership training in the United States Army and 30 years in oil and gas.

Ethics: I can't speak for the other commissioners or the candidates that oppose me in this race. I can not be bought.

Emissions: It is very important. We must capture these emissions and mitigate these gasses.

Natural Gas Facility Weatherization: What

happened this past February with ERCOT must never happen again. Every effort and precaution must be employed to make sure our facilities remain operable and ready to serve the citizens of this great dtste.

Seismic Activity: Great question especially in view of recent earthquakes measuring better than 3.0 in the Gardendale area North and West of Midland, TX. We must limit the depth of SWD's. Lower permitted injection rates. Lower the injection pressure. Daily recording of injection volumes and pressures.



» Dawayne Tipton (R)

Qualifications: I have over 18 years of experience in the oil and gas industry from a rig hand to subject matter expert. I assessed and mitigated risk of oil and gas operations and facilities. I want to put that experience to work for Texas families.

Ethics: I've had to work hard for everything I have. My ideals and dedication cannot be bought or sold. I don't have aspirations for higher office and I don't have vested business interests to profit off of. I'm just a regular guy that has a set of skills to fit well

in this role and give Texans the expertise they need to utilize resources and protect jobs for the middle class.

Emissions: In my work experience, I've worked in ways to be the most efficient and resourceful. I would reduce methane emissions by putting it into production instead of being released. If that's not an option, then there are ways to reduce emissions further (like vapor recovery units and ECBs). For me, the real goal is to eliminate waste, which is also good for the environment.

Natural Gas Facility Weatherization: First, remove natural gas producers' abilities to exempt

» Dawayne Tipton (R) *(continued)*

themselves as noncritical. Second, we need to understand the critical path for power generation with regard to our natural gas grid. Once there is a clear consensus on the most critical infrastructure from exploration to power generation, we put forth a winter storm plan that goes into action when storms are forecast

Seismic Activity: First, reduce the barrels of salt water injection allowed from 10,000 barrels a day to 7,000 a day. Then, as the data comes in on seismic activity, you take the data and further reduce the amount allowed until seismic activity levels off and you heavily enforce the mandated levels that work.

Campaign Website: <http://www.tiptonfortexas.com>



» VOTING FOR JUDGES IN TEXAS



Although in some states, judges are appointed, in Texas most judges are elected.

Judges make decisions about fundamental issues that affect all of us . . . family life, education, health care, housing, employment, finances, discrimination, civil rights, public safety, and government actions. It is critical that our judges make fair decisions based upon open-minded and unbiased consideration of the facts and the law in each case. Judges must know the law and not be influenced by any external political and economic factors.

How is the Texas court system organized?

The Texas court system is made up of a statewide network of trial courts and appellate courts. In trial courts, judges and/or juries evaluate the facts and the law and make a decision in a civil or criminal legal dispute. When decisions in most trial courts are appealed, they are sent to an appellate court where judges consider what happened at the trial court, evaluate legal arguments, and then decide if a mistake was made.

See <https://www.txcourts.gov/media/about-texas-courts/> for more information.

JUSTICE, TEXAS SUPREME COURT

Six-year term. A justice is one of the nine-member Supreme Court, which issues final decisions on civil and juvenile appeals, issues certain orders to governmental officials to act and to individuals to appear before the court, and has jurisdiction over orders or judgements of trial courts, if the Supreme Court determines them important to the jurisprudence of the state. Current median salary: \$201,600

» QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Standards: A recent Constitutional Amendment passed by Texas voters requires that candidates for this Court be licensed in Texas for at least 10 years and have no suspensions or revocations of their license in that time. What are the positive and negative impacts of this change?

Equity: What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

Ethics: Since judicial candidates solicit donations and raise money to be elected, how can voters be assured that campaign donations will not impact how judges interpret the law and review lower court decisions?

Other Issues: What issues do you believe will be the most pressing for the Texas Supreme Court?

» PLACE 3

» Erin A. Nowell (D)

Unopposed

» Debra Lehrmann (R)

Unopposed

» PLACE 5

» Amanda Reichek (D)

Unopposed

» Rebeca Huddle (R)

Unopposed

JUSTICE, TEXAS SUPREME COURT

(continued)

» PLACE 9

» Julia Maldonado (D)

Unopposed



» David J. Schenck (R)

Qualifications: I've served as a justice on the state's largest intermediate court. I clerked for the Chief

Judge of the 5th Circuit, led a major appellate practice at Jones Day, am broad certified in civil appellate law, and chair the commission on judicial conduct

Standards: The positive is that the candidate at least have some demonstrable minimal competence and lack of actual record of corruption. It does not, however, require any judicial service experience or address the more critical problems with the initial selection and appointment, which is the manner by which the vast majority of appellate judges initially come to the bench.

Equity: I believe that any system of gov't that targets groups for disparate treatment — whether for malign or benign motives — implicates the equal protection clause. All Texas citizens are entitled to equal access to the courts, and I'm proud to have re-

ceived the Texas Bar's highest award for promoting access to pro bono legal services to those who cannot afford it.

Ethics: At present, voters are not assured of this and the appearance that donations affect rulings has been demonstrated repeatedly without any meaningful effort at reform—making this issue most critical. I have publicly called for reforms to assure Texans the right to a constitutional, impartial process and have shown by my record that I will not yield or accept anything less.

Other Issues: Until the foregoing is resolved, there is very little of significance that the Court can achieve. Judicial decisions are followed only because — and to the extent — the public accepts that they are based on reason and principle. They've lacked that confidence for over a decade. Separately, the Supreme Court must show that the judiciary is independent of other branches.

Campaign Website: <http://www.schenckfortexas.com>



» Evan Young (R)

Qualifications: Texas Supreme Court Justice; law clerk, Justice Antonin Scalia; Counsel to U.S. Attorney General; U.S. Government rule of law mission in Iraq; many arguments at U.S. & Texas Supreme

Courts and other courts; UT law professor; Texas Judicial Council.

Standards: Almost all positive. The Amendment ensures that candidates meet basic minimum standards, and Texas deserves a high-quality judiciary. The only "negative" is that we must be cautious when restricting voters' options. But here, the peo-

JUSTICE, TEXAS SUPREME COURT

(continued)

» **Evan Young (R) *(continued)***

ple themselves prioritized minimum judicial qualifications by ratifying this limitation within our Constitution.

Equity: Ensuring open courts is fundamental to public confidence in our judiciary and to protecting individual rights. The Access to Justice Commission, Texas Legislature, and Texas Supreme Court have made great progress in marshaling public and private support for expanded representation of underprivileged Texans and making judicial proceedings more efficient and comprehensible.

Ethics: That risk diminishes when judges have a sound, stable method of judicial decision-making, like Justice Scalia's. Their analysis can be tested,

in case after case, for rigor and consistency. Judges must hold themselves and each other accountable, too. I make the same promise to those who support me and those who don't: I will follow the law wherever it goes in every case.

