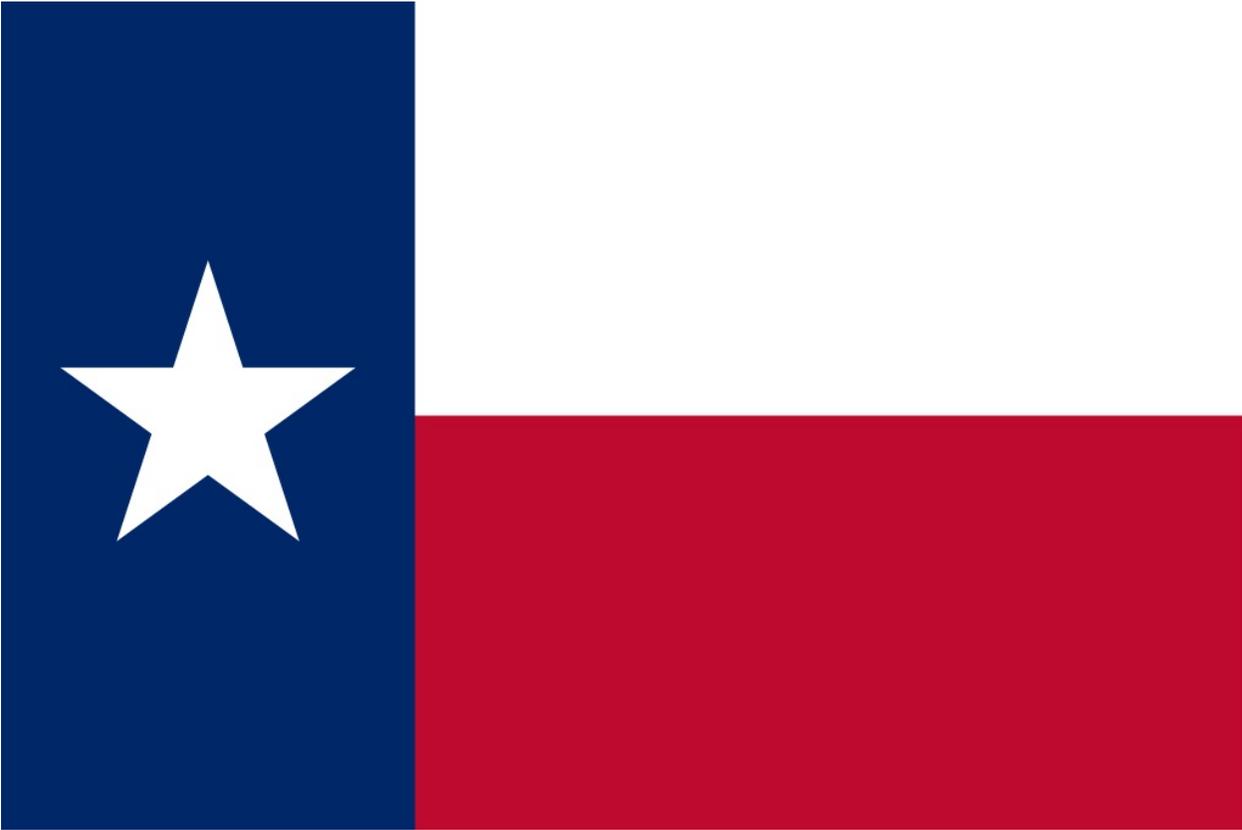


**November 2022  
Voter Guide  
Midterm Elections**



Presented by TWU 2023 Texas Government Students

## Voter Guide: Midterm Elections

Welcome, and thank you for taking time to learn about the ballot issues and candidates facing you in the election this November! We have done a lot of research about the upcoming election, and we encourage you to use this guide to learn more about your options. For each office or special election, we have offered an explanation of the issues or candidates, as well as information about who might support or oppose them, and why.

This guide will not fully reflect the ballot you will see at the voting booth this November. Due to the overwhelming number of offices on midterm ballots, we could not adequately cover all positions. We have focused here the higher-level elections, rather than down ballot offices. Depending on where your residency is located, you will vote on additional offices. For this reason, we also provide you with tips and resources for learning about all the possible choices you'll see on your ballot, and advice on how to be a successful voter.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Clare Brock and the students of TWU's Texas Government Class

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### Early Voting Information

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#### **For Denton County Voters:**

**\*\*Last day to register in advance of the November election is October 11, 2022**

#### **Early Voting Dates and Times:**

Monday – Friday, October 24-28: 8am – 5pm

Saturday, October 29: 7am – 7pm

Sunday, October 30: 11am – 5pm

Monday – Friday, October 31- November 4: 7am – 7pm

#### **Denton Voting locations, Early Voting:**

Denton Civic Center	321 E. McKinney St; Community Room
Denton County Elections Administration	701 Kimberly Dr., A111
MLK Recreation Center	1300 Wilson St., Meeting Rooms A & B
North Branch Library	3020 N. Locust St.; Meeting Room
Robson Rach Clubhouse	9428 Ed Robson Cir, Medina
South Branch Library	3228 Teasley Ln., Program Room
Texas Woman's University, Hubbard Hall	301 Administration Dr., Room 2238
University of North Texas, Gateway Center	801 North Texas Blvd., Room 52

During early voting you may vote at any designated polling location.

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## Election Day Voting Information

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**Election Day:** November 8, 7am-7pm

**Denton Voting locations, Election Day:** Can be found at the following link:  
<https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/1122-ED-Unconsolidated-Locations.pdf>

On election day you must vote at your **designated precinct location**, which can be found on your Voter Registration Card or when you look up your sample ballot (see ballot look up section).

### **Additional online resources for election information:**

To find additional voting offices, please check out the County Clerk or County Elections Administrator. <https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/county.shtml>

Additional Denton Voting Locations can be found using the following links:  
<https://www.votedenton.gov/upcoming-election-information/>

You can also access this polling place locator, if you are unsure of where to vote:  
<https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>

Information on requesting an absentee ballot or voting by mail can be found here:  
<https://www.votedenton.gov/early-voting-by-mail-absentee/>

Or

<https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/reqabbm.shtml>

Additional information on voting by mail:

<https://www.votetexas.gov/mobile/voting/voting-by-mail.htm>

**Accessibility:** Denton has curbside voting for voters who have difficulty walking or standing for long periods. If you have an assistant with you, when you arrive at the location, have them notify the election official at that time. The election official will then bring your ballot to your car outside the polling location. If you do not have an assistant, please call (940) 349-3200 ahead to notify the early voting clerk that you want to vote curb side.

