



VOTERS GUIDE

Nonpartisan

NOVEMBER 3, 2020, GENERAL ELECTION
TX REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 89

Early voting: October 13-30

Election Day Polls: November 3 – 7 am to 7 pm

ABOUT THIS VOTERS GUIDE

This Voters Guide is published by the League of Women Voters of Collin County to help citizens prepare to cast an informed vote. The League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

This guide is available online at www.LWVCollin.org, along with guides for other offices that include all or part of Collin County. Candidate responses for all races are also available at www.VOTE411.org, where you can enter an address and view a personalized ballot with races specific to that address.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates for each office, whether or not the race is contested. Candidate replies were subject to a character limit and are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the deadline, "No response received" is printed. Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This Voters Guide is organized by office sought, with candidates listed in alphabetical order, regardless of their political party.

League of Women Voters is a Nonpartisan Organization

The LWV never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

TX Representative District 89

2-year term. Must be 21 years or older, a U.S. citizen, a resident of Texas, and a resident of the district represented. Responsible for representing the citizens of the district in which he/she is elected in the Texas House of Representatives.

Questions

Education: What steps are needed to provide adequate, sustainable funding for public education in Texas?

Healthcare: What legislation would you support, if any, to offer comprehensive, affordable health insurance for the large number of Texans who are uninsured?

Redistricting: How will you support district maps that comply with the federal Voting Rights Act? What options, if any, do you support for redistricting reform?

Gun Violence: What legislation would you support, if any, to curb gun violence in Texas?

Elections: What measures do you support to improve and secure elections and voting in our state?

Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of the Texas Legislature, and what is your position on these issues?

Sugar Ray Ash
Democratic Party

Education: 1. B.S. - Business Admin.-Rider University 2. Juris Doctorate - Texas Southern Univ.

Experience: Co-Founder Murphy Chamber Commerce Co-Author Murphy Home Rule Charter Former Prosecutor Municipal Court State Delegate for Barack Obama-2008 Nat. Delegate for Barack Obama -2012 Precinct Chair, Poll Worker, Election Judge since 2004 Vietnam Veteran

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Education: HB3 compressed the tax rate (CTR) to 93%, however, I would take that a step further, something more in line with what they did in 2006 when they compressed the tax rate down to 67%. I would recommend a rate compression of at least 80% because property values in North Texas are rising so rapidly that even if the tax rate never goes up, the actual tax paid will increase because of the increase in taxable value. Also, I would include some legislation that would remove the property tax loopholes for business that allow them to appeal away millions of dollars of appraised property.

Healthcare: I would support legislation that will expand medicaid in Texas and opt in to the Affordable Care Act so Texas could receive the \$10 Billion in federal aid it passes up each year. I would also work with seniors to help them set up Qualifying Trusts so that more of them could qualify for Medicaid without worry of losing assets or showing too much income.

Redistricting: The greatest impact upon district maps is caused by the census; so I would work closely with the Census Bureau to assure that every person in Texas (and America) was counted. A district can not be properly represented if the total persons in that district are not counted. Further, I would work closely with voter registration so that the people in that district get to vote for the people who will represent them.

Gun Violence: Background check laws for sale of all guns; and a prohibition of sale of weapons of mass destruction, which do not belong in the hands of civilians, such as AK-47 & AR-15 Assault Rifles. Further, I believe that certain individuals should be prevented from purchasing any kind of firearm due to their mental instability and prior record of violence. And we should crack down on the number of Federal Firearms Licenses (FFL) that are issued because some of these guys operate out of a rented storage unit to sell guns to strangers for profit. I would demand they have "brick & mortar" store fronts.

Elections: NO bans on any voting sites whether temporary or full time; even if they are open part time that will give at least a few more people the opportunity to vote, and in a true democracy the more opportunity that people have to vote, the more you will know the true will of the people, which is a true democracy. Also, there are some people who will use this new ban to suppress the vote, and that is never a good thing. Further, I would make voting a state holiday in Texas, giving everyone the day off if they go vote. And finally, I would register voters when they renew their driving licenses.

Other Issues: Texas is great for finding a job; but not so great at finding a job that "pays the rent". Look at the Homeless population in the Capitol City of Austin to drive home this point. The minimum wage in Texas should be at least \$12.50 per hour, which is only 1% of the average rent for an apartment; also I support affordable housing. Also, I support decriminalization of marijuana and expunging criminal records for minor drug offenses. Finally, the State should not interfere with local governments and their respective revenues, regardless of the secretly recorded comments made by Speaker Bonnen.