Other Issues: Among the most pressing work for the Supreme Court will be ensuring, even in times of crisis, and without fear or favor, that the limitations of the U.S. and Texas Constitutions are respected—the lines between different branches of government, between the state and local governments, and between government power and individual liberty.

Campaign Website: <http://JusticeEvanYoung.com>

JUDGE, TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

Six-year term. A member of the nine-member court which has final judgement in all criminal cases. The court must review all cases in which the death penalty is assessed. It also exercises discretionary review in other criminal cases and issues orders to governmental officials to act and individuals to appear before the court. Current median salary: \$193,200

» QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Philosophy: What is your judicial philosophy?

Standards: A recent Constitutional Amendment passed by Texas voters requires that candidates for this Court be licensed in Texas for at least 10 years and have no suspensions or revocations of their license in that time. What are the positive and negative impacts of this change?

Equity: What can be done to improve access to justice for all, including persons or groups who may be underserved?

Ethics: Since judicial candidates solicit donations and raise money to be elected, how can voters be assured that campaign donations will not impact how judges interpret the law and review lower court decisions?

» PLACE 2

» Mary Lou Keel (R)

Unopposed

» PLACE 5

» Dana Huffman (D)

Unopposed



» Clint Morgan (R)

Qualifications: In nine years as an appellate prosecutor I have written nearly 400 appellate briefs and presented 39 oral arguments. Before that I worked at

the Court of Criminal Appeals as a clerk and staff attorney. I am board certified in criminal appellate law.

Philosophy: I am an originalist. I believe constitutions and statutes should be interpreted by giving words the meaning they had at the time of adop-

JUDGE, TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

(continued)

» **Clint Morgan (R)** (continued)

tion. This approach ensures it's the legislature and voters—not judges—who make the law.

Standards: The changes from this amendment regarding the Court of Criminal Appeals are small. The constitution already required ten years of legal practice. The most notable change is that a lawyer must be ten years removed from any license suspension, but I've never seen anyone run for this court after having his or her license suspended. This change will probably have no impact.

Equity: The criminal justice system provides justice by protecting victims, punishing the guilty, and allowing people to live in safety. We must punish

those who prey on the underserved as harshly as we punish other criminals. Everyone should have the opportunity to live in safety. As a judge, I will treat all who appear before me equally and fairly.

Ethics: The only way to elect an honest judiciary is for voters to learn about the candidates and elect men and women with integrity. Every system of judicial selection is vulnerable to corrupt behavior, and judges can be corrupted by forces outside the selection process. One advantage of an elected judiciary is that voters can remove judges who seem corrupt.

Campaign Website: <http://www.clintforjudge.com>

» **Scott Walker (R)**

No Response Received

» **PLACE 6**

» **Robert Johnson (D)**

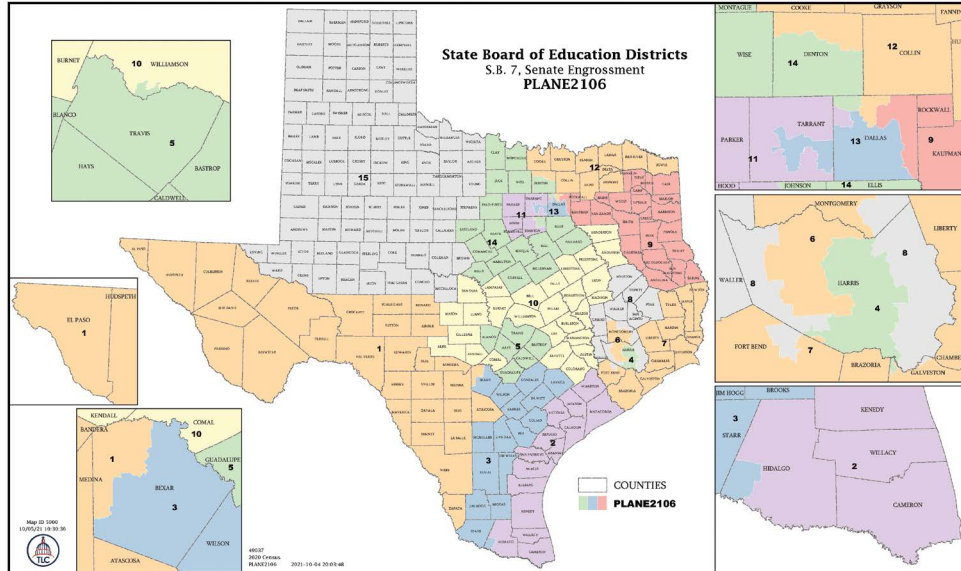
Unopposed

» **Jesse F. McClure, III (R)**

Unopposed

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Four-year term. The fifteen-member board decides curriculum, standards, student testing, special education programs, and textbooks for Texas public schools. It also oversees the Permanent School Fund. Members of the board are not paid, but receive reimbursement for expenses incurred in the course of official business.



» QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Charter Schools: What is the impact of new independent charter school networks on the funding for local public schools? And is there anything you would do to change that impact?

Inclusive Education: As the developer of Texas public school curriculum, how would you ensure a comprehensive history education that addresses the needs of all students?

Recovery: What can the State Board of Education do to assist local school districts to develop programs so that students who fell behind from the pandemic can recover?

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

» DISTRICT 1



» Laura Marquez (D)

Qualifications: I have an MSW and previous experience (7 years) working in public education as a para-educator providing special education and re-

lated services to students with disabilities. I currently work in prevention and intervention in early childhood.

Charter Schools: Different funding mechanism and accountability standards for charter schools and districts have effectively created two separate

» **Laura Marquez (D)** *(continued)*

and unequal education systems. To change this, I would deny approvals for any charter applications that have a history of being bad financial practices, and work with legislative colleagues to ensure greater accountability and transparency.

Inclusive Education: I would immediately work with legislative colleagues to repeal harmful anti-CRT legislation while ensuring current policies are not applied more broadly than allowed. I would also partner with education stakeholders to navigate within the scope of current public policy to find alternative mechanisms for supporting inclusive education.

Recovery: In this respect, I would use my background in grassroots networking and commu-

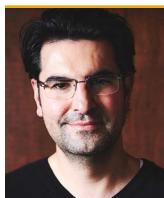
nity non-profit work to partner with school districts to find ways to develop or utilize existing programs that address student needs in a holistic manner. Especially as students continue to navigate through the trauma and uncertainty of an ongoing pandemic.

Other Issues: We are at a moment in time where education is being positioned at the forefront of partisan politics. Sadly, this has placed every issue faced by the SBOE on tenuous ground. Now, more than ever we must remain balanced and responsible to support schools, students, educators, and the collective interest of the community to ensure an equitable and just education system.

Campaign Website: <http://www.laurafortxeducation.com>

» **Melissa N. Ortega (D)**

No Response Received



» **Omar Yanar (D)**

Qualifications: Within my career I have served as a teacher, curriculum designer, administrator and superintendent. I have a M.Ed. from Stanford and a Master in Public Policy from Harvard. I have found innovative approaches that put students and family first.