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## Things to Know

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- Bring acceptable photo ID; which includes Drivers License, Passport, U.S. Citizenship Certificate, Military ID, Handgun License, Election ID, and Personal ID card.
  - You must be registered in the county you plan to vote in.
  - Don't wear any clothing, merch, etc affiliated with any specific political party. You could potentially be turned away for this. Feel free to wear your "Vote!" shirt though!
  - Do not attempt to block other voters from the ballot box, under any circumstances. This is illegal.
  - Don't ask others at the polls who they're voting for, don't share your own vote; this is for safety reasons.
  - Don't be rude to other voters that are putting in their polls.
  - Make sure to do your research on the candidates you're voting for, and the issues they're addressing!
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## Ballot Lookup

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Identify the issues you will be voting on!

- If you are in Denton county, you can find local issues using this Simple ballot lookup: <https://www.votedenton.gov/voter-lookup/#VoterEligibilitySearch>
    - You will **need** either a Voter ID number OR;
    - Your First Name, Last Name and DOB (date of birth)
  - A full list of all offices appearing on ballots throughout Denton county can be accessed here: [https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/1122\\_Verity\\_Active\\_Contest.pdf](https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/1122_Verity_Active_Contest.pdf)
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## Voter Registration

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\*Remember you must be registered to vote 30 days before election day!\*

**Requirements to register:** All steps must be completed 30 days prior to election day.

- (1) Must be 18 or older by the election day
- (2) You are a resident of the county where you submitted your application
- (3) You are a United States citizen
- (4) You are not convicted a felon
- (5) Must be mentally capable to vote (finalized decision appointed by court)
- (6) Have valid Voter ID <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/need-id.html>

(7) Cannot register online OR on the same day; must either register in person or fill the form out online and then print and mail it in. Additionally, applications are available in other locations like high schools, the county's voter registrar's office, and libraries.

\*Must have at least one acceptable form of photo identification\*

Link for Denton County Voter Registration: <https://www.votedenton.gov/voter-registration/>

**For all voters:**

- Registration Days:
  - Last day to register: **October 11**
  - Last day to send an application for a mail in ballot: Friday, October 28
- Voting Days:
  - First day of early voting: October 24
  - Last day of early voting: November 4
  - **Election day: November 8**

## United States Representative, District 26

**Candidate 1:** Michael C. Burgess

**Partisanship:** Republican

**Social Media:**

Website: <https://burgess.house.gov>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MichaelCBurgessMD>

Twitter: @michaelcburgess

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/michaelcburgess/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/repmichaelburgess/>

**Education:** Bachelors from University of North Texas; MD from The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, 1977; Master's degree in Medical Management from the University of Texas at Dallas and Honorary Doctorate of Public Service from the University of North Texas Health Sciences Center in 2009.<sup>1</sup>

**Professional Experience:** Practiced as an OB/GYN in North Texas for nearly three decades. Has been a U.S. Representative for Texas' 26th Congressional District since 2003

**On the issues:**

- **Abortion** - Does not support abortion and he wrote the bylaws at the Medical Center of Lewisville and two Denton County surgery centers prohibiting abortions from being performed on the premises. He believes in pro-life obstetrics practices.<sup>2</sup>
- **LGBTQ Rights** – Dr Burgess believes that the institution of marriage is a legal and moral bond between a man and a woman. He has supported multiple efforts in the House of Representatives to define marriage as the union of a man and a woman and make any state law as that. He would look to overturn the supreme court decision of Obergefell v. Hodges, 576 U.S. 644<sup>3</sup>
- **Education** - Burgess believes that education should be in the hands of the local people. He is opposed to governmental oversight when it comes to what is being taught in schools. He also believes that school districts should be in complete control of what they do with their budgets. Burgess also feels very strongly about providing education to our students that will help them get jobs in the future.<sup>4</sup>
- **Energy and Environment** - Burgess is mindful about the impact that alternative fuels can have on the environment. He sees alternative fuels as the future but recognizes that it's going to take some time for infrastructure and supply chain to be in place to provide alternative fuels to everyone. In the meantime, he believes it's important that we encourage domestic production of oil and gas for energy purposes.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/Michael\\_Burgess](https://ballotpedia.org/Michael_Burgess)

<sup>2</sup> <https://burgess.house.gov>

<sup>3</sup> <https://burgess.house.gov/issues/issue/?IssueID=635>

<sup>4</sup> Education. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2022, from <https://burgess.house.gov/issues/issue/?IssueID=241>

<sup>5</sup> Energy and Environment. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2022, from <https://burgess.house.gov/about/>

## United States Representative, District 26

**Candidate 2:** Mike Kolls

**Partisanship:** Libertarian

**Social Media:** <http://kollsforcongress.org/>

**Education:** Bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 1985<sup>6</sup>

**Professional Experience:** Project Manager at UT Southwestern Medical Center. Prior to that he was a Computer Programmer.<sup>7</sup>

### On the issues:

- **The Border** - Kolls believes that this is an emotional issue and that the way we have been dealing with it has not been working. He believes that if someone reaches our border and wants to be let in, we should let them in as long as they are privately sponsored by an American or are self-sufficient and will not be a drain on U.S. Taxpayers.
- **Environment** - Kolls is opposed to the Green New Deal and says that he wants to see proof of global warming before he will be convinced that anything needs to be done to make a change. He suspects that the warming we are experiencing is part of a normal trend and is not worrisome. There's not much available about what he would choose to do if he were to receive information indicating that global warming is a credible threat.
- **Coronavirus** - Kolls takes a classical liberal approach to COVID restrictions, primarily believing everyone is capable of making the decisions that are most appropriate for themselves. He supports decisions at the local level and supports businesses requiring masks if they so choose, or not requiring, if they so choose. He opposes widespread requirements on masking. He supports transparency in reporting and believes COVID was mishandled primarily by federal overreach.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Ballotpedia—Mike Kolls. (n.d.). Ballotpedia. Retrieved October 23, 2022, from [https://ballotpedia.org/Mike\\_Kolls](https://ballotpedia.org/Mike_Kolls)

<sup>7</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/Mike\\_Kolls](https://ballotpedia.org/Mike_Kolls)

<sup>8</sup> <http://kollsforcongress.org/Covid.html>

## United States Representative, District 13

**Candidate 1:** Ronny Jackson

**Partisanship:** Republican

**Social Media:**

Website: <https://jackson.house.gov/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RepRonnyJackson/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/RepRonnyJackson/>

Twitter: @RepRonnyJackson

Instagram: @repronnyjackson

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXhohNmrQ0R-c-5Nv2VfD9g>

**Education:** Undergraduate school at Texas A&M University and graduated from medical school-Texas Medical Branch.<sup>9</sup>

