



**TEXAS FREEDOM**  
CAUCUS

*2022 Guide to*  
**Republican Party of Texas**  
*Primary Ballot Propositions*



## *Our Mission*

We recognize that the United States was founded upon the truth that our unalienable rights are given to us by God, that government is instituted by God to protect those rights while deriving its authority from the people, and that the U.S. and Texas Constitutions are the guiding limits on government action.

Recognizing this truth, the Texas Freedom Caucus is founded in the Texas House of Representatives with a mission to amplify the voice of liberty-minded, grassroots Texans who want bold action to protect life, strengthen families, defend the U.S. and Texas Bills of Rights, restrain government, and revitalize personal and economic freedoms in the State of Texas.





## A Message from the Chairman

*Fellow Texan—*

It's that time of the year again! Just three months ago, we provided you with a guide to the November 2021 Texas Constitutional Amendment election. Each of those amendments passed and are now a part of the Texas Constitution. Now, in just a few weeks, we'll be gathering at the ballot box again to choose who will represent us in government and what types of policies those representatives will pursue.

Every March of even-numbered years in Texas, Texans also have the opportunity to vote on ballot propositions offered by their state parties. These propositions are non-binding and will not create law. Instead, they act as both an opinion poll and subsequent marching orders to show the Legislature which conservative priorities voters expect to be put into action. As we are a strictly policy-based organization, we cannot endorse in election races, but we can provide guidance on policy issues, which is what you'll find below.

We live in a time where Joe Biden and liberals across the country are attacking our Christian conservative values and targeting Texas. We have the conviction to be victorious in this fight; after all, this is a critical reason why the Freedom Caucus exists—to fight back. However, we can't do it without your input and consideration.

So, without further ado, please enjoy the Texas Freedom Caucus's *2022 Guide to Republican Party of Texas Primary Ballot Propositions*.

Sincerely,

Mayes Middleton  
State Representative  
Chairman, Texas Freedom Caucus



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## Short Guide

\*For a full and detailed explanation, please see the pages below.

- Proposition 1:**    **YES**
- Proposition 2:**    **YES**
- Proposition 3:**    **YES**
- Proposition 4:**    **YES**
- Proposition 5:**    **YES**
- Proposition 6:**    **YES**
- Proposition 7:**    **YES**
- Proposition 8:**    **YES**
- Proposition 9:**    **YES**
- Proposition 10:**    **YES**

## Proposition 1: Secure the Border

### Ballot Language

“In light of the federal government’s refusal to defend the southern border, Texas should immediately deploy the National Guard, Texas Military Forces, and necessary state law enforcement to seal the border, enforce immigration laws, and deport illegal aliens.”

### Brief Explanation

Over 1.2 million illegal aliens crossed the Texas border sector in 2021. Most were released into the country. The border is not secure. The simple truth is that the Biden Administration has intentionally abandoned border security. Large scale human trafficking and drug smuggling are the rule—not the exception—and the Biden Administration refuses to recognize the legitimate crises his policies have caused. Cartels have operational control of the Mexican side of the U.S. border. Human trafficking and drug smuggling are at crisis levels. We can no longer wait for the federal government to act, and Texas should do everything in its power to prevent further damage to our state and country.

### Freedom Caucus’s Take

“Texas must act boldly. Washington has abandoned border security,” said Rep. Matt Schaefer, Vice-Chair of the Caucus. “I believe the U.S. Constitution ensures that the states have the sovereign right to maintain public safety. Texas must use all available tools and challenge the legal status quo. We need a fourth Special Session to develop new measures to protect our citizens and prevent the crime and destruction that comes from open borders.”

### Vote Recommendation

The Texas Freedom Caucus recommends a **YES** vote on this measure.

## Proposition 2: 10-Year Gradual Elimination of Property Taxes

### Ballot Language

“Texas should eliminate all property taxes within ten (10) years without implementing a state income tax.”

