

## For a Strong Texas Forward

The Honorable Greg W. Abbott Governor of the State of Texas

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO: Mr. Luis Saenz, Chief of Staff luis.saenz@gov.texas.gov

May 18, 2020

Dear Governor Abbott:

"Tax relief is needed NOW to alleviate the burdens on families, empower entrepreneurs, and enable employers to further engineer the economic recovery Texans need, want, and deserve." 226 grassroots political opinion leaders

While infections, hospitalizations, and deaths have fallen far short of dire projections, the still unfolding economic devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting government-ordered shutdowns have far surpassed the expectations of regular everyday Texans. In other words, *the economic harm to Texas families and businesses is inestimable.* 

Thus far, more than 2 million Texans have been forced out of their jobs. Meanwhile, many of those who have retained jobs have been relegated to lower wages and other declines in income.

Before the pandemic, Texans were already forced to pay for more government than they could afford, with a growing number of homeowners taxed out of their homes due to property taxes. **Now, it is time to put Texas taxpayers first.** Without immediate reforms, we can only expect these onerous levies to rise due to the economic destruction caused by the government-ordered shutdown.

Homeowners across the state are already receiving appraisals they fear will result in substantially inflated tax bills from their local governments during the pandemic, and business owners struggle even more to pay sales and franchise taxes.

Your focused leadership on meaningful tax relief for all Texans would again convey your concern for the well-being of regular Texans. Tax relief would alleviate the burdens on families, empower entrepreneurs, and enable employers to further engineer the economic recovery Texans need, want, and deserve.

Such relief can be accomplished through increases in the homestead exemption, requiring local taxing jurisdictions to compress their tax rates, and reducing the sales tax and franchise tax. Tax relief must be built to 1) deliver measurable results, 2) benefit every Texas taxpayer, and 3) provide lasting relief for years to come.

Your leadership in a renewed fight for Texas taxpayers would provide a strong boost to Texans who are looking to pull themselves through this crisis and cause the Lone Star State to shine brightly as the premier leader in a post-COVID-19 nation. We ask that you fight *for* Texans and work to significantly reduce the burden of government on their lives.

## Texans deserve relief, and there is no time left to waste.

Sincerely, the undersigned conservative grassroots political opinion leaders, \*

Teresa Beckmeyer, Public Policy Director, Saulsbury Family; Precinct Chair, Mitchell County GOP; former Chair, Mitchell County Republican Party, SD 28 JoAnn Fleming, Executive Director, Grassroots America - We the People PAC James J. Graham, President, Texas Right to Life Daniel Greer, Executive Director, Direct Action Texas, SD 22 Tim Lambert, President, Texas Home School Coalition, SD 28 Rachel Malone, Texas Director, Gun Owners of America, SD 22 Cliff Maloney, President, Young Americans for Liberty, SD 14 Julie McCarty, CEO, True Texas Project, SD 12 The Honorable Matt Rinaldi, former State Representative, District 115 Michael Quinn Sullivan, CEO, Empower Texans Manfred Wendt, Executive Director, Young Conservatives of Texas, SD 10 Mark Meckler, President, Convention of States Action, SD 14 Matt Schaefer, State Representative, House District 6 Jonathan Stickland, State Representative, House District 92 Farris & Jo Ann Wilks, Cisco Conservatives, SD 28 Sue Evenwel, SREC, Senate District 1; Chair, Titus County Republican Party, SD 1 Susan Fountain, SREC SD 16 Jill Glover, SREC SD 12; Precinct Chair, Denton County Republican Party David Halvorson, SREC SD 12 Robert Kecseg, SREC SD 1, Precinct Chair, Wood County Republican Party, SD 1 Lt. Chris McDonald, SREC SD 6 Mark Ramsey, SREC SD 7, Chair, SREC Legislative Priorities Committee Tanya Robertson, SREC, SD 11, Board Member, Clear Lake Tea Party Allison Winter, SREC SD 4; Montgomery County Tea Party Cathie Adams, 1st VP, Eagle Forum; Former Chair, Republican Party of Texas Cindi Castilla, President, Texas Eagle Forum, SD 16 MaryAnne Aiken, Board Member, Grassroots America – We the People, SD 1 Bill Aiken, Advance Team, Grassroots America – We the People, SD 1 Sharron Albertson, Texas Director, National Life Chain, SD 8