Ed Kless
Libertarian Party



Education: BA, Pace University, Liberal Studies, Theatre

Experience: Radio talkshow host, business consultant, 2 time nominee for TX State Senate.

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Education: I propose a TX Constitutional Amendment to change the wording from providing an "efficient" system of education to an "effective" one. This would focus us not on spending (efficiency) but on the right outcomes (effectiveness). This could be accomplished by creating a single-payer system for education. The state would attach a dollar amount to each child and the money would go to the school of the parents choosing.

Healthcare: I would reduce the administrative burden on physicians who would want to create direct primary care (DPC) offices. DPC has been proved to reduce prices for consumers and increase the quality of care. In addition, I would allow and encourage more privately run surgery centers like the Surgery Center of Oklahoma, which publishes prices for over 100 procedures most of which at 1/10th the price that is charged in private AND public hospitals.

Redistricting: The solution to this is to allow the Party with ballot access that gets the lowest number of total votes in Statewide races to draw the district maps.

Gun Violence: I object to the bias in this question. What evidence is there to support that gun violence needs "curbing" in Texas? However, regardless of the bias in the question, the answer is, I support full, open, and Constitutional carry.

Elections: Elections should be done electronically using blockchain technology which would ensure the veracity of each and every vote. Billions of dollars in business is transacted daily using secure transaction processing systems. There is NO reason, why one could not be developed and implemented for voting in the state of Texas.

Other Issues: If elected, I would seek a complete overhaul of the laws and regulations in Texas with a commitment to repeal two laws or regulations for every one new one proposed. Our problem is TOO much government, not TOO little government.

Candy Noble
Republican Party



Education: Bachelor of Education, Hardin-Simmons University

Experience: Current Representative for Texas House District 89, Former Educator

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Education: I co-authored House Bill 3 which made much-needed historic changes in our school funding system and encourages excellence in teaching in low performing schools. We are blessed in HD89 with some of the best schools in the nation, and I work closely with our local schools' leadership to improve legislation. When the pandemic draws to a close, and our Texas businesses rebound, we'll better evaluate the results of how the new funding system is working. Educating young Texans is a priority in our Texas Constitution, and as a former educator, educating with excellence is also my personal priority.

Healthcare: We must remember: access to health insurance is not the same as access to healthcare. Our goal is to have HEALTHCARE available for all Texans. We currently have a shortage of Texas doctors that are willing to take on Medicare and Medicaid patients. Putting more patients into that same overloaded network will not result in better results for our fellow Texans. Instead, it would be to all our advantage to encourage a free market system that would allow for more health care choices for more Texans, not narrowing the available options for low-income Texans.

Redistricting: It is the duty of the Texas Legislature to draw redistricting lines, and I will follow the law and do my best to see lines that are drawn to represent the needs of Texans across the state.

Gun Violence: We already have laws on the books that deter gun violence, and those laws should be enforced and the perpetrators of those offenses prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. However, I would not support any laws that would infringe on law abiding Texans ability to own firearms. I fully support the Constitutional right guaranteed in the Second Amendment.

Elections: We must protect our most basic American privilege- the ability for citizens to each have one vote and for that right to be safeguarded from those that would undermine our

voting system. As a former Election Judge, I appreciate the bi-partisan, safe, secure, and honest elections for in-person voting in Collin County. During the House Voter ID Bill debate, Texas legislators from both parties stated that most voter fraud happens using mail-in ballots. Therefore, until we can have a verifiable system for mail-in ballots, and a more reliable postal service, I do not favor expanding voting by mail.

Other Issues: Our schools have been challenged to reinvent education, using online and in-person options and innovation. Teachers now have double the workload as they teach and maintain new online classes and content and also have kids in their classrooms with different lesson plans and needs as well. As a state, we should reduce the state-required testing so that the teachers may concentrate their limited time with their students to course content, and not preparing kids for a state-mandated test. Therefore, we should limit our testing requirements to end of course exams.

You may bring this *Voters Guide* into the voting booth! In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this *Voters Guide*, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional (*Texas Election Code, Section 61.011*)

Your vote is your voice. Be heard.