Charter Schools: It's easy to say that all dollars should go toward local public schools; however some charters are great choices for families. They receive less funding than local districts and with only 6.8% of students in Texas attending charters, the funding impact is minimal. It is important to provide families choice and options while also being judicious about charter approval.

Inclusive Education: As a former social studies teacher, I believe the TEKS as they are currently written allows for a multi-perspective comprehensive view of history. However, I would be open to a deeper dive conversation around that to see what specific historical events we may need to unpack more delicately as a multi-perspective view of history is key to inclusiveness with students.

Recovery: Our middle schools focus on highly underserved students, who are several grade levels behind and accelerate their academic growth by 2-3 years in one school year. We are ranked a top academic growth public school in Texas and these strategies can work across the state. Flexibility of schedule, innovative in-school MTSS and small learning communities are just a few.

Other Issues: The state board should do a deep

» Omar Yanar (D) *(continued)*

examination into school culture and mental health. Student performance and attendance are affected when a student is happy, safe and feels their needs are addressed. With bullying and violent incidents

on the rise, it's imperative to look at the root cause and design cultures that support student success as well as teacher/staff wellness.

Campaign Website: <http://OmarYanar4Texas.com>

» Lani Popp (R)

No Response Received

» Michael 'Travis' Stevens (R)

Qualifications: I have over a decade of teaching experience at the High School level and have taught at the Adult Education level. I also have a Masters in Education/Teacher Leadership and a Doctorate in Education/Curriculum and Instruction.

Charter Schools: New independent charter school networks have created a significant financial impact on local public schools, as these campuses have drawn away a considerable number of students from their local ISD's. To negate the financial loss to ISD's, the SBOE needs to reexamine how an ISD's Average Daily Attendance rate is connected to funding.

Inclusive Education: Any curriculum that I would vote in favor of, would have to be based entirely on historical fact. Curriculum presented as comprehensive history, would need to be supported by factual evidence from verified sources. All curriculum that students would be required to master,

would need to be free of bias, opinions of the author, and political agendas.

Recovery: The SBOE needs to provide common sense programs that measure a students ability to master grade level content and not serve as a box to be checked off by an ISD for completion. Programs similar to Credit Retrieval could temporarily be set up to help students across all grade levels, attain and demonstrate the needed skills to pass to the next grade.

Other Issues: Standardized testing and school choice are pressing issues for the SBOE. Some students suffer from testing anxiety and the SBOE needs to discuss alternative methods to assess these students. Parents also should decide what school is best for their child, and the SBOE needs to find a way to give parents a voice, without taking away a local ISD's funding.

Campaign Website: <http://Votedrstevens.com>

» DISTRICT 2

» Pete Garcia (D)

No Response Received



» Thomas Garcia (D)

Qualifications: At age 19, I founded a college access summer program for PSJA ISD. Then, I taught it as a PSJA ISD high school course. Now, it is a nonprofit that teaches high schoolers across districts. I have 7 years of classroom experience, elementary to college.

Charter Schools: Charter schools draw students away from local public schools, resulting in stranded costs. When a charter draws students away, the public school may not be in a position to decrease staff or reduce facility costs simply because it now has fewer students. The public school must make do with less per-pupil revenue. I support increasing the Compensatory Education allotment.

Inclusive Education: I believe in facts. I would reject textbooks and instructional materials with subjective interpretations of history. I am against Texas SB3, which removes requirements to study specific works by minorities and women. I sup-

port expanding ethnic studies - and making these courses count as social studies credits - to ensure students can get a comprehensive history education.

Recovery: Ensure teachers are (1) paid for all recovery programs (2) granted fewer admin duties and more teaching time (3) recognized for recovery service on evaluations. Coordinate state-wide surveys and data input on necessary programs. Invest in after-school and summer programs targeting learning gaps. Create professional development opportunities focused specifically on recovery

Other Issues: Mental health, teacher burnout, recovery. Reduce the administrative workload of teachers and counselors. Hire mental health counselors. Grant teachers more autonomy, control over conference period. Ensure recovery programs, initiatives pay teachers and do not present undue burdens on teaching. Direct education accountability standards away from high-stakes tests.

Campaign Website: <http://www.garciaforsboe.com>

» Victor Perez (D)

No Response Received

» Wayne Raasch (D)

No Response Received



» **Michael Vargas (D)**

Qualifications: After graduating from Brown University, I began my career in St. Louis, Missouri as a

Teach For America Corps Member serving underprivileged students. I returned home to serve our very own, as school board president and various state-wide positions.

Charter Schools: It is difficult to assess impacts on funding for local public schools without taking into consideration the full multi-faceted funding mechanism in the state. My priority as a member of the SBOE is to ensure that there is a leveled playing field and that we are making decisions that are fair and equitable for every school system and student across the state of Texas.

Inclusive Education: SBOE should not sanitize versions of our history. It's deeply misleading to downplay historical conflicts or scars around ideology, race, class, gender, and immigration because all are central to our state and nation's rich histo-

ries. I will ensure that curriculum standards are curated from the bottom up, prioritizing the voices of parents and students in District Two.

Recovery: Some school districts are already altering programming by offering instruction during breaks and inviting targeted students to "Rebound Academies" focusing on those with larger achievement gaps, and SBOE should replicate this programming across the state. I will also listen to educators across District Two with an open mind on innovative ways to further remedy this issue.

Other Issues: We are experiencing an exodus of professionals leaving education due to stress and workloads, exacerbated by the pandemic. I've heard personal stories on the toll it takes on educators' mental health across many districts. I will fight for expansion of mental health resources and ensure that we continue to cultivate the love of teaching and mental health of every educator.

Campaign Website: <http://www.vargas4texas.com>



» **Hilda Garza DeShazo (R)**

Qualifications: 33 years as a public school teacher, academic coach and administrator McAllen ISD

Board of Trustees Hidalgo County Head Start Program Policy Council TASB Legislative Committee TEA School Improvement Initiative Texas Retired Teacher Association

Charter Schools: The impact can be determined by how public and charter schools are funded, by the number of students enrolled and by the data supporting student achievement. Thus any change to the impact requires careful study and analysis. The most important issue is that of student achievement.

Inclusive Education: The demands of an increasing diverse student body will require a curriculum that includes a richer and truthful history of

America and Texas. A curriculum that reflects the contributions of key historical leaders with materials and resources available to educators to make history more inclusive is needed.

Recovery: 1. Identify disconnected students/ reconnect them to school communities; provide support and intervention needed to recover lost grade level ground 2. Expand instrumental time 3. Support access to remote learning technology for students and family 4. Attend to the physical, social and mental health needs of students 5. Assess student progress/use data to advance learning

Other Issues: Setting curriculum standards Reviewing and adoption of instructional materials Educator Certification

Campaign Website: <http://HildaGarzaDeShazo.com>



» LJ Francis (R)

Qualifications: My background as a naturalized citizen has given me a unique perspective to see

how important it is to have a strong basic education. As a Licensed Professional Engineer, I am uniquely qualified in solving problems using strategic collaborations.