Karen Albright, past President, Freestone County TEA Party, SD 5

**Sam Anderson,** Precinct Chair, Denton County GOP; Events Coordinator, Flower Mound Area GOP Club, SD 12

LaDaune Ashley, Precinct Chair, Brazoria County Republican Party, SD 11

Cindy Asmussen, Mom Caucus, SD 5

Deborah Bailey, past Secretary, San Angelo TEA Party, SD 28

Jim Barnes, President, McAllen/Hidalgo County TEA Party; Valley Conservative Newsletter Editor, SD 20

**Anna Bartosh,** Treasurer, San Angelo TEA Party; Legislative Chair, San Angelo Republican Women, SD 28

Annette Bennett, Prec. Chair, Gillespie County GOP; Fredericksburg Tea Party; SD 24

Geri Bentley, Treasurer, Clear Lake Tea Party, SD 11

Kristen Bickham, Precinct Chair, Dallas County Republican Party, SD 16

Beth Biesel, Forum Chief, American Liberty Forum, SD 16

**Bill Bingham,** Board Member, Bryan/College Station Tea Party; former Precinct Chair Brazos County Republican Party, SD 5

Tammy Blair, past Chair, Cherokee County GOP; Board Member, East Texans for Liberty, SD 1

Elena Blake, Prec. Chair, Dallas County GOP; President, Irving Republican Women, SD 16

Jill Bridges, Precinct Chair, Denton County Republican Party, SD 12

Janie Brittain, Steering Committee, Garland Tea Party; Dallas Eagle Forum, SD 16

Kristin Browne, Chair, Mitchell County Republican Party, SD 28

Wes Brumit, Chairman, Voices of Conservatism and Liberty PAC (VOCAL), SD 1

Tina Bryan, East Texans for Liberty; Gregg County Republican Party, SD1

Brandon Burden, Leader, Frisco Conservatives; Prec. Chair, Denton County GOP, SD 12

Dennis Cable, Precinct Chair, Smith County Republican Party; past SREC, SD 1

Adam Cahn, Austin political blogger, Cahnman's Musings, SD 21

Arthur Cameron, past Prec. Chair, Smith County GOP; Grassroots America, SD 1

David Carter, Central Texas TEA Party; John Birch Society, SD 24

Janice Carter, Chapter Leader, John Birch Society, SD 24

Janna Castloo, Chair, Wood County Republican Party, SD 1















Meredith Chiles, past President, Republican Club of Sun City, Georgetown, SD 5

Della Clark, Member, Grassroots America - We the People, SD 1

Ernie Clark, past President, Grassroots America - We the People, SD 1

Dr. Dwayne "Doc" Collins, Founder & Chairman, Edom TEA Party, SD 2

**Mark Coppock,** Board Member/Organizer, Bryan/College Station Tea Party; Precinct Chair, Brazos County Republican Party, SD 5

Sylvia Coulson, Vice Chair, Ellis County Republican Party, SD 22

Connie Curry, Founder, West Texas Conservative Leadership, SD 28

Mike Deaton, former Organizer, McKinney Tea Party, SD 8

Don Dixon, Longtime transportation reform activist & blogger, SD 25

Jim & Char Doonan, Lake Country Republicans; past Coordinator, Wood County Tea Party, SD 1

**Carol Doucet,** Co-founder, Conservative Society of Navarro County & Navarro County TEA Party, SD 22

Terri DuBose, Precinct Chair, Real County GOP, former SREC SD 19, SD 19

Sheri Edwards, Precinct Chairman, Brazoria County Republican Party, SD 11

Rick Eisenbach, President, Grassroots America - We the People, SD 1

William Ely, Director, Cypress Texas Tea Party; State Coalition Director, Convention of States, SD 7

