

# *SAM HARLESS*

State Representative District 126  
2021 Constitutional  
Amendment Newsletter



*Texas House of Representatives*



**Texas  
House District  
126**

**News  
and  
Information**



## Constitutional Amendment Newsletter

This November we will have an election which will include the eight proposals resulting from bills passed during the 87th Legislative Session. These proposals are for new amendments to the Texas Constitution. Election Day for this will be November 2, 2021. I encourage you to forward and share this with your friends and contacts so they may be informed as well.

## Ballot Language

# CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSITIONS

NOV. 2, 2021  
ELECTION DAY

**PROPOSITION 1** The constitutional amendment authorizing the professional sports team charitable foundations of organizations sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association or the Women's Professional Rodeo Association to conduct charitable raffles at rodeo venues.

**PROPOSITION 2** The constitutional amendment authorizing a county to finance the development or redevelopment of transportation or infrastructure in unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted areas in the county.

**PROPOSITION 3** The constitutional amendment to prohibit this state or a political subdivision of this state from prohibiting or limiting religious services of religious organizations.

**PROPOSITION 4** The constitutional amendment providing additional powers to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct with respect to candidates for judicial office.

**PROPOSITION 5** The constitutional amendment changing the eligibility requirements for a justice of the supreme court, a judge of the court of criminal appeals, a justice of a court of appeals, and a district judge.

**PROPOSITION 6** The constitutional amendment establishing a right for residents of certain facilities to designate an essential care giver for in-person visitation.

**PROPOSITION 7** The constitutional amendment to allow the surviving spouse of a person who is disabled to receive a limitation on the school district ad valorem taxes on the spouse's residence homestead if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of the person's death.

**PROPOSITION 8** The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a member of the armed services of the United States who is killed or fatally injured in the line of duty.

## The Bills Creating the Propositions

### Authorize Charitable Raffles at Rodeo Venues Amendment

Authorizes professional sports team charitable organizations to conduct raffles at professional men's and women's rodeo venues.

### [Bill Analysis](#)

Bill Authors: Rep. Charlie Geren / Sen Jane Nelson

Bill: [HJR 143](#)

Enabling Legislation: [HB 3012](#)

### **Authorize Counties to Issue Infrastructure Bonds in Blighted Areas Amendment**

Authorizes a county to issue bonds to fund infrastructure and transportation projects in undeveloped and blighted areas

### [Bill Analysis](#)

Bill Authors: Rep Canales | Ashby | Kuempel | King, Ken | Geren

Bill: [HJR 99](#)

### **Prohibition on Limiting Religious Services or Organizations Amendment**

Amends the Texas Constitution to prohibit the state or any political subdivision from enacting a law, rule, order, or proclamation that limits religious services or organizations.

### [Bill Analysis](#)

Bill Author(s): Sen. Hancock

Bill: [SJR 27](#)

### **State Commission on Judicial Conduct Authority Over Candidates for Judicial Office Amendment**

Authorizes the Texas State Commission on Judicial Conduct to accept and investigate complaints and reports against candidates running for state judicial office.

### [Bill Analysis](#)

Bill Author(s): Rep. Jetton / Sen. Zaffarini

Bill: [HJR 165](#)

Enabling Legislation: [HB 4345](#) (Failed to pass)

### **Changes to Eligibility for Certain Judicial Offices Amendment**

Changes the eligibility requirements for the following judicial offices: a justice of the supreme court, a judge of the court of criminal appeals, a justice of a court of appeals, and a district judge

### [Bill Analysis](#)

Bill Author(s): Sen. Zaffirini / Rep Landgraf

Bill: [SJR 47](#)

### **Right to Designated Essential Caregiver Amendment**

Amends the Texas Constitution to state that residents of nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, or state-supported living centers have a right to designate an essential caregiver that may not be prohibited from visiting the resident.

### [Bill Analysis](#)

Bill Author(s): Sen. Kolthorst

Bill: [SJR 19](#)

### **Homestead Tax Limit for Surviving Spouses of Disabled Individuals**

### **Amendment**

Amends the [Texas Constitution](#) to allow the legislature to extend a homestead tax limit for surviving spouses of disabled individuals as long as the spouse is 55 years old and resides at the home.

#### [Bill Analysis](#)

Bill Author(s): Reps Ellzey, Guillen, Pacheco / Sen. Birdwell

Bill: [HJR 125](#)

### **Homestead Tax Exemption for Surviving Spouses of Military Fatally Injured in the Line of Duty Amendment**

Amends the Texas Constitution to allow the legislature to apply a homestead tax exemption for surviving spouses of members of the military to those fatally injured in the line of duty.

#### [Bill Analysis](#)

Bill Author(s): Senators Campbell, Bettencourt, Blanco, Gutierrez, Hall, Hancock, Hinojosa, Huffman, Lucio, Menéndez, Paxton, Perry, Powell, Schwertner, Seliger, Springer, Whitmire / Reps Lopez, Bucy

Bill: [SJR 35](#)

## **Voting Information In Harris County**

The Harris County Elections Administrator is responsible for carrying out each election in the County. They create the ballot and identify and secure the locations used for early voting and election day voting. They are also responsible for securing and administrating the voting equipment used at each of the voting sites. [Elections Administrator website](#)

### **Mail Ballot Applications**

This election cycle, the Harris County Elections Administrator has already begun mailing ballot by mail applications to every registered voter 65 or older, whether they requested one or not. While this may confuse those who did not request one and usually vote in person, it does not change anything, unless you fill it out and mail it in. You can vote in person, if you do not mail in the mail ballot application.

If you are under 65 and will be out of the County and want a ballot by mail application you can get it [here](#). Full qualifications for ballot by mail are listed on the top of the application. Instructions for returning the mail ballot application can be found [here](#).

### **Voter Registration**

Harris County has an on-line voter registration portal [found here](#). You can complete the voter registration application on-line and receive your registration card by mail.

If you need to check your voter registration status, you may do that [online here](#) with Harris County, or you may also check your status with the [Secretary of State's Office here](#).

The Elections Administrator has offices in several annex locations, although all of them are well South of North Loop 610. [See locations map here](#)

For telephone assistance with voting and the Elections Administrator, please call 713-755-6965.

[E-mail voter registration \(voters@harrisvotes.com\)](mailto:voters@harrisvotes.com)

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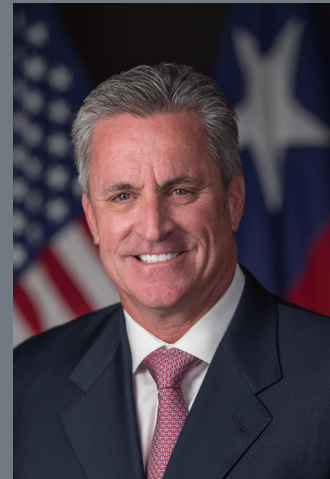
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