**Professional Experience:** Navy service, White House Medical Unit, Chief Medical Advisor, and elected in Texas' 13th Congressional District in 2020

**On the issues:**

- **Health** - Jackson holds the issue of health close to him, citing his former profession as a physician and remarking on how he views the American healthcare system as something that is broken and has created numerous challenges for many Americans. He claims that one of his first priorities if he is elected will be to advocate for policies that put the patient first, and plans to help lower the costs of healthcare, thus creating more competition in the field, which he hopes will result in better care. Ronny Jackson also wishes to increase healthcare access in rural areas and limit governmental control of healthcare.<sup>10</sup>
- **Immigration** - Jackson is firmly opposed to any sort of illegal immigration and vows to combat any policies he views as radical set forward by the Biden Administration. In addition to this, he wishes to secure the border as well as enforce previously existing immigration laws. Ronny Jackson is an advocate for immigration reforms and enforcement of immigration laws; however, he also adds that he respects immigrants who immigrate legally, and has no opposition towards them, but states that the issue of illegal immigrations creates an unsafe and unfair environment for all Americans, and therefore he does not support an open border policy.<sup>11</sup>
- **Abortion** - Congressman Jackson applauded the Supreme Court decision Roe V Wade and believes that abortions should not be legal. He is Pro-Life and has stated on numerous social media sites his stand and his belief that “abortion is not healthcare.”<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/Ronny\\_Jackson](https://ballotpedia.org/Ronny_Jackson)

<sup>10</sup> Congressman Ronny Jackson. (n.d.). Jackson.house.gov. Retrieved October 24, 2022, from <https://jackson.house.gov/issues/issue/?IssueID=14922>

<sup>11</sup> Congressman Ronny Jackson. (n.d.). Jackson.house.gov. Retrieved October 24, 2022, from <https://jackson.house.gov/issues/issue/?IssueID=14922>

<sup>12</sup> <https://jackson.house.gov>

## United States Representative, District 13

**Candidate 2:** Kathleen Brown

**Partisanship:** Democrat

**Social Media:**

Website: <https://kathleenfortx.com/>

Twitter: Twitter @Kat4District13

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KathleenforTX13>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/kathleenfortx13/>

**Education:** University of Houston, Clear Lake and University of Houston, Law Center

**Professional Experience:** Attorney

**On the issues:**

- **Education** - Brown states that she firmly believes in investing in education. She believes that education is an investment and not an expense. Education should not focus on testing and says that there are other ways to test a student's understanding of the subject. Brown has also spoken out about the need for safety in our schools with the epidemic of gun violence becoming a bigger factor in education.<sup>13</sup>
- **Environment** - Brown understands that Texas is one of the largest producers of energy in the nation. She also understands that, in order to remain a large producer of energy, Texas must use more of our natural resources to maintain in that position. She believes that we can create and distribute clean energy and plans on promoting clean energy to keep Texas as a premiere power provider. She does not mention limits on fossil fuels; instead, her focus is on creating more clean energy.<sup>14</sup>
- **Mental Health** - Brown believes that the health of one person is critical to the health of all persons. She states that one of the major problems facing society today is the lack of mental health care and the lack of access. Brown states that mental health care is currently inaccessible and not affordable for Americans. She believes that by putting forth a small investment, then it can be assured that everyone, no matter race, gender, or economic background, can have access to affordable and quality mental health care.<sup>15</sup>
- **Abortion** – Kathleen is pro-choice and believes that every mother has the right to choose what is best for their family. She believes the new Texas laws will hamper doctors' abilities to make the best choice for the mother in medical situations.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> On the issues. Kathleen Brown. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://kathleenfortx.com/on-the-issues/> and Cuvillo, M. (2022, May 30). Kathleen Brown, Democratic candidate for US district 13, weighs in on Uvalde shooting. Amarillo Globe-News. Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://www.amarillo.com/story/news/2022/05/30/democratic-candidate-us-district-13-weighs-uvalde-shooting/9987184002/>

<sup>14</sup> On the issues. Kathleen Brown. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://kathleenfortx.com/on-the-issues/>

<sup>15</sup> On the issues. Kathleen Brown. (n.d.). Retrieved October 24, 2022, from <https://kathleenfortx.com/on-the-issues/#photo>

<sup>16</sup> <https://kathleenfortx.com>

## Governor

**Candidate 1:** Greg Abbott

**Partisanship:** Republican

**Social Media:**

Website: <https://gov.texas.gov>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TexasGovernor>

Twitter: @GovAbbott

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/govabbott/?hl=en>

**Education:** B.A. in finance from University of Texas at Austin; J.D. from Vanderbilt University

**Professional Experience:** Abbott worked in private practice as an attorney at Butler and Binion LLP from 1984 to 1992. He served as a district court judge in Houston from 1993 to 1995 and justice on the Supreme Court of Texas from 1996 to 2001. He served as the attorney general of Texas from 2002 to 2015, and has since served as the governor of Texas, beginning in 2015.<sup>17</sup>

**On the issues:**

- **Abortion-** Governor Abbott is Pro-life and in September 2021 signed Senate Bill 8 (SB 8) into law which is known as the heartbeat bill. This law bans abortions in the State of Texas and only allows it in case the mother's health is in danger. Governor Abbott is working to "Ensure every unborn child with a heartbeat will be saved from the ravages of abortion"<sup>18</sup>
- **Law and Order** - Abbot will maintain Texas as a Law-and-Order state. This means making sure that our police force remains powerful and effective. He wants to prevent cities from defunding the police and provide law enforcement officers with the training they need to serve the community, fortify the border to prevent illegal immigration and reform a failing system that has allowed criminals on the streets.<sup>19</sup>
- **Healthcare** - Abbott wants to improve Texan's healthcare by expanding telehealth services, expanding access to COVID-19 vaccinations across the state, extending healthcare for pregnant mothers enrolled in Medicaid to 6 months postpartum. He also would like to expand mental health care.<sup>20</sup>
- **Economy and Prosperity** - Abbott aims to support the economy through a variety of avenues, including: balancing the budget without raising taxes, expanding broadband internet access, reducing regulation on business and keeping down unemployment insurance rates, making sure PPP loan forgiveness isn't taxed, investing in workforce development programs (particularly for oil pipelines), establishing civil liability protections for any business that operated through the pandemic, improving the reliability of the electric grid, and property tax relief.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/Greg\\_Abbott](https://ballotpedia.org/Greg_Abbott)

<sup>18</sup> <https://gov.texas.gov>

<sup>19</sup> Initiatives. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2022, from <https://gov.texas.gov/initiatives>

<sup>20</sup> Initiatives. (n.d.). Retrieved October 23, 2022, from <https://gov.texas.gov/initiatives>