### Brief Explanation

In recent decades, Texans have seen their property taxes rise to meteoric values. According to the Tax Foundation, a fiscally conservative think tank, Texas ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation in terms of most amount of property taxes collected as a percentage of the value of the property being taxed. However, using what is commonly referred to as the “buy-down” plan along with other tools, Texans could see their property taxes completely eliminated within as little as ten years. Under the buy-down plan, surplus state revenue would be used to “buy down” local school maintenance and operation taxes—the bulk of your local property tax bill.

### Freedom Caucus’s Take

“People have lost properties that have been in their families for generations due to their being unable to keep up with the unfair and unreasonable increase in property tax burdens,” said Freedom Caucus member Rep. Matt Shaheen. “That’s a slap in the face to the people who helped make Texas what it is now. I filed H.B. 2074 last session to use surplus revenue to gradually buy down a significant portion of property taxes and worked very closely with the Texas Public Policy Foundation to educate others about the bill. I will file that bill again next session.”

### Vote Recommendation

The Texas Freedom Caucus recommends a **YES** vote on this measure.

## Proposition 3: Ban on Public and Private COVID Vaccine Mandates

### Ballot Language

“Texans should not lose their jobs, nor should students be penalized, for declining a COVID-19 vaccine.”

### Brief Explanation

The Biden Administration nearly tore the country apart with its unprecedented mandates requiring forced vaccination of private citizens. While the U.S. Supreme Court intervened and provided relief under the OSHA rule, it upheld the CMS mandate for healthcare employees. For the first time in history, the federal government—through executive action—is mandating forced vaccinations on Americans, including millions of Texans. This terrifying precedent destroys liberty, medical freedom, and federalism. Forced COVID vaccinations must be opposed with all tools available, and that is why the Freedom Caucus is calling for a 4<sup>th</sup> Special Session on this issue.

### Freedom Caucus’s Take

“These tyrannical COVID vaccine mandates will simultaneously destroy jobs, our economy, freedom, and federalism,” said Freedom Caucus member Rep. Brian Harrison, who also served as Chief of Staff at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under President Trump and helped launch Operation Warp Speed. “Within hours of being sworn in, I filed H.B. 168—the Texas COVID Vaccine Freedom Act—to resist this overreach and protect the rights and liberties of Texans. This is a line-in-the-sand moment. No Texan should be forced to receive a COVID vaccination absent true informed consent. As bad as COVID is, a loss of liberty is worse.”

### Vote Recommendation

The Texas Freedom Caucus recommends a **YES** vote on this measure.

## Proposition 4: Further Address CRT in Public Schools

### **Ballot Language**

“Texas schools should teach students basic knowledge and American exceptionalism and reject Critical Race Theory and other curricula that promote Marxist doctrine and encourage division based on creed, race, or economic status.”

### **Brief Explanation**

Although Critical Race Theory was virtually unheard of just a few years ago, nearly every parent in the country is familiar with its racist roots today. Last session, the Freedom Caucus successfully fought to eliminate the teaching of CRT as a part of teachings in American government, but as with all Marxist ideologies, they have spread uncontrollably to other disciplines, including math and science. The Legislature must act to ban all forms of CRT in the classroom before it destroys the years of progress we’ve made as a country.

### **Freedom Caucus’s Take**

“I authored and passed H.B. 3979 last session to fight CRT in public schools, but more is needed to ensure that a few rogue individuals aren’t bringing this philosophy into the classroom in other ways,” said Freedom Caucus member Rep. Steve Toth. “We have to continue to guard against the tenets of CRT or so-called ‘social emotional learning’—a destructive concept that bases all of our successes and faults on race—from popping up in counseling and other areas. We won’t let it happen in Texas.”

### **Vote Recommendation**

The Texas Freedom Caucus recommends a **YES** vote on this measure.

## Proposition 5: Constitutional Amendment Protecting Life

### Ballot Language

“Texas should enact a State Constitutional Amendment to defend the sanctity of innocent human life, created in the image of God, from fertilization until natural death.”