Charter Schools: Charter school networks are eligible to receive a share of the available state funds for student enrollment. Local public schools receive both state and local tax revenue funds. Charters schools do not have a negative impact on the available funding for local public schools and in general, state aid decreases for a district if its need decreases or its tax base expands.

Inclusive Education: Curriculum development for schoolchildren should be undertaken to facilitate the general diffusion of knowledge. This means that a comprehensive history education should include classical history which enables students to reach be-

yond partisan differences by drawing on the shared roots of our civilization. We must promote the content of the history and meaning of the work.

Recovery: COVID-19 has presented unprecedented challenges for schoolchildren, parents and educators alike. House Bill 4545 established new requirements for accelerated instruction for students. Now more than ever the State Board of Education need to listen to educators and work with parents to meet students unique educational needs. The Board should pursue grants to help districts.

Other Issues: Texas has one of the nation's largest and fastest-growing public school enrollment counts-approximately 5.5 million. The cost of educating such a large population is tremendous and the Board will need to make important fiscal decisions in relation to the new Permanent School Fund Corp (SB 1232). Other issues include; Federal Mandates and books with obscene content.

Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/LjFrancisforTexas>

» DISTRICT 3

» Marisa B. Perez-Diaz (D)

Unopposed

» Lana Jean Holland (R)

No Response Received



» Ken Morrow (R)

Qualifications: I am a father of 4 children who began their education at Grace Christian Academy

and then transferred to Gonzales ISD. My two oldest children graduated and went on to college, another graduates in 2022 and my youngest graduates in 2027.

Charter Schools: In general, I'm in favor of par-

» Ken Morrow (R) (continued)

ent's choice in their children's education. We have chosen a mixture of private and public school for our children.

Inclusive Education: I believe that Texas public school children should be taught American History, World History, Texas History and most importantly The Constitution of the United States of American.

Recovery: The first thing we can do is keep the schools open. If a student elects to do some work remotely, we need to have course material online both for review, and recovery from falling behind. If we had a statewide online learning system K-12

it could support teachers efforts in the in the districts without having the burden falling to individual teachers.

Other Issues: For the State Board of Education I believe that policies that support Teachers and Administrators which emphasize excellence: a joy for lifelong learning, and telling kids they can be anything they want to be if they work hard and make honest effort. Parents and teachers should never give up, and help the students love learning so they can be successful in life.

Campaign Website: <http://kenmorrowforeducation.com>

» DISTRICT 4

» Theldon Branch (D)

No Response Received



» Staci Childs (D)

Qualifications: I run for this position having experience as a 4th and 5th grade English, Social Studies, and ESL educator, a Theatre Arts educator, Interventionist, Summer School Principal, Founder and CEO of an educational non-profit, and now a defense attorney.

Charter Schools: What I believe to be true is that charter school networks should work in tandem with public schools to ensure that all children are receiving high quality education. I would work to make sure public schools get adequate funding to address the needs of their students by making sure the public schools in my district have would they need to be equally successful.

Inclusive Education: This is extremely important to me. I think to ensure history education is implemented properly, a panel of current educators and practitioners must be created that will help develop this curriculum so that our students are experiencing inclusive education. The panel should be comprised of persons from every creed, race, gender, and lived experience.

Recovery: The State Board of Education can create a task-force comprised of businesses with high level technology and highly educated staff to work together with educators to double-down on the instruction and resources needed to fill the gaps. Companies such as Apple, Microsoft, and HP, have the resources and man power to provide support to our students recoup the learning lost.

Other Issues: The top priority of the State Board

» Staci Childs (D) (continued)

of Education right now is making sure our school districts, students, and parents feel empowered and equipped with what's necessary to make up for losses due to the pandemic. Aside from that, we

must make our curriculum inclusive and relevant such that our students ready for the new world they will enter once they graduate.

Campaign Website: <http://stacifortexas.com>



» Marvin Johnson (D)

Qualifications: I am a college professor and certified mathematics teacher with 20 years experience in industry and service in the U.S. Army. Viewing education at two levels has given me the tools to provide innovation, efficiency and productivity in education.

Charter Schools: The addition of new independent charter school networks has the potential to decrease resources to public schools that are in some cases already resource challenged. My goal is to minimize the impact to funding of all schools that are focused on truly educating our students.

Inclusive Education: Regarding history, I would work with the board to ensure that all students regardless of demographic would be represented

when studying history. The first step to accomplish is to get all stakeholders in the same room on the same page.

Recovery: My approach to helping students catch up from the impact of the pandemic is to reestablish accountability for students, parents, teachers, and administrators alike. To recover, this must be a team effort. The State Board of Education can set reasonable guidelines to help drive programs to ensure all parts carry their load.

Other Issues: Ten points on my platform to address. They include: 1. Truth in Grading, 2. Behavior Guidelines, 3. Triad (Student, Parent, Teacher) Relationship, 4. Reinstate Hard-bound Textbooks (Paperbacks), 5. Teacher Certification only Requires 4-year Degree, 6. Use Technology Wisely, 7. School Safety, 8. Waste Minimization, 9. Teacher Pay, 10 School Funding Reform.



» Coretta Mallet-Fontenot (D)

Qualifications: I have served Houston ISD for 23 years. My Bachelor's and Master's Degrees are in education. Currently, I am pursuing my doctorate in education. I have served as the District Advisory Committee Co-chair and am a former Campus Teacher of the Year.

Charter Schools: The Basic Allotment for each student enrolled in a public school is \$6,160. I would limit new charter applications. Charter schools received an additional \$1,058 per student. This means

students in need of additional support may not have access to it. For example, may mean the difference between hiring a full-time speech therapist or contracting limited services.

Inclusive Education: America and Texas have rich and complicated histories. The Texas history curriculum should reflect that history. The TEKS should be objectively written and research-based by history teachers, so students learn the facts of our history.

Recovery: TEA should expand academic support along with social and emotional resources to help students recover academically and mentally dur-

» Coretta Mallet-Fontenot (D) *(continued)*

ing the pandemic. For example, hiring teaching assistants for core content areas, providing school day tutorials for students who are not able to attend tutorials outside of the school hours.

Other Issues: Issues that are of great importance

for a strong public education system in Texas are: 1) fully funded public education 2) pay raises for school employees 3) fully funded pre-kindergarten and 4) offering multiple paths to graduation.

Campaign Website: <http://corettaforsboe4.com>

» Larry McKinzie (D)

No Response Received

» DISTRICT 5



» Rebecca Bell-Metereau (D)

Qualifications: Elected SBOE District 5 2020, PhD, author 4 books, teaching Pre-K through graduate,

Peace Corps Chad, Fulbright Scholar, Prof & Dir. Media Studies TXState, past Special Asst. to President, TXState for student retention, ran NEH, TCH teacher workshops

Charter Schools: Texas pits charters against local neighborhood schools, funding charter students 100% with state funding; local public schools get about 40% from state per pupil & remainder from property taxes, creating resentment & inequities. Local schools take all kids; charters send money out of state to management. Let's increase teacher pay instead of encouraging a duplicate system.