<sup>21</sup> <https://gov.texas.gov/initiatives/more-prosperous-texas>

## Governor

**Candidate 2:** Beto O'Rourke

**Partisanship:** Democrat

**Social Media:**

Website - <https://betoorourke.com/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/betoorourke>

Instagram – <https://www.instagram.com/betoorourke/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/BetoORourke>

**Education:** Bachelor's degree from Columbia University

**Professional Experience:** U.S. House of Representatives, Texas 16th District from 2013-2019; Mayor pro tempore of El Paso 2005-2006; Member of El Paso City Council 2005-2011.<sup>22</sup>

**On the issues:**

- **Healthcare** - Beto would like to expand Medicaid, providing tens of thousands of new jobs and allowing more Texas residents to access healthcare. He also would like to enact a program called his "Nursing Jobs Plan" which will recruit 7,500 new nurses each year until our nursing shortage has been fixed.<sup>23</sup>
- **Immigration** – Beto believes that Texas should be the leader in safe, legal immigration. He acknowledges that in order to do this, we need to create bipartisan solutions. He agrees that our outdated laws allow smugglers and traffickers to introduce drugs and people into our country. He wants to secure the border with innovative solutions like surveillance towers and drones. He also would like to increase the funding at the border so that more potential immigrants can be screened before entering our country.<sup>24</sup>
- **LGBT rights** - Beto's website states the current challenges to marriage equality and investigations into transgender children's parents constitute discrimination toward the LGBT community. He supports a comprehensive non-discrimination law. Non-discrimination in context wouldn't be special protections for LGBT folks, but rather expanding on protections that already exist for other groups.<sup>25</sup>
- **Gun Safety** - Beto's opinion on gun safety has evolved over the years. Initially, he was for a ban on assault weapons, but he's gone further in recent years after the continuing escalation of gun violence. He supports a mandatory buyback program for assault weapons and a voluntary buyback for handguns. He will repeal permit-less carry, close the private sale loophole, establish red flag systems, put in place storage and child protection laws, and domestic violence reporting laws. All of these could have played a role in preventing other instances of gun violence throughout Texas in recent years.<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Beto O'Rourke. Ballotpedia. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from [https://ballotpedia.org/Beto\\_O'Rourke](https://ballotpedia.org/Beto_O'Rourke)

<sup>23</sup> Affordable Health Care. (n.d.). Beto for Texas. Retrieved October 23, 2022, from <https://betoorourke.com/issue/expand-health-care/>

<sup>24</sup> Border & Immigration. (n.d.). Beto for Texas. Retrieved October 23, 2022, from <https://betoorourke.com/issue/border-immigration/>

<sup>25</sup> <https://betoorourke.com/issue/lgbtq-rights/>

<sup>26</sup> <https://betoorourke.com/issue/promote-gun-safety/>

## Governor

**Candidate 3:** Mark Tippetts

**Partisanship:** Libertarian

**Social Media:**

Website: <https://www.mark4gov.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/mark4gov>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mark4txgov/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/mark4gov>

**Education:** BA and MA from San Luis Potosi, Mexico

**Professional Experience:** International Legal & Business Consultant for businesses that conduct business in Mexico and/or Latin America. Bilingual in English and Spanish.

**On the issues:**

- **Immigration** - Tippetts argues that most people who have entered the country illegally come here to work in construction, restaurants, or other low-skilled professions. He says process of coming to this nation illegally is dangerous and expensive. Instead of trying to bolster the border through walls or security, Tippetts believes that the problem of illegal immigration could be solved by having a good compensation policy so that it is easier for immigrants to come to this nation legally and contribute as hard workers. He does not believe that people should cross the border as the wish, but by changing our policies, we may be able to combat this problem in a different way.<sup>27</sup>
- **Legalize Marijuana** - Tippetts believes that marijuana possession is a victimless crime and to place people in prison for possessing marijuana is exacerbating the problem of our growing prison population. He believes arresting people for possessing marijuana costs the taxpayers money. He believes that marijuana should be considered like tobacco and alcohol, and if people want to consume this substance, that is their choice. As such, he plans to legalize marijuana in Texas, which is in line with most polls that state that a large portion of Americans want to see the substance legalized.<sup>28</sup>
- **Education** - Tippetts is a proponent of school choice. He believes Republicans haven't done enough to improve schools, and Democrats plans of increasing funding for state schools won't be effective either. He wants to model Texas after the school choice programs implemented in Arizona. This involves vouchers to allow the choice for attendance at private schools or homeschooling. This would allow parents more say in what their children are learning since they would be able to choose schools that align closer with their values, including approach to sex education, mask wearing, and religious affiliation.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> Issues. Mark Tippetts For Texas Governor. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://www.mark4gov.com/issues.html>

<sup>28</sup> Issues. Mark Tippetts For Texas Governor. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://www.mark4gov.com/issues.html>

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.mark4gov.com/issues.html>

## Governor

**Candidate 4:** Delilah Barrios

**Partisanship:** Green Party

**Social Media:**

Website: <https://delilahfortexas.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/delilahfortexas/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CT7HsnugDh2/>

Twitter: @DelilahforTexas

**Education:** Unknown

**Professional Experience:** Barrios' career experience includes working in healthcare<sup>30</sup>

**On the issues:**

- **‘Medicare for Y’all’** - Healthcare is top priority for Barrios. Especially through COVID, access and inequality in healthcare became a glaring issue. Texas is one of the most un- or underinsured states in the country, and Barrios seeks to change that. She views a healthy population as key to a healthy economy. Relatedly, reproductive rights fall under healthcare, and she seeks penalties for anyone who tries to deny access to care.<sup>31</sup>
- **Basic Income Guarantee** – Barrios argues that there are a variety of reasons, including disability, that some aren’t able to work, but work is not the only way to contribute to society. Basic income would be a method to prevent people being unable to survive due to not being able to work full or part time. She also advocates for the minimum wage being raised to \$20/hr due to rising costs and long-term wage stagnation.<sup>32</sup>
- **Reproductive Rights** – Barrios as a medical professional believes every woman should have access to abortion as it is healthcare, and the current laws are a bias to gender as it endangers women’s lives by blocking access to medical needs.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>30</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/Delilah\\_Barrios](https://ballotpedia.org/Delilah_Barrios)

<sup>31</sup> <https://delilahfortexas.com/platform/>

<sup>32</sup> <https://delilahfortexas.com/platform/>

<sup>33</sup> <https://delilahfortexas.com/platform/>

## Lieutenant Governor

**Candidate 1:** Dan Patrick

**Partisanship:** Republican

**Social Media:**

Website: <https://www.danpatrick.org/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DanPatrick>