**Sharon Emmert,** self-retired Smith County Commissioner; Charter Member, Grassroots America - We the People, SD 1

Maria Espinoza, Co-Founder & National Director, The Remembrance Project, SD 17

Toni Fabry, Chairman, Frisco TEA Party, SD 12

Tom Fabry, Treasurer, Frisco TEA Party, SD 12

**Chris Fails, Advisor,** Young Conservatives of Texas; former Mayor, Hollywood Park, SD 25

Dave & Mary Fallert, Lone Star Coalition, SD 2

Mary Anne Farrow, Board Member, East Texans for Liberty, SD 1

Rebecca Forest, President, Women on the Wall, SD 24

**Rena & David French,** Founder Patriot Members, Grassroots America – We the People, SD 3















Pat Fry, Fredericksburg Tea Party, SD 24

Bill & Patty Gallagher, Principal, Primadata Liberty Center, SD 2

Alejandro Gauna, Co-founder, Texas Minority Coalition, SD 1

**Mike Giles,** Treasurer, McKinney Tea Party; Founder, Grassroots McKinney; Board Member, Hispanic Republican Club of North Texas, SD 8

Suezette Griffin, Board Member, Clear Lake TEA Party, President, Pearland Tea Party, SD 11

Deborah Grimes, Communications Director, Project Fort Worth, SD 10

**Suzanne Guggenheim,** President, Coastal Bend Tea Party; President, Coastal Bend Republicans, SD 20

**Terri Hall,** Founder/Director, Texans Uniting for Reform and Freedom (TURF) & Texans for Toll-free Highways, SD 24

Donna Hallonquist, Grapevine Conservative Activists, SD 1

Phyllis Harding-Nichols, Precinct Chair, Wood County Republican Party, SD 1

Barbara Harless, Co-Founder, North Texas Citizens Lobby, SD 8

Joe Harrison, Founder & Organizer, Cass County Patriots, SD 1

Robin White Hayes, County Chair, Eastland County Republican Party, SD 28

Carole Haynes, Ph.D., Founder, American Citizens Matter, SD 12

David Heckert, Texans4Truth, SD 5

Jim Herblin, Precinct Chair, Collin County Republican Party, SD 30

Jill Youngblood Hilber, Recording Secretary, Park Cities Republican Women, SD 30

Beth Hollingsworth, Lone Star Coalition SD 2; Red Texas Forum, SD 2

Greg Holton, Regional Captain, Convention of States Action - Texas, SD 12

Mary & Dale Huls, former Secretary & President, Clear Lake TEA Party, SD 1

Jeremiah Hunter, 2018 Delegate, Republican Party of Texas Convention, SD 1

**Lola Hurt,** Precinct Chair, Dallas County Republican Party; Program Director, Dallas Eagle Forum, SD 16

Bill Hussey, Founder & past President, Llano TEA Party, SD 24

Kurt Hyde, Precinct Chair, Denton County Republican Party, SD 12

John Jackson, Grassroots America - We the People, HD 1

Troy Jackson, PhD., President, Southwest Dallas County Republicans, SD 23



COME AND TAKE IT EDOM TEA PARTY











**Cathy Jaster,** Precinct Chair, Williamson County Republican Party; Texans4Truth, SD 5

Dr. Joyce Bateman Jones, President, Central Texas Tea Party, SD 24

**Sharon Jones,** Secretary, Denton County Conservative Coalition, VP Legacy Republican Club, SD 12

Jeanette Rhodes Kalk, former, Treasurer/Director, San Antonio TEA Party, SD 25

Bill Kelberlau, Texans for Truth, SD 5

Jackie King, Co-founder, Conservative Society of Navarro County, SD 22

Michael Kinzie, Founder, TEAParty911.com, SD 7

Larry Korkmas, President, Texans for Immigration Reduction and Enforcement (TFIRE), SD 17

Joseph Leatherwood, Precinct Chair, Bexar County Republican Party, SD 25

Charlie Levitt, Vice President, True Texas Project, SD 9

Jeneria Lewis, Precinct Chair, Cameron County Republican Party; Cameron County Republican Women, SD 27

**Craig Licciardi,** Precinct Chair, Smith County Republican Party; Board Member, Grassroots America - We the People, SD 1

