



VOTE SMART

The Political Courage Test 2020 Texas Edition

Candidates are strongly encouraged to complete the Political Courage Test online at:

<https://secure.votesmart.org/candidate>

Please indicate your positions on the following issues. You will be recognized for your Political Courage if you submit answers to the questions asked below. If you would like to provide a more detailed response, please do so in the "Other or expanded principles" section (all responses must be under 100 words).

The Political Courage Test must be signed and returned to our office by 11:59 pm CST the day of the deadline.
1153 24th Street Des Moines, IA 50311 - politicalcourage@votesmart.org

I, _____, am willing to tell citizens where I stand on the issues I may face if elected. I have demonstrated my Political Courage by indicating my position on the following issues.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

District: _____ State: _____

Abortion & Reproductive Issues:

- a) Do you generally support pro-choice or pro-life legislation? Pro-Choice__ Pro-Life__
- b) Do you support legalizing abortion when the pregnancy resulted from incest or rape? Yes__ No__
- c) Do you support the prohibition of public funds for organizations that perform abortions? Yes__ No__
- d) Other or expanded principles:

Budget, Spending, & Tax Issues:

- a) In order to balance the budget, do you support reducing state employee salaries AND/OR pensions? Yes__ No__
- b) In order to balance the budget, do you support an income tax increase on any tax bracket? Yes__ No__
- c) In order to reduce property taxes, do you support increasing state sales taxes? Yes__ No__
- d) Other or expanded principles:

Campaign Finance & Government Reform Issues:

- a) Do you support a limit on campaign contributions to state candidates? Yes__ No__
- b) Do you support the regulation of indirect campaign contributions from corporations and unions? Yes__ No__
- c) Do you support the use of an independent AND/OR bipartisan commission for redistricting? Yes__ No__
- d) Do you support requiring a government-issued photo identification in order to vote at the polls? Yes__ No__
- e) Do you support automatic voter registration? Yes__ No__
- f) Do you support partisan elections for judges? Yes__ No__
- g) Other or expanded principles:

Crime & Public Safety Issues:

- a) Do you support capital punishment for certain crimes? Yes__ No__
- b) Should an individual under 18 accused of a violent crime be prosecuted as an adult? Yes__ No__
- c) Do you support the enforcement of federal immigration laws by state and local police? Yes__ No__
- d) Do you support the use of private prisons in Texas? Yes__ No__
- e) Do you support mandatory minimum sentences for non-violent drug offenders? Yes__ No__
- f) Should law enforcement officers be allowed to arrest individuals for fine-only misdemeanors? Yes__ No__
- g) Other or expanded principles:

Economic Issues:

- a) Do you support state government spending as a means of promoting economic growth? Yes__ No__
- b) Do you support lowering state income taxes as a means of promoting economic growth? Yes__ No__
- c) Do you support reducing state government regulations on the private sector? Yes__ No__
- d) Do you support requiring welfare applicants to pass a drug test in order to receive benefits? Yes__ No__
- e) Do you support an increase of the minimum wage of Texas? Yes__ No__
- f) Do you support requiring employers to provide paid family leave? Yes__ No__
- g) Do you support providing financial relief to businesses AND/OR corporations negatively impacted by the state of national emergency for COVID-19? Yes__ No__
- h) Other or expanded principles:

Education Issues:

- a) Do you support adopting federal education standards in Texas? Yes__ No__
- b) Do you support state funding for charter schools? Yes__ No__
- c) Do you support increasing teacher salaries AND/OR benefits in Texas? Yes__ No__
- d) Should immigrants unlawfully present in the United States who graduate from Texas high schools be eligible for in-state tuition at public universities? Yes__ No__
- e) Other or expanded principles:

Environment & Energy Issues:

- a) Do you support state funding for the development of renewable energy (e.g. solar, wind, geo-thermal)? Yes__ No__
- b) Do you support state government regulation of greenhouse gas emissions? Yes__ No__
- c) Do you support increasing state funding for clean drinking water initiatives? Yes__ No__
- d) Other or expanded principles:

Gun Issues:

- a) Do you generally support gun-control legislation? Yes__ No__
- b) Should background checks be required on gun sales between private citizens at gun shows? Yes__ No__
- c) Should teachers be allowed to bring guns into the classroom after passing gun safety training? Yes__ No__
- d) Should a license be required for gun ownership? Yes__ No__
- e) Other or expanded principles:

Health Issues:

- a) Should the state government increase funding for treatment facilities to combat opioid abuse? Yes__ No__
- b) Do you support Medicaid expansion through Texas' health care programs? Yes__ No__
- c) Do you support requiring individuals to purchase health care insurance? Yes__ No__
- d) Do you support legislation that grants citizens the right to choose to die through euthanasia? Yes__ No__
- e) Do you support eliminating religious exemptions for vaccinations? Yes__ No__
- f) Do you support requiring businesses to provide paid medical leave during public health crises, such as COVID-19? Yes__ No__
- g) Other or expanded principles:

Social Issues:

- a) Do you support the inclusion of sexual orientation in Texas' anti-discrimination laws? Yes__ No__
- b) Do you support the inclusion of gender identity in Texas' anti-discrimination laws? Yes__ No__
- c) Do you support greater efforts by Texas state government in closing the pay gap between men and women? Yes__ No__
- d) Do you support expanding anti-discrimination laws to include hair textures and protective hairstyles? Yes__ No__
- e) Should state-licensed professionals be able to deny services based on their religious beliefs? Yes__ No__
- f) Other or expanded principles:

Legislative Priorities:

a) *In the following area, please explain in a total of 100 words or less, any additional priorities of your campaign that have not been covered in these questions.*

b) *In the following area, please explain in a total of 100 words or less, your top legislative priority and how you plan to fund it.*