Facebook: [https://m.facebook.com/dan.patrick.texas/#\\_=\\_](https://m.facebook.com/dan.patrick.texas/#_=_)

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/danpatricktexas/>

**Education:** B.A. in English, University of Maryland-Baltimore County.

**Professional Experience:** Incumbent. Lieutenant Governor of Texas 2015-present.

**On the issues:**

- **LGBTQ Rights** - Lieutenant Governor believes that banning same-sex marriage could decrease bigamy, pedophilia, and incest. He argues that if the right to select a partner of their choosing should be a fundamental right, then marriage restrictions on age, polygamy, and consanguinity could also be altered in the future as a result.<sup>34</sup>
- **Abortion** - Patrick is pro-life. He has supported banning abortion in Texas once Roe was overturned. He stated he was sure the left would fight to allow abortion in Texas, but the left would not “win that fight”. He has led the charge to more than double funding for the Alternatives to Abortion program and has strengthened adoption programs in Texas for families who adopt children.<sup>35</sup>
- **Immigration and Border Security** - Patrick wants to make sure that we secure our borders and one way that he is looking to do that is to evaluate how state employees at the border have been using funds and what impact this has had on crime. He doesn’t specify how he would like to change the operations at the border, just says that he will evaluate.<sup>36</sup>
- **Infrastructure** - Our infrastructure was called into question after the great winter storm that occurred in 2021. Patrick would like to investigate how a similar situation can be prevented in the future. He wants to set aside money to improve our broadband infrastructure, as well.<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> <https://www.texastribune.org/2014/08/06/ag-office-files-brief-supporting-same-sex-marriage/>

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.ltgov.texas.gov/2022/05/03/lt-gov-dan-patrick-says-abortion-will-be-banned-in-texas-if-the-u-s-supreme-court-overturns-roe-v-wade/>

<sup>36</sup> Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick releases top 2023 legislative priorities. (2022, April 4). KXAN Austin. <https://www.kxan.com/news/texas-politics/lt-gov-dan-patrick-releases-top-legislative-priorities-for-2023/>

<sup>37</sup> Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick releases top 2023 legislative priorities. (2022, April 4). KXAN Austin. <https://www.kxan.com/news/texas-politics/lt-gov-dan-patrick-releases-top-legislative-priorities-for-2023/>

## Lieutenant Governor

**Candidate 2:** Mike Collier

**Partisanship:** Democrat

**Social Media:**

Facebook: <https://www.collierfortexas.com/facebook>

Twitter: <https://www.collierfortexas.com/twitter>

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/collierfortexas?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

**Education:** University of Texas at Austin and earned a bachelor's degree and M.B.A.

**Professional Experience:** Founded an Oil company and served as the CFO for said company. Also has worked with Exxon and as an auditor for PriceWaterhouseCoopers<sup>38</sup>

**On the issues:**

- **Crime** - Collier would like to legalize Cannabis and remove Texans from prison if they have been locked up for non-violent, cannabis related offenses. It's also a top priority of his to make sure that it's harder for people to get ahold of guns, ensuring that no one under the age of 21 can get one.<sup>39</sup>
- **Infrastructure and Energy** - Collier is committed to making our grid more efficient. He wants to invest in smart grid technology and create tie-ins to the national grid. He says that this will help lower energy bills across Texas and prevent another great weather disaster. Collier also wants to hold corporations accountable in order to bring down energy cost. He believes that Texas can bring down energy bills while remaining the energy capital of the world, but in order to do so, Texas needs a new approach.<sup>40</sup>
- **Education** - Collier wants to fully fund public schools to help pay educators and provide student needs. He believes in funding public schools rather than providing vouchers and private charters. He wants to help schools provide more special education support, create smaller class sizes, and invest in teachers. He believes that there are currently budget cuts that harm teachers and students. He also believes in the idea of a cost of living adjustment for current teachers, retired teachers, and all educators. Finally, he wants to put an end to the high-stakes testing that is the focal point of a lot of schools, teachers, and students.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> Ballotpedia—Mike Collier (Texas). (n.d.). Ballotpedia. Retrieved October 24, 2022, from [https://ballotpedia.org/Mike\\_Collier\\_\(Texas\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Mike_Collier_(Texas))

<sup>39</sup> Issues. (n.d.). Collier for Texas. Retrieved October 24, 2022, from <https://www.collierfortexas.com/issues/>

<sup>40</sup> Issues. (n.d.). Collier for Texas. Retrieved October 24, 2022, from <https://www.collierfortexas.com/issues/>

<sup>41</sup> Issues. Collier for Texas. (2022, September 21). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://www.collierfortexas.com/issues/>

## Lieutenant Governor

**Candidate 3:** Shanna Steele

**Partisanship:** Libertarian

**Social Media:** Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/shannasteeleforltgovernor>

**Education:** Unknown

**Professional Experience:** Security consultant

### On the issues:

- **Marijuana** - On her Facebook page, she posted a meme that argues that marijuana laws are victimless laws that are, in reality, revenue generators. As such, one can deduce from her post and her comments to this post that she wants to legalize recreational use of marijuana. If elected, she would legalize recreational use of marijuana and pardon those who have been convicted and imprisoned for the possession of the substance. She states that she is tired of seeing innocent people taking deals because of threats of incarceration related to marijuana laws.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> Steele, S. (2022, October 11). Shanna Steele for Governor. Facebook. Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://www.facebook.com/shannasteeleforltgovernor/>

## Attorney General

**Candidate 1:** Ken Paxton

**Partisanship:** Republican

**Social Media:**

Website: <https://kenpaxton.com/>

Twitter: Attorney General Ken Paxton (@KenPaxtonTX)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kenpaxtontx/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/KenPaxtonTX/>

**Education:** B.A and MBA, Baylor University; JD, U of Virginia School of Law

**Professional Experience:** Incumbent; Attorney General of Texas 2015-present; Texas House of Representatives, District 70; Texas State Senate, District 8