### Brief Explanation

The Texas Heartbeat Act, party written by our own Rep. Briscoe Cain, has led to the saving of nearly 100 unborn babies per day since its effective date last September. With the U.S. Supreme Court declining to hear a case overturning a stay on its implementation, the signals are clear: the U.S. Supreme Court is ready to overturn *Roe v. Wade* and send the abortion issue back to the states. Texas has prepared for this: Alongside the Heartbeat Act, the Legislature also passed a law that immediately illegalizes all abortions once *Roe* is overturned. However, a future Legislature could easily amend or repeal that law. A Constitutional Amendment would make it virtually impossible for any future legislature to make legal the atrocities of abortion in Texas.

### Freedom Caucus’s Take

“Last session I filed H.J.R. 15, which called for the U.S. Constitution to be amended to prohibit abortion in the United States,” said Freedom Caucus member Rep. Cody Vasut. “I’ll be filing that bill again, but I’ll also be filing an amendment to the Texas Constitution that will further protect babies from the whims of potentially harmful future legislative bodies.”

### Vote Recommendation

The Texas Freedom Caucus recommends a **YES** vote on this measure.

## Proposition 6: No Committee Chairmanships for Democrats

### Ballot Language

“The Republican-controlled Texas Legislature should end the practice of awarding committee chairmanships to Democrats.”

### Brief Explanation

Democrat policies were resoundingly rejected at the ballot box in 2020 when they attempted to flip the Texas House, but they failed miserably and gained zero policy ground. Last session, however, many of these Democrat chairs abandoned their jobs, their constituents, and their state when they fled to Washington, D.C. to prevent the Legislature from passing the election security bill. Members of the Freedom Caucus filed a resolution to strip these Democrats of their chairmanships, but the resolution did not advance. The millions of taxpayer dollars they wasted on their stunt will not go unaddressed, however.

### Freedom Caucus’s Take

“Every two years, the conservative grassroots Republicans layout an agenda of low taxes, protecting the sanctity of life, championing religious liberties, preserving our 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights, securing our border, restoring election integrity, and ensuring safe communities,” said Freedom Caucus member Rep. James White. “At the state level, Texas voters decisively choose and expect Republicans to lead and deliver. Our Texas Constitution requires that most legislative work occur in the committee process. This means that if we are going to deliver on our electoral mandate, Republicans must be leading completely in the committee process.”

### Vote Recommendation

The Texas Freedom Caucus recommends a **YES** vote on this measure.

## Proposition 7: Further Protect our Elections

### Ballot Language

“Texas should protect the integrity of our elections by verifying that registered voters are American citizens, restoring felony penalties and enacting civil penalties for vote fraud, and fighting any federal takeover of state elections.”

### Brief Explanation

Although the Legislature passed major election reforms last session, the Democrat quorum break caused several items to be left unaddressed. Texans—injured by the negation of their vote—should be able seek a civil penalty against others who engage in voter fraud. And Texas must always be prepared to fight federal laws that seek to enable vote harvesting and illegal voting, such as the bill that was recently defeated in Washington when even Democrats thought it went too far in enabling fraud.

### Freedom Caucus’s Take

“As Chairman of the Texas House Committee on Elections, we passed numerous protections for Texas elections last session, but the work is never done,” said Freedom Caucus member Rep. Briscoe Cain. “We need to do everything we can to ensure that elections—the bedrock of our republic—are free, fair, and secure. Every single illegitimate vote suppresses the voice of a legitimate voter. All votes matter because all voices matter. When legal votes are diluted by illegal votes, the very sovereignty of the people is under attack.”

### Vote Recommendation

The Texas Freedom Caucus recommends a **YES** vote on this measure.

## Proposition 8: Ban on Child Chemical Castration and Genital Mutilation

### Ballot Language

“Texas should ban chemical castration, puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and genital mutilation surgery on all minor children for sex transition purposes.”