Inclusive Education: I'll urge content experts we've picked to produce inclusive, accurate standards that provide guidance, examples of important issues & freedom to address diversity & dissent. Follow student-led interests & community or

service-based projects to encourage inclusive civic engagement. Teach about reliable sources, sound research methods, critical thinking, and civil discourse.

Recovery: SBOE can urge governor to give federal aid intended for education to Texas schools. Have \$48.3 billion Permanent School Fund seek ways to direct earnings to needy districts for remediation, tutors, teacher pay, summer & after school, online access, & universal Pre-K. Ranking 39th in state spending per pupil, Texas uses money on admin & testing, rather than students needs.

Other Issues: We must educate the public & calm hysteria over manufactured crises. Fears about critical race theory & sex education have been cynically used to stir up censorship movements. This distracts from students' need for engaging civics, accurate history, science (particularly climate science), & age-appropriate, comprehensive sex education. Rethink & reform high-stakes testing.

Campaign Website: <http://voterebecca.com/>

» Kevin Guico (D)

Qualifications: I am the only candidate with first-hand experience at all levels of our TX education system from being a teacher aide, a district English teacher, a PD coach, community organizer - to now a strategic and technical advisor to Texas school districts.

Charter Schools: Currently, the student-based funding formulas that our TX education system operates around create a false dichotomy between public charter networks and district schools. As an advocate for quality community-based schools, I see emerging work in the state where district schools can access more local and state funding through innovative partnerships and smart policy making.

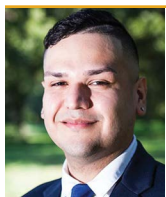
Inclusive Education: As the first Asian American on the board, I would advocate for our curriculum to include Asian American Studies, in addition to African American and Mexican American Studies, and for requiring Ethnic Studies for all so that students not only see themselves in their curricu-

lum, but also learn across lines of difference and develop a more tolerant and inclusive generation.

Recovery: As a Board member, I plan to be a connector and facilitator to districts across the state to replicate what is working, reimagine what isn't, and leverage our federal and state emergency funds for districts to build back our educational infrastructure better. Districts across TX are doing innovative and resilient things to both protect our students and accelerate recovery.

Other Issues: The SBOE has the responsibility of ensuring our school boards have adequate training and support in the current contexts they face. I plan on empowering our local leaders by providing responsive and results-driven support to school board members and district leaders to center our students, drive for equity, and endure disruptive political wind shifts and adult interests.

Campaign Website: <https://www.facebook.com/keving4sboe>



» Juan Juárez (D)

Qualifications: I am a gay Latino, a first generation college student, a current educator, a high performing principal, and I have over 11 years of experience teaching in and leading exceptional secondary schools.

Charter Schools: New charter schools must not decrease the per-pupil funding for traditional public school students. ISDs should present to the SBOE evidence of negative impacts on their per-pupil funding. Charter schools should state in their impact statements any intentions to grow enrollment capacity so that traditional public schools can temper their expansion decisions.

Inclusive Education: I will push back against efforts that eliminate diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in state standards. The standards should ensure that the history about people of color is not

white-washed. I will advocate to ensure that a demographically diverse group of teachers create and provide feedback on standards.

Recovery: A post-COVID world should include equity and achievement in conjunction with adaptability in the use of process standards. I will pass strong teacher and principal certification and learning standards. These standards will help prepare teachers for all types of learning environments, not just the traditional teaching and classroom model.

Other Issues: Schools should use a DEI lens when teaching the standards. I will ensure that this is a requirement. The first two aspects of this work — professional development on anti-racism and a BIPOC-led Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion task force — are key.

Campaign Website: <http://www.juanjuarezforTx.org>



» **Mark Loewe (R)**

Qualifications: PhD Physics, UT Austin. BS Chemistry, BS Physics, UC Irvine. Taught physics at UT and

Texas State U. Coauthored a quantum mechanics textbook. Did microelectronics R&D. Devised progressive school choice. Wrote a Texas bill to let kids keep textbooks.

Charter Schools: I devised progressive school choice in the 1980s to attract billions of private dollars per year into Texas K-12 education, maximize public education funds for children who attend public schools, and empower parents, including poor parents, to reject mediocre schools and choose safe schools that better serve the individual needs, abilities, and interests of their children.

Inclusive Education: The best way to improve K-12 education is to implement, or to enable voters to adopt, progressive school choice statewide or district wide. Parents may consider many things when choosing schools, including statistical results

of statewide academic tests given at all schools that receive public education funds. I would vote to improve curricula and raise test standards.

Recovery: The SBOE should acquire low cost math, science, and other textbooks for children to keep permanently. Children may then easily review at home their familiar books from previous years. Authors and teachers may reduce review material and focus on new material. Top education systems follow this practice. Four Texas House bills were based on my proposal; I wrote 2009 HB 2959.

Other Issues: I found errors of roughly \$752,000,000 in an unaudited Permanent School Fund schedule of investments issued by the Texas Education Agency and would lead PSF oversight. I found that incorrect scores on statewide math and science tests were issued to hundreds of thousands of Texas children; the TEA failed to correct the scores, issued false statements, and ill-served Texans.

Campaign Website: <http://www.markloewe.org>



» **Robert Morrow (R)**

Qualifications: There is no candidate for Texas State Board of Education who cares more about water-

melon-sized titties than does presidential historian Robert Morrow. I also am the president of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Institute for the Study of Presidential Crime.

Charter Schools: I don't know that that impact is, you tell me? Whatever it is, I am completely opposed to charter schools. However I do support Texas high schools having "hot teacher" bikini contests every spring as a way of improving morale among the students. Charter school funding should

go to supporting that. Pole dancing and twerking should be worked into the curriculum.

Inclusive Education: *Candidate's response did not meet the criteria as listed in this Voters Guide.*

Recovery: Wish them well. Tell them "good luck" in the future. I have a plan to let the University of Alabama have a recruiting station embedded into every 6A high school in Texas. As for Texas A&M they should be forced to start transsexual, lactating linebackers in the spirit of "diversity, equity and inclusion."

STEM program: I support teaching kids how to fart in Morse Code.

Other Issues: Sex education is a big one for me.

» Robert Morrow (R) (continued)

It should scientifically based and age appropriate. I have a plan to let teenage mothers to have their babies in 9th grade biology class or the school auditorium, subject to a parental waiver.

Teenage boys should be warned about the horrific dangers of masturbating with Elmer's glue.

As for the boobies, I love them soooooo much!

Campaign Website: <http://www.facebook.com/Robert.Morrow.888/>

» DISTRICT 6

» Michelle Palmer (D)

Unopposed



» Will Hickman (R)

Qualifications: Will Hickman, a Republican from Houston, serves as the current member of the State

Board of Education representing District 6. He has 5 degrees in engineering, law, and Spanish, and over 20 years work experience.