**On the issues:**

- **Border Security** - Paxton believes that there are violent drug cartels crossing our borders. It is a top priority to work with law enforcement to secure our border and protect Texas citizens. He states that he is also “working to achieve operational control of our border.” He is directly opposed to amnesty and states that he has voted to prohibit sanctuary cities. He has also filed bills to stop illegal immigrants from receiving in state tuition at Texas colleges and universities. He has also voted against allowing illegal immigrants from being able to acquire driver’s licenses.<sup>43</sup>
- **Law Enforcement** - Paxton states that it his office is a major supporter of prosecutors and law enforcement officers. He believes that by supporting police officer training and litigation within the courtroom, he can keep Texans safe. He says that two major problems for Texas are human trafficking and sexual assault. He states that he is working with district attorneys and law enforcement agencies across Texas to prosecute people who have committed these crimes.<sup>44</sup>
- **Anti-Government Overreach** - Paxton has a history of filing suits, many of them making it to the Supreme Court, over government overreach. He favors small government, less regulation, and the rights of individuals to make decisions for themselves. Some examples include arguing against the EPA’s “Waters of the United States” rule, fighting against the Department of Labor’s overtime rules, and lead a coalition against the Clean Power Plan. He also argued that the ACA is unconstitutional.<sup>45</sup>
- **Drugs** – Paxton has led multiple national lawsuits against opioid marketing and pushed for funding for those suffering from addiction. He has pushed to block the sale of synthetic cannabinoids through litigation and pushed for public education on dangers associated with synthetic drugs and the opioid epidemic.<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>43</sup> Issues archive. Ken Paxton. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://kenpaxton.com/issues>

<sup>44</sup> Issues archive. Ken Paxton. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://kenpaxton.com/issues>

<sup>45</sup> <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/about-office>

<sup>46</sup> <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/about-office>

## Attorney General

**Candidate 2:** Rochelle Mercedes Garza

**Partisanship:** Democrat

### **Social Media:**

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rochellegarza/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/RochelleMGarza/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/rochellegarza>

Website: <https://www.rochellegarzafortexas.com/>

**Education:** BA from Brown, Masters from UT Health Sciences, JD from University of Houston

**Professional Experience:** Attorney on staff with ACLU of TX, managing attorney with Garza and Garza law

### **On the issues:**

- **Immigration and the Border** - Garza believes refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers should be welcomed into Texas. She argues that the border is a federal issue and that the current Governor and Attorney General are not only wasting taxpayer dollars by wasting money on the border, but what they are doing is unconstitutional. She is against sending Texas National Guard members to the border and believes that doing things like this are actually making the situation worse. She states that her understanding of these things come from the fact that she is an immigration lawyer.<sup>47</sup>
- **Civil Rights** - This has many pieces to it, but all fall under the same umbrella. Garza is opposed to any voter suppression actions and will work to restore abortion access in TX and will not defend laws that infringe on this. Garza is committed to protecting workers' rights to unionize and will fight against misclassification of workers in order to prevent access to benefits, as well as wage theft. Garza will protect LBGTQ equality and fight against the unprecedented number of anti-LGBT bills introduced by Republicans.<sup>48</sup>
- **Marijuana** - Garza is in support of legalizing cannabis for recreational use and suggests that the law as it currently stands is racist against Black and Brown Texans. Garza would legalize cannabis if elected and expunge this charge on the records of all who have been convicted of cannabis related charges. She says legalizing cannabis would provide 40,000 jobs across Texas, which would raise \$1 billion. She states that nearly 70% of Texans support legalization and deserve an Attorney General who is in line with their views.<sup>49</sup>
- **Healthcare** - Garza wants to expand access to prescription drugs in rural areas and lower drug prices, push for vision and dental benefits with health plans, and expand Medicaid to those who need it. She also wants to stop lawsuits against schools, cities, and counties that have put in place restrictions, such as masking mandates, to ensure safety during COVID. She places emphasis on science and trusted, qualified experts to guide how to handle COVID related issues rather than on personal judgements.<sup>50</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> Issues. Rochelle Garza. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://www.rochellegarzafortexas.com/issues>

<sup>48</sup> <https://www.rochellegarzafortexas.com/issues>

<sup>49</sup> Issues. Rochelle Garza. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://www.rochellegarzafortexas.com/issues>

<sup>50</sup> <https://www.rochellegarzafortexas.com/issues>

## Attorney General

**Candidate 3:** Mark Ash

**Partisanship:** Libertarian

**Social Media:** Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/markashlibertarian/>

**Education:** South Texas College of Law and Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology from University of Texas/El Paso

**Professional Experience:** Criminal Defense Attorney, Mark Ash & Associates

### On the issues:

- **Border Security** - Ash believes that a wall paid for using tax-payers money does not constitute as reasonable border security. Instead, he believes that the task of border security should remain in the hands of the federal government. However, Ash claims that the state of Texas may still assist border patrol in border security efforts by arresting anyone who may have committed violent crimes upon crossing the border. He also states his belief that any illegal immigrants that are residing in the state of Texas should be properly identified, whether that means granting them a Texas ID or a driver's license.<sup>51</sup>
- **Marijuana** - Ash supports legalizing the buying and selling of marijuana. He has also made his opposition to mass incarceration clear, which includes the incarceration of those imprisoned under any charges relating to the use and or possession of marijuana. Ash wishes to pass legislation that would legalize marijuana and therefore free those who he believes have been unrightfully incarcerated. In addition to this, he also believes the current drug war needs to be stopped, citing that mass searches of vehicles by officers looking to find drugs should be made unlawful and wishes to discontinue such searches.<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> Ash, M. (2022, September 14). Mark Ash Libertarian. Facebook. Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://www.facebook.com/markashlibertarian/>

<sup>52</sup> Ash, M. (2022, September 14). Mark Ash Libertarian. Facebook. Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://www.facebook.com/markashlibertarian/>

## Railroad Commissioner

**Candidate 1:** Wayne Christian

**Partisanship:** Republican

**Social Media:**

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WayneChristianTX>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/christianfortx>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/christianfortx/>

Website: <https://www.christianfortexas.com>

**Education:** BA in business, minor in marketing, Stephen F. Austin State University

**Professional Experience:** Wayne is the owner of an investment company and a registered representative of Sun America Securities Inc. of Center, Texas

**On the issues:**

- **Energy Independence** - Christian wishes for Texas to help push the United States closer to energy independence. He states that the pandemic has proved just how important it is for Texas to be self-sufficient in their energy production as well as how important it is to have experienced leaders overseeing that production. It is for this reason that Christian says he is running for Railroad Commissioner, and he places an emphasis on advocating for regulating the oil and gas industry. He wishes to continue working for Texas in a bid to push for energy independence, a more reliable power grid, and lower costs of energy.<sup>53</sup>
- **Abortion** - Christian makes his stance on abortion clear by stating that he will continue to work tirelessly to limit what he calls the “heinous” practice of abortion in the state of Texas. He states that he is pro-life on the issue of abortion and will fight to support legislation that would limit the accessibility and practice of abortion in the state. In addition to this, Wayne Christian also promises to perform investigations on where Texans’ tax dollars are going to shed light on taxes that are used to support abortion and he hopes to redirect those tax dollars towards something different.<sup>54</sup>
- **Property Taxes** - Christian has repeatedly introduced legislation to end property taxes. He believes it’s not an equitable way to finance schools, and property owners shouldn’t be the only ones shouldering the burden of funding education.<sup>55</sup>
- **Immigration** – Christian has a hard stance on illegal immigration and has coauthored legislation that would make English the official language of Texas. He also will push to mandate the verification of any arrested person’s immigration status before release and only allow driver’s licenses to be issued to legal residents. He wants to abolish in-state tuition for colleges and universities for illegal immigrants and wants to analyze the cost of immigration on state agencies.<sup>56</sup>