### Brief Explanation

Last legislative session, the Freedom Caucus led on bringing attention to the growing, insidious practice of genital mutilation, either through surgery or cross-sex hormone “therapy,” of innocent children. Rep. Matt Krause, Secretary-Treasurer of the Caucus, filed H.B. 1399, which would have banned all forms of medical intervention in children for the purposes of “transitioning” their gender (an act which, although some doctors fail to admit it, is biologically impossible). Although the bill did not pass, the Freedom Caucus remains committed to passing this critical legislation.

### Freedom Caucus’s Take

“I gathered mountains of evidence about how harmful these so-called ‘medical interventions’ are in children when I filed and passed the Save Girls’ Sports Act (H.B. 25, Third Special Session), which prevents biological males from competing against females in sports designated for girls,” said Freedom Caucus member Rep. Valoree Swanson. “We’re going to continue to fight to save children from so-called ‘transitioning.’ The Freedom Caucus has called for a 4<sup>th</sup> Special Session to ban this evil practice.”

### Vote Recommendation

The Texas Freedom Caucus recommends a **YES** vote on this measure.

## Proposition 9: Education Freedom: Fund Students, Not Systems

### Ballot Language

“Texas parents and guardians should have the right to select schools, whether public or private, for their children, and the funding should follow the student.”

### Brief Explanation

During the COVID era, the issue of parents’ God-given rights in directing their children’s education choices has become more important than ever. Texas children from across all walks of life benefit from the positive aspects of education freedom and choosing an education that best works for their unique needs—whether that be a public or private school that performs well. However, many families want a choice, but the only barrier is that they can’t afford it. It is time for the Texas Legislature to truly allow funding to follow the child, as directed by the parents.

### Freedom Caucus’s Take

“The Freedom Caucus has worked on school choice since its launch in 2017,” said Rep. Mayes Middleton, Chairman of the Caucus. “In particular, I’ve been passionate about more educational opportunities and giving parents more tools to direct their child’s education. Last session I filed H.B. 4537 which would have created the Family Educational Relief Program. This program, if passed, will allow eligible low-income families to have money follow the child, so that children have more opportunities to succeed.”

### Vote Recommendation

The Texas Freedom Caucus recommends a **YES** vote on this measure.

## Proposition 10: Freedom of Conscience from Government Coercion

### Ballot Language

“Texans affirm that our freedoms come from God and that the government should have no control over the conscience of individuals.”

### Brief Explanation

From government-mandated COVID vaccines, to schools and agencies forcing staffers to take pledges against Christian values in CRT trainings, to physicians being forced to forego life-saving treatments of patients due to the controversy surrounding a particular drug, the soft tyranny of forced governmental compliance has gone too far. Government does not know how to run our lives better than we do, period. The Legislature must act to restrain governments from impeding on the individual consciences of its citizens and their right to make their own decisions for themselves.

### Freedom Caucus’s Take

“Around Texas we’ve seen multiple abuses of the sacred Texan and American value of being able to live freely to follow one’s own conscience, free from government coercion,” said Freedom Caucus member Rep. Gary Gates. “We need to get back to the common-sense realization that government-forced compliance with a particular directive is unhealthy, un-Texan, and an impractical way to run a society, and it will surely lead to ruin if we don’t soon address the problem.”

### Vote Recommendation

The Texas Freedom Caucus recommends a **YES** vote on this measure.

# The Texas Freedom Caucus



**Vice-Chairman**  
Representative Matt  
Schaefer (Tyler)



**Chairman**  
Representative Mayes  
Middleton (Wallisville)



**Secretary-Treasurer**  
Representative Matt  
Krause (Fort Worth)



Representative  
Briscoe Cain  
(Deer Park)



Representative  
Gary Gates  
(Fulshear)



Representative  
Brian Harrison  
(Waxahachie)



Representative  
Matt Shaheen  
(Plano)



Representative  
Valoree  
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(Spring)



Representative  
Steve Toth  
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