Charter Schools: Hickman is Pro-School Choice, and believes parents should choose the best option for their kids: home school, private school, public charter school, magnet, or zoned ISD schools. Hickman was awarded the 2020 Charter Champion Award from the Texas Public Charter Schools Association. He believes the current system where schools are funded by attendance works well.

Inclusive Education: Hickman is against CRT and SEL, and in favor of RRR (reading, writing, and arithmetic). For him, the goal of Texas education is to prepare all students for their own goals

the day after graduation: enrolling in college, starting their career, starting a business, or enlisting in the military.

Recovery: Will Hickman is a parent with three kids in public schools. He is against school closures, virtual learning, vaccine mandates, and mask mandates. Closing the gap starts with opening every school, finding all the kids, and getting them back in the classroom.

Other Issues: Will Hickman is chairing the ad-hoc Flight Plan Committee with SBOE colleagues from North, East, and West Texas. This committee is looking around the state for how different ISD's implement the requirements of TEC 28.016, for college and career exploration in middle school, and deciding what the best options are for replacing existing SBOE career and college classes.

Campaign Website: <http://willhickmancampaign.com>



» **Mike Wolfe (R)**

Qualifications: I am a Child Support Officer & Native Texan, a graduate of Houston Christian High School & The University of St. Thomas; I attended Ave Maria School of Law & served as a Juvenile Supervision Officer, Associate Teacher & Harris County School Trustee.

Charter Schools: Strong competition is a good thing. Charter Schools foster a healthy level of competition which makes for a better educational experience for our kids. Public Schools should not just automatically have free reign to do whatever they want to do. Parents should have a choice in where they send their kids to be educated. Including charter, private, public and home schools.

Inclusive Education: *Candidate's response did not meet the criteria as listed in this Voters Guide.*

Recovery: The first step to helping students who fell behind due to the Wuhan Virus would be to end mask mandates and lockdowns across all school districts in Texas and throughout the United States. The best way to recover from the Virus is to promote school vouchers and charter schools and home schooling and whatever forms of education are available and let parents pick the best.

Other Issues: Being born with 2 paralyzed vocal chords and a collapsed lung, I know what it means to be without a voice. I know that parents and kids need a voice in the process. Parents are the decision makers and School Board Members need to learn that. I'm an active member of Houston's Second Baptist Church, I have 2 nieces age 8 and 14 who attend Montgomery County Public Schools.

Campaign Website: <http://www.MikeWolfe.com>

» **DISTRICT 7**

» **Dan Hochman (D)**

Unopposed



» **Abolaji Tijani'Ayo' Ayobami (R)**

Qualifications: A product of Education whose successes are attributed to well rounded Quality Public Education up to the University where I acquired Masters of Engineering degrees (18yrs). Also I'm a Son of a Teacher of 36 years and Father of 3 Public School attendees

Charter Schools: It may have slight impact on the local public school funding gasping for more funding from their insufficient budgetary allocation before.

However, Charter Schools independent existence is unstoppable due to Teachers Union remote teaching options in Pandemic era & Parental burdens of getting their Children sound Education. SBOE will checkmate this by funding the delinquency

Inclusive Education: When Students don't learn a comprehensive History Education, they tend to bastardized history and becomes History themselves. This is a dangerous phenomenon that is building the Critical Race Theories ideologies of radical and leftist agendas. The Constitution supported History Education by the Founding Fathers

» Abolaji Tijani 'Ayo' Ayobami (R) (cont.)

proclamation. SBOE must make History Mandatory for K-12 mostly

Recovery: SBOE Should provide more funding for students that fell behind due to the pandemic & increase educators wages or incentivize Teachers who volunteered to set up after school hours programs for such vulnerable Students so they will be able to catch up on their educational abilities on the delinquent subjects. Focus should be on curriculum that addresses the deficient subject

Other Issues: The SBOE will have to find viable ways to bridge the Students funding deficit in the Public Schools, Find a way to stop the high dropped out rates, Review the Curriculum with emphasis more on STEM Education in compliant with the global demands, Review the Educators Wages and set the Teachers Student classroom Ratios to 1:16 to enable Student learning and Teachers attention

Campaign Website: <http://www.aayobami.com>

» Michael Barton (R)

No Response Received



» Julie Pickren (R)

Qualifications: I have been a School Board Trustee for the last 6 years in one of the fastest growing school districts in Texas. Under my leadership we built 9 new schools, lowered taxes, 98% graduation rate, and start our teachers at \$63,000/yr with benefits.

Charter Schools: There is a need for school choice in poor minority neighborhoods. Most Texans have school choice because we can move to pick the school that will provide our children with a great education. Too many parents that do not have that option. We can do better by bringing school choice to low income minority neighborhoods to provide an equal opportunity education for every child

Inclusive Education: History education is not about needs or feelings. History is a set of facts that are necessary for children to learn so we can build on successes and not repeat mistakes. It is im-

portant we teach the rich history of America and Texas and the contributions by different cultures that make us great and also the great contributions America and Texas have made to the world.

Recovery: The SBOE can streamline teacher certifications to ensure every classroom has a certified teacher. Also, we need accurate education data that follows the student so we can quickly identify deficiencies and trends. I would also like to see more Instructional Coaches in our schools to provide support for our teachers and individualized instruction for struggling children.

Other Issues: We must ensure that every child in Texas has an Equal Opportunity Education. We can achieve this by replacing equity audits with opportunity audits, bringing school choice to neighborhoods where the schools are failing to educate children, and increase classroom transparency to foster parent / teacher relationships for student success.

Campaign Website: <http://www.juliepickren.com>



» Danny Surman (R)

Qualifications: I am the only candidate in this race for State Board of Education that is a teacher. I taught US History to 8th graders for 5 years in Galveston, and I now work as an Instructional Coach in Dickinson ISD mentoring other history teachers.

Charter Schools: While the impact of charter school funding on public schools is not directly clear, too often school finance in Texas is a race to the bottom. There should not be a question of funding for charter schools affecting public finance or vice versa. The state contribution to public education must go up to ensure achievement for all students, regardless of charter funding.

Inclusive Education: Social studies educators in Texas must teach the facts as they happened. Critical race theory should not be the way those facts are taught. The United States has a diverse history, and students should see themselves in that history as it

happened. Teachers must continue to have a strong voice in the revision of the social studies standards to ensure the facts are taught.

Recovery: I hesitate to force another initiative onto school districts that is implemented out of compliance rather than belief in the program. Schools must stop chasing the latest shiny object. We have a rigorous set of standards (the TEKS) that holds students to high achievement. Teachers and schools know the best practices to raise student achievement to meet those standards.

Other Issues: The State Board of Education reviews standards written by the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC). School districts rely too much on alternative certification programs that teacher candidates rush through in just weeks. We need to raise pay for higher qualified teachers certified through an established institution of higher learning.