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<sup>53</sup> News. (2021, June 23). Wayne Christian for Railroad Commissioner. <https://www.christianfortexas.com/news-1>

<sup>54</sup> Wayne Christian (Texas state executive). (n.d.). Ballotpedia. Retrieved October 25, 2022, from [https://ballotpedia.org/Wayne\\_Christian\\_\(Texas\\_state\\_executive\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Wayne_Christian_(Texas_state_executive))

<sup>55</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/Wayne\\_Christian\\_\(Texas\\_state\\_executive\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Wayne_Christian_(Texas_state_executive))

<sup>56</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/Wayne\\_Christian\\_\(Texas\\_state\\_executive\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Wayne_Christian_(Texas_state_executive))

## Railroad Commissioner

**Candidate 2:** Luke Warford

**Partisanship:** Democrat

### **Social Media:**

Website: <https://lukewarford.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LukeWarfordTX>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/LukeWarfordTX>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/lukewarfordtx/>

**Education:** University of Delaware and London School of Economics and Political Science

**Professional Experience:** Chief strategy officer and director of voter expansion, Texas Democratic Party; director of the Albright Stonebridge Group; policy working group administrator with Hillary for America.<sup>57</sup>

### **On the issues:**

- **Energy Infrastructure** - Warford draws people's attention to the failure of the infrastructure that occurred in 2021 during the massive snowstorm, which caused power outages all over the state and got national attention. He states that a drop in natural gas supply was one of the causes for the grid failure and that the Railroad Commission should establish a weatherization standard that is clear to prevent future failures. Furthermore, he states that critical natural gas producers need to be identified so that there are adequate preparations that are met before the next winter storm is arrives and causes issues again.<sup>58</sup>
- **Environment** - Warford attacks the current Railroad Commissioner by stating that he regularly puts campaign donors before public safety. He notes that Commissioner Christian went against the recommendations of the Railroad Commission inspectors and approved a wastewater disposal site that is said to directly threaten a major aquifer only to receive a six-digit campaign contribution from the site-owners. Additionally, he states that the Commission is responsible for abandoned wells that leak into drinking water.<sup>59</sup>
- **Transparency** - Warford states that the current Texas Railroad commission is misusing their money, allowing over 70% of their current campaign funding to come from the industry in which they are meant to be regulating instead of from more honest sources. In addition to this, he claims that the Commission often makes big decisions without first consulting the general public or holding debate sessions. Warford wishes to create an environment of transparency to create an agency that not only functions more efficiently, but also serves the public interest and holds it members accountable for their actions.<sup>60</sup>

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<sup>57</sup> Luke Warford. Ballotpedia. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from [https://ballotpedia.org/Luke\\_Warford](https://ballotpedia.org/Luke_Warford)

<sup>58</sup> Issues. Luke Warford for Railroad Commission. (2022, April 8). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://lukewarford.com/issues/>

<sup>59</sup> Issues. Luke Warford for Railroad Commission. (2022, April 8). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://lukewarford.com/issues/>

<sup>60</sup> Issues | Luke Warford For Railroad Commission. (2022, April 9). Luke Warford for Railroad Commission. <https://lukewarford.com/issues/>

## Railroad Commissioner

**Candidate 3:** Jamie Andres Diez

**Partisanship:** Libertarian

**Social Media:**

Website: <https://www.vote4diez.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/vote4diez>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/JaimeAndresDiez>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/vote4diez/>

**Education:** Bachelors, Southern Methodist University

**Professional Experience:** Co-owner of CARX and works as an operational manager with Logistics Experts LLC

**On the issues:**

- **Environment** - Diez believes that Texas needs to adopt what he refers to as a “Polluter Pays” principle. He states that oil wells are often left unplugged and the sites of them are left polluted, and that when this occurs the financial burden of plugging the wells and cleaning the site falls unfairly upon the taxpayers of Texas. Jamie Diez believes that this needs to be changed, and claims that if he is elected to office, then he will ensure that the liability of oil wells falls upon those who originally operated the wells in the first place instead of upon taxpayers.<sup>61</sup>
- **Technology** – Diez believes that the Railroad Commission needs to implement the use of more technology to run efficiently. He suggests the use of optical gas imaging cameras, which can detect gas leaks otherwise invisible to the human eye, as well as the use of drones to keep track of methane emissions. Jamie Diez states that to implement these changes, the Railroad Commission will train new workers, acquire more equipment such as vehicles, and form alliances with other companies. He states that by making these changes, the Railroad Commission can help protect the atmosphere, create new jobs, and improve the Texas economy.<sup>62</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> Jaime Díez. (n.d.). Ballotpedia. Retrieved October 25, 2022, from [https://ballotpedia.org/Jaime\\_D%C3%ADez](https://ballotpedia.org/Jaime_D%C3%ADez)

<sup>62</sup> Political Platform. (n.d.). Jaime Andrés Díez for Railroad Commission. Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://www.vote4diez.com/platform>

## Railroad Commissioner

**Candidate 4:** Hunter Wayne Crow

**Partisanship:** Green Party

**Social Media:**

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/hunter-crow-for-txrrc2022/home>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VoteHunterCrowForTXRRC>,

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CrowRailroad>

**Education:** Tarrant County College

**Professional Experience:** Notary public

**On the issues:**

- **Gas prices** – Crow will aim to achieve gasoline under \$2 per gallon through publicly owned utilities. He says that the fossil fuels have made record profits during the pandemic. He states that most families commute more than 10 hours a week to work. He states that it is time to lower gas prices to help the working class and that the increase in price of goods may be linked to an increase in the cost of fossil fuels. Crow believes that he can stop fossil fuel companies from having record profits and can help the average worker by bringing down gas prices.<sup>63</sup>
- **Energy Grid** - Losses of power in the past few years have led to loss of life. Crow holds ERCOT and Governor Abbott responsible for these failures and endeavors to prevent a repeat.<sup>64</sup>
- **Environment** - Crow pushes that Texans need to become environmental activists and can do so by creating links between activism and other groups that they may already be a part of. He also states that individuals need to make personal changes in areas such as diet but adds that such changes can only be effective when met with the changes of many rather than the few. Crow states that he wishes to advocate for changes of habits and practices among Texans so that a great environmental movement can be fostered, and the future of the world may be invested in.<sup>65</sup>

