
Texas Constitutional Amendments

to be Voted on November 2023

Prop 1 :: Right to Farm

The amendment would place the right to farm and ranch into the Texas Constitution thereby protecting the right to engage in generally accepted farm, ranch, timber production or wildlife management practices on real property. The amendment recognizes that ag operations can be regulated to preserve, conserve and develop the state's natural resources. Regulations to protect animal health and crop production to ensure livestock or crop disease can also be addressed.

Prop 2 :: Childcare Center Tax Exemption

The amendment would allow a county or municipality to exempt a qualifying childcare facility from property taxes. The exemption can range from no less than 50% up to the full appraised value of the property.

Prop 3 :: Prohibition of Wealth Tax

The amendment would prevent a future wealth tax from being implemented in Texas. To date, such a measure has not been attempted. Wealth (net worth) is defined as a business or individual's assets minus the business or individual's liabilities.

Prop 4 :: Property Tax Relief

This amendment is the tax relief package passed by the Legislature. The amendment includes:

- Appraisal caps on property other than residential homesteads of 20% through a 3 year pilot program
- School district residence homestead exemptions will increase from \$40,000 to \$100,000.
- Adjusting the amount of school district taxes on homesteads owned by elderly and disabled residents so they will benefit from any future exemption. This language was inadvertently omitted when the cap was raised from \$25,000 to \$40,000.
- Exemption of the state's cost of this tax relief effort from the constitutional spending limit.
- Term limits of not more than four years for members on appraisal districts' governing bodies in counties of more than 75,000 people.

Prop 5 :: Texas University Fund

The amendment would rename the National Research University Fund as the Texas University Fund and dedicates the economic stabilization fund for eligible state universities as major research universities.

Prop 6 :: Texas Water Fund

The amendment, if passed, creates a new \$1B water supply for the Texas Fund managed by the Texas Water Development Board to be used to finance projects, thus creating seven-million-acre feet of new water supplies by 2033. The fund specifically targets rural communities, brackish groundwater and seawater desalination and reuse of oil and gas wastewater.

Prop 7 :: Texas Energy Fund

The amendment would create the Texas Energy Fund and will provide \$5MM in funding to be used by the Public Utility Commission for the financing of construction and maintenance of electric generation facilities. Wind and Solar projects are NOT included.

Prop 8 :: Broadband Infrastructure Fund

The amendment would create the Texas Broadband Infrastructure Fund that would provide \$1.5B in state funding to broadband expansion in Texas. The Comptroller's Broadband Development Office and the Public Utility Commission would administer the fund using the dollars to expand broadband services and fully fund the Texas Universal Service Fund.

The Independent Bankers Association of Texas has publicly endorsed this proposition.

Prop 9 :: Teacher Retirement Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)

The amendment authorizes the legislature to provide for a one-time transfer of \$3.324B from the general revenue fund to Texas Teacher Retirement System for a cost-of-living adjustment for eligible participants.

Prop 10 :: Medical Equipment Tax Exemption

The amendment will allow for the exemption of sales tax on tangible personal property, equipment and inventory produced by the medical and biomedical manufacturers. Examples include medical devices, pharmaceuticals, personal protection equipment, implants, tools, implements and apparatuses.

Prop 11 :: El Paso County Conservation District

The amendment would add El Paso County to the list of counties in which conservation and reclamation districts are permitted to issue bonds supported by property taxes.

Prop 12 :: Abolish Galveston County Treasurer Office

The amendment abolishes the county treasurer office in Galveston County and authorizes the county commissioner's court to perform or contract a qualified person to perform the services and functions of the office. This measure is supported by the citizens of Galveston County.

Prop 13 :: Increasing Mandatory Judicial Retirement Age

The amendment would increase the mandatory retirement age for an incumbent state justice or judge to 79 years of age. The current mandatory retirement age is 75.

Prop 14 :: Centennial Parks Conservation Fund

The amendment would create a trust fund and provide \$1B in funding to be used for the creation and preservation of Texas state parks.