Campaign Website: <http://surmanforschools.com>

» DISTRICT 8

» Jonathan Cocks (D)

Unopposed

» Audrey Young (R)

Unopposed

» DISTRICT 9

» Keven M. Ellis (R)

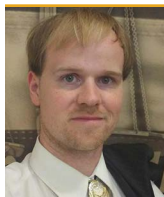
Unopposed

» DISTRICT 10

» Tom Maynard (R)

Unopposed

» DISTRICT 11



» “DC” Caldwell I (D)

Qualifications: -4 years military leadership development training
-Law degree (JD) -8 years teacher certified -More certification areas than any other candidate -Student experience at 4 universities, 4 community colleges, 3 elementary, and 4 secondary schools -Etc.

Charter Schools: Charter schools compete and collaborate with local public schools for state per-student grant funding. Charter grants result in higher average contribution from state budgets on students in that school district’s boundaries. Higher state contributions increase the community’s share of the state budget as compared to areas with similar student population without charters.

Inclusive Education: To be inclusive and address needs, focus on application—not trivia. I reviewed Texas Administrative Code Title 19, Part II, Chapters 110-130 Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), so I advocate for replacing “understand”

with “apply,” “identify” with “choose,” “discuss” with “demonstrate,” and similar replacements to emphasize USING knowledge and practical skills.

Recovery: The Board can promote implementation of templates for model recovery programs that are already developed, vetted, and optimized for best practices. Existing recovery resources recommend many of the same principles and guidelines that already work well: -Assign support staff -Provide mentorship -Offer a range of choices -Allow scheduling flexibility -Focus long-term -Etc.

Other Issues: The SBOE approved a Long-Range Plan for Public Education in 2018 but did not publish updated legislative priorities for 2021, and I would want to improve some. Looking at the 2019 priorities, I see that the TEKS are based on Texas Education Code Section 4.002, so I recommend an update to the 1995 Public Education Academic Goals that recognizes improvements in technology.

Campaign Website: http://ballotpedia.org/DC_Caldwell



» Luis Miguel Sifuentes (D)

Qualifications: I am a former educator, husband and father with a graduate degree (MBA) in management. I have always been passionate about education and I wish to continue serving the students, parents and educators of District 11.

Charter Schools: Because funding is based on student enrollment, as students move from public schools to charter schools, they take their student allotment with them. The SBOE should advocate for equitable, fair and transparent funding of our schools and keep that in mind when approving new charters.

Inclusive Education: As a former educator and

» Luis Miguel Sifuentes (D) *(continued)*

social studies teacher, I became very familiar with the TEKS. As a general principle, curriculum and instructional material should be based on fact and inclusive of the good, the bad and the ugly. The SBOE should be inclusive curators of history, ensuring that the identities of all students are included, not just the identities of a few.

Recovery: The SBOE can adopt instructional materials that are relevant and inclusive to help re-engage disconnected students. The SBOE also needs

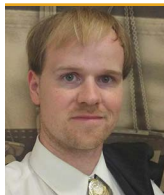
to spur strategies in schools that address the mental health needs of students as they cope with the disruptions and loss brought about by the pandemic.

Other Issues: The SBOE should work to ensure that they are transparent in their decision making while getting feedback from its customers: educators, parents, and students. I will work to ensure that the voices of parents, educators, and students are solicited and acted upon.

Campaign Website: <http://www.LuisMiguelSifuentesforTexas.com>

» James Whitfield (D)

No Response Received



» “DC” Caldwell (R)

Qualifications: -4 years military leadership development training
-Law degree (JD) -8 years teacher certified -More certification areas than any other candidate -Student experience at 4 universities, 4 community colleges, 3 elementary, and 4 secondary schools -Etc.

Charter Schools: Charter schools compete and collaborate with local public schools for state per-student grant funding. Charter grants result in higher average contribution from state budgets on students in that school district’s boundaries. Higher state contributions increase the community’s share of the state budget as compared to areas with similar student population without charters.

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Recovery: The Board can promote implementation of templates for model recovery programs that are already developed, vetted, and optimized for best practices. Existing recovery resources recommend many of the same principles and guidelines that already work well: -Assign support staff -Provide mentorship -Offer a range of choices -Allow scheduling flexibility -Focus long-term -Etc.

Other Issues: The SBOE approved a Long-Range Plan for Public Education in 2018 but did not publish updated legislative priorities for 2021, and I would want to improve some. Looking at the 2019 priorities, I see that the TEKS are based on Texas Education Code Section 4.002, so I recommend an update to the 1995 Public Education Academic Goals that recognizes improvements in technology.

Campaign Website: http://ballotpedia.org/DC_Caldwell



» **Rebecca Garcia (R)**

Qualifications: I worked with children teacher assistant in private and public schools for over 12 years.

I am an active mother of four and grandmother of fourteen that has been active in their education.

Charter Schools: The charter schools are competition for the federal education dollars; However, they offer a superior product to our students. No, I believe funding should follow the student whether public or private education.

Inclusive Education: Students should be taught

about American or Texas History in our Education. Our responsibility is to teach true history, of the country and the contribution of all people make in the country.

Recovery: The school can promote peer to peer tutoring, and study groups for a subject. Provide for additional teacher assistance to help with interactive study. Provide some Saturday school study.

Other Issues: Safety for students and staff. Students need to be taught in the different learning styles, adequate for each individual. Students need to be taught the basics.



» **Patricia "Pat" Hardy (R)**

Qualifications: One does not need to be a teacher to be on the Board but it helps. With many years of experience as a classroom teacher and inside administrator in public schools, I came with a wealth of knowledge. Being an incumbent has increased that knowledge.

Charter Schools: Charter schools impact local districts if they draw students away from the district, creating lower enrollment, the same impact if a student moves out of district. The vast majority of growth in charter schools is due to expansions of existing charters and not from granting new charters. The method of finance for charter schools has been determined by the Legislature.

Inclusive Education: The state social studies standards are inclusive. Realizing that our state school population is now minority majority, the Board needs to ensure that the standards are factual as well as sensitive to our changing demographics.

We are the only state that offers two ethnic studies courses for state credit. Next year we will add a third ethnic studies course.

Recovery: The state legislature addressed this in the last session by sending funding to districts for remediation for the students with gaps resulting from Covid. The effectiveness of remediating students after a full day of class concerns me greatly. I would support a temporary change in the STAAR testing, making it solely diagnostic thus removing the report card pressure.

Other Issues: School safety concerns me greatly. Much volatility is resulting from bullying situations. I think that building a more secure sense of community and respect for all students might be something that could be folded into the soon to be revised Social Studies TEKS. As a board we need to delve into the pros and cons of virtual schooling. Districts were not prepared for Covid.

Campaign Website: <http://hardyforeducation.com/>

» **Joshua Tarbay (R)**

No Response Received

» DISTRICT 12



» Alex Cornwallis (D)

Qualifications: In my profession, I solve incredibly complex problems through simple and effective solutions. Also, I am a community leader who has worked extensively with all levels of government to bring in resources and improvements for our community's education.

Charter Schools: Charter schools take away funding from our taxpayer funded public school systems, and due to their independent status, are not very transparent. They will require an additional layer of accountability to be effective and that cost brings no value to our taxpayers. I will deprioritize the new approvals of Charter schools and will increase oversight on the current charters.