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<sup>63</sup> Hunter Crow for Texas railroad commissioner 2022 - Top Priorities. Hunter Crow for Texas Railroad Commissioner 2022 - Top priorities. (n.d.). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from <https://sites.google.com/view/hunter-crow-for-txrrc2022/top-priorities?authuser=0>

<sup>64</sup> <https://sites.google.com/view/hunter-crow-for-txrrc2022/home>

<sup>65</sup> Hunter Crow for Texas Railroad Commissioner. (n.d.). [www.gp.org](http://www.gp.org). Retrieved October 25, 2022, from [https://www.gp.org/hunter\\_crow\\_for\\_texas\\_railroad\\_commissioner](https://www.gp.org/hunter_crow_for_texas_railroad_commissioner)

## Denton County Special Election: Proposition A

**Appears on ballot as:** “The issuance of \$650,000,000 general obligation bond for constructing, improving, repairing and maintaining roads, bridges and highways within Denton County, including city, state and county streets, roads, highways and bridges and participation with federal, state and local public entities related to such improvements and the imposition of a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds.”

**Explanation:** This proposition asks for \$650 million dollars to be issued to address the rapid population growth in Denton County. This would provide funding to widen, improve, and build new roads and bridges to ease congestion and support emergency response time.<sup>66</sup>

**Argument For:** It’s estimated that 82 people move to Denton County every day. This contributes to congestion and crowding, especially along roads that used to be rural, once upon a time. Farm to market roads weren’t meant to see this kind of use, and they really need updating. This leads to more accidents, more time commuting, and longer emergency response time as emergency vehicles struggle to navigate crowded roads. Funding would aid state highways, local arterial roads within cities, safety improvements, and county roads and bridges.<sup>67</sup>

**Argument Against:** There is disagreement of Proposition A state that the proposition would raise property taxes. Despite supporters saying it shouldn’t, those in opposition fear that the County’s good bond standing, an “AAA” rating, may not be enough to prevent raised property taxes. In fact, property owners could face as much as a 12% tax increase and many opposers state that they believe property taxes are already much too high. Furthermore, relentless efforts by property owners to reduce those taxes have been unsuccessful and therefore opposers of Proposition A maintain that the proposition should be thrown away to avoid a further increase of taxes that taxpayers may be unable to combat.<sup>68</sup>

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<sup>66</sup> <https://www.vote411.org/personalized-voting-info>

<sup>67</sup> <https://www.vote411.org/personalized-voting-info>

<sup>68</sup> Justin Grass. (2022, October 10). What’s impacting Denton County this November? Local races, propositions to consider. Denton Record-Chronicle. [https://dentonrc.com/news/election\\_2020/whats-impacting-denton-county-this-november-local-races-propositions-to-consider/article\\_0b9f4e2f-709d-55d1-a17b-03bba3ce1257.html](https://dentonrc.com/news/election_2020/whats-impacting-denton-county-this-november-local-races-propositions-to-consider/article_0b9f4e2f-709d-55d1-a17b-03bba3ce1257.html)

## City of Denton Special Election: Proposition B

**Appears on ballot as:** “Shall an initiative ordinance be approved to eliminate low-level marijuana enforcement”

**Explanation:** This proposition aims to decriminalize low-level offenses regarding the use of marijuana. Prop B would create Chapter 21, Article V “Marijuana Enforcement” in the Denton Code of Ordinances. This ordinance would make it so citations and arrests would not happen for Class A or Class B misdemeanor possession offenses. Citations and arrests would only happen if it were related to the investigation of a felony level narcotics case that had already been deemed a high priority by the Denton police commander, assistant chief of police, or chief of police, or in the case of a violent felony. In all other cases, it would be a report and release.<sup>69</sup>

**Argument For:** Marijuana has been legalized in some states and there’s growing support for that here as well. This would be a step in that direction. In addition, many who are in jail for marijuana are non-violent offenders serving time for things that wouldn’t be jail offenses now.<sup>70</sup> Supporters also add that marijuana has beneficial health factors and the criminalization of it has led to meaningless barriers for many people who wish to become employed, acquire housing, and obtain education.<sup>71</sup>

**Argument Against:** Opponents that it could lead to challenges for law enforcement officers. In addition to this, some opposers cite there are sources that states cannabis use can sometimes be linked to violence, and by decriminalizing its use, it could lead to an uptake in violence. Some opponents also feel that Proposition B should not be decided by voters, and should instead be left to higher-level officials.<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>69</sup> <https://www.vote411.org/personalized-voting-info>

<sup>70</sup> <https://www.vote411.org/personalized-voting-info>

<sup>71</sup> Christian McPhate. (2022, October 19). Proposition B puts marijuana reform on the ballot for Denton voters. Denton Record-Chronicle. [https://dentonrc.com/news/election\\_2020/proposition-b-puts-marijuana-reform-on-the-ballot-for-denton-voters/article\\_91254757-0e33-5c06-92da-1e5b32d6c337.html](https://dentonrc.com/news/election_2020/proposition-b-puts-marijuana-reform-on-the-ballot-for-denton-voters/article_91254757-0e33-5c06-92da-1e5b32d6c337.html)

<sup>72</sup> Christian McPhate. (2022, October 19). Proposition B puts marijuana reform on the ballot for Denton voters. Denton Record-Chronicle. [https://dentonrc.com/news/election\\_2020/proposition-b-puts-marijuana-reform-on-the-ballot-for-denton-voters/article\\_91254757-0e33-5c06-92da-1e5b32d6c337.html](https://dentonrc.com/news/election_2020/proposition-b-puts-marijuana-reform-on-the-ballot-for-denton-voters/article_91254757-0e33-5c06-92da-1e5b32d6c337.html)

## **Additional Races and Ballot Propositions**

This voter guide is limited in its coverage. During midterms, Texans are asked to vote on a large number of races and issues, and we were unable to cover all of them. Depending on where exactly you live, offices we were unable to cover include the Comptroller of Public Accounts, Commissioner of the General Land Office, Commissioner of Agriculture, Supreme Court Justice places, Court of Criminal Appeals places, State Board of Education districts, County Judges, County Clerks, State Representatives, County Commissioner's, Independent School District special elections, and more.

Please use the voter lookup tool, linked at the beginning of this voter guide, to view the exact offices that will be on your ballot. A list of all active contests in Denton County can be viewed here: [https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/1122\\_Verity\\_Active\\_Contest.pdf](https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/1122_Verity_Active_Contest.pdf)

The Texas League of Women Voter's also provides a voter guide for all races and issues in Texas, which can be found here: <https://onyourballot.vote411.org/race-index.do?c=27179377>