Inclusive Education: I understand that history is a collective experience that our forefathers have transmitted to us. It is extremely important to learn from that experience so that we don't repeat the

mistakes of the past and are able to plan for a better inclusive future by using history as a guide. Our nation's history needs to be taught as is, with facts, and with absolutely no omissions.

Recovery: Arrange for a temporary spike in funding so that local school districts can hire additional teachers and also invest on additional remedial materials to facilitate an unprecedented rapid academic recovery.

Other Issues: Bring parity to teachers' salary. Texas is significantly behind in teachers' salary from the national average. Set a high priority to modernize the curriculum for STEM, arts, environmental sciences, critical thinking, health sciences and sports. The State Board of Education should do everything they can to shield the teachers from unreasonable and confusing legislation.

Campaign Website: <http://www.alexforeducation.com/>

» Roberto Velasco (D)

No Response Received

» Pam Little (R)

Unopposed

» DISTRICT 13

» Aicha Davis (D)

Unopposed



» Natalie Kohn (R)

Qualifications: High school physics teacher for Fort Bend ISD & Dallas ISD. Curriculum writer for

secondary science in FBISD, as well as assistant principal intern. I've earned multiple awards for district wide top testing scores. Today I am a parent, and PTO member.

Charter Schools: I do not believe that charter schools pose a major threat to the public school system. A fiscal challenge, perhaps, but not such a negative impact that a school district will immensely suffer. We are putting an enormous amount of taxpayer dollars in public schools, so parents should be able to direct their student and their money to whichever school they choose is best.

Inclusive Education: I do not believe in discounting any merits made in history. Along with any great accomplishment, disparity and hardship

played a crucial role in its development. Teach history unvarnished, acknowledge that very sensitive issues still exist today, but avoid any manner of instruction that establishes division.

Recovery: Initially, reengage disconnected students that feel lost or too far behind by providing them with support and interventions to cover lost ground. Break out groups for small group tutoring in the morning for those students who have been identified as needing help. Outside of school provide students with access to learning technology and engaging learning material.

Other Issues: Teacher retention is a huge issue. I do not believe in continuously raising the starting salary for entry level teachers. Those available funds should be either spent on veteran teachers, or on programs for new teachers still in their first 5 years, or a more cost efficient incentive program. Money is a temporary fix - teachers need to feel valued, supported, & respected.

» Ajua Mason (R)

No Response Received

» Kathryn Monette (R)

No Response Received



» A. Denise Russell (R)

Qualifications: I have been in the education field for over 20 years.

I have served on local school district committees that have recommended textbook adoptions and established curriculum guidelines.

Charter Schools: The local public schools are re-

ceiving 100% of the funds allocated towards the students enrolled in their schools.

Inclusive Education: I would review the current history curriculum versus the actual account of the incident to ensure that what is being taught presently is what actually occurred in history.

Recovery: The State Board of Education can work with the Texas Education Administration to develop

» A. Denise Russell (R) *(continued)*

a common program for all local schools to use on students that have fallen behind due to the pandemic.

Other Issues: Creating more life-applicable

courses in order to graduate Texas students who are better socially and financially prepared for success after high school.

Campaign Website: <http://adeniserussell.net>

» DISTRICT 14

» Tracy Fisher (D)

Unopposed



» Evelyn Brooks (R)

Qualifications: I have over 23 years of teaching practice and experience. This experience includes

classroom teaching, tutoring, homeschooling, mentoring, the founder of a small Frisco homeschool program, summer STEM science youth camp program, and facilitator.

Charter Schools: On average, charter schools receive \$676 less per student than local public schools, and receives no local revenue. Charter schools receive 100% of funding from Texas state sources, and is the only funding they receive. Local public schools receive both local property tax revenue, and state sources. I would not change that impact.

Inclusive Education: In the name of Inclusive Education, many children think socialism is good, and few know the difference between thinking and feeling. I will defend the civil liberties and rights guaranteed to every child, and ensure the development of a history curriculum that is untainted by

any political agenda, and teaches all students our American national heritage.

Recovery: This year Texas students' math test performance dropped from 50% of students meeting their grade level in 2019, to only 35%. The State Board of Education can assist local school districts by developing programs that invest most ESSER resources into math and reading programs that accelerate learning and supports all students and teachers.

Other Issues: Other issues I believe will be the most pressing for the State Board of Education is to address the overreach of influence and control of our local school districts by the taxpayer funded lobbyist groups TASB and TASA, the moral corruption of Comprehensive Sexual Education, and the invasive teachings of emotional and behavioral control through Social and Emotional Learning

Campaign Website: <http://evelyn4texaseducation.com>

» Sue Melton-Malone (R)

No Response Received

» DISTRICT 15



» Jay Johnson (R)

Qualifications: 1.SBOE-elected 2020 2.Pampa ISD Trustee for 16+ years, 3.Long range planning comm.

for PISD, 4.Co-chair citizen's comm. successfully passed bond issue, 5.Hundreds of hours of school board training, 6.Planning comm. Pampa HS multipurpose building.

Charter Schools: Every student/parent deserve options if trapped in a poor performing public school. Charter schools are currently the PUBLIC OPTION. Charter schools are utilized by 6.7% of Texas students, but 20% of funding, therefore charters must perform. SBOE and the legislature need to do an in depth study of charter school performance to determine effectiveness and/or other solutions

Inclusive Education: SBOE is reviewing all Social Studies in 2022. Appointing Highly Qualified Content Advisors and Work Groups is mandatory. TEKS must be carefully scrutinized. Comprehensive History is comprehensive history for all Texas

students. The knowledge students in Texas classrooms NEED is the same for all students in all social studies [civics] classes. Education techniques may vary.

Recovery: C19 Closures plus typical summer slide averaged 5.7 months learning loss for 2020 school year. Instructional material must be changed to assist accelerated learning. High quality tutoring must be used to accelerate closing learning gap. Billions of dollars have been allocated for Texas schools. SBOE and TEA must be flexible to allow school districts to make local choices

Other Issues: SBOE has authority to review local school board training. SBOE should investigate if local board training might improve relationships and understanding between all stakeholders. Critical Race Theory has become a hot button issue. SBOE should do everything possible to be certain that all revised TEKS and Instructional material are compliant with newly passed CRT legislation

Campaign Website: <http://jayjohnsonsboe.com>

» Aaron Kinsey (R)

No Response Received

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VoteTexas.gov

Your County Election Website
lwtexas.org/find-your-county-election-website

Election Protection
866OURVOTE.org

Voter Hotlines!

- English: 866-OUR-VOTE or 866-687-8683
- Spanish: 888-Ve-Y-Vota or 888-839-8682
- Asian: 888-API-VOTE or 888-274-8683
- Disability Rights TX: 888-796-VOTE or 888-796-8683

Republican Party
texasgov.org

Democratic Party
txdemocrats.org

Libertarian Party
lptexas.org

Green Party
txgreens.org



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