Matt Long, President, Fredericksburg TEA Party of Texas, SD 24

Teri Lopez, Board Member, East Texans for Liberty, SD 1

Dr. Ivette Lozano, President, Dallas County Republican Assembly, SD 2

Susan Lucas, Board Member, Bryan/College Station Tea Party, SD 5

Terry Lynch, past President, Park Cities Republican Women, SD 8

Tom Maddox, Chandler Conservatives, SD 3

Crystal Main, Precinct Chair, Tarrant County Republican Party, SD 9

John Marler, Speaker, Agenda 21-2030, SD 5

**Karen Marsalis,** Precinct Chair, Panola County Republican Party; past President, Panola County Republican Women & Panola County Conservatives, SD 1

William Marsalis, Past President, Panola County Conservatives, SD 1

Maria Martinez, Executive Director, Immigration Reform Coalition of Texas, SD 24

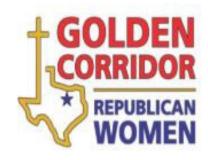
Paul Mascorro, Carrollton Tea Party; Grassroots America - We the People, SD 16

**Carroll Maxwell,** Precinct Chair, Collin County Republican Party; Past President, Collin County Conservative Republicans, SD 8











Ken & Janet Mayne, Secretary, Llano Tea Party; Precinct Chair, Llano County Republican Party, SD 24

**Kevin McCall,** Precinct Chair, Smith County Republican Party; Grassroots America - We the People, SD 1

**Ronda McCauley,** Precinct Chair, Williamson County Republican Party; Moderator, Texans4Truth, SD 5

**Ginger McDaniel,** Precinct Chair, Denton County Republican Party; Membership Chair, Denton County Conservative Coalition, SD 12

**Gloria McDonald,** Technology Chair, Denton County Conservative Coalition; Precinct Chair, Denton County Republican Party, SD 12

Michael McIver, Publisher, Texas Conservative Digest, SD 10

Stacy McMahan, Executive Director, East Texans for Liberty, SD 1

**Gloria Jeanne Melendez,** Management Committee, Bexar County Republican Party, SD 19

Carol Meyer, Gregg County Republican Club; East Texans for Liberty, SD 1

Darren Meyer, Board Member, Collin Strong, SD 8

Jennifer Montgomery, Precinct Chair, Denton County Republican Party, SD 12

**Kathy Morgan,** Precinct Chair, Collin County Republican Party, President, Golden Corridor Republican Women, SD 30

**Frank Motsenbocker,** Precinct Chair, Wood County Republican Party; Communications Chair, Holly Lake Hawkins Republican Club, SD 1

Cynthia Murphy, Fredericksburg Tea Party, SD 24

Joe Murphy, Treasurer, Fredericksburg Tea Party, SD 24

Ray Myers, Co-Chair, Lone Star Coalition, SD 2

Michael & Susan Najvar, Patron Member & Associate Member, Republican Women of Yoakum Area, SD 18

Brian Newman, President, Collin Strong, SD 8

Judy Nichols, Chair, Jefferson County Republican Party, SD 4

Laura Oakley, Founder/President, Grapevine Republican Club, SD 12

**Ashton Oravetz III,** past Chairman, Smith County Republican Party; past Board Member, Grassroots America – We the People, SD 1

**Dr. Sheila Page,** President, Texas Association of American Association of Physicians and Surgeons, SD 30















Tillie Perkins, President, RED Texas Forum; Co-Chair, Lone Star Coalition, SD 2

Terry Phillips, Smith County Commissioner, Precinct 3; SD 1

**Sue Piner,** Chair, Comal County Republican Party; President, Republican Club of Comal County, SD 25

Peggy Plumlee, Member, Wood County Republican Party, SD 1

Terry & Joy Putnam, Texans 4 Truth, SD 5

John Rappazzo, Board Member, East Texans for Liberty, SD 1

David Rasco, Precinct Chair, Smith County Republican Party, SD 1

**Philip Ratisseau,** Board Member, Conservative League of Texas Patriots; Board Member Clear Lake TEA Party, SD 11

Marty Reid, Pastor, Trinity Family Church, SD 2

Fran Rhodes, President, True Texas Project, SD 9

Marty Rhymes, President, Republican Club of Gregg County; PAC Treasurer, East Texans for Liberty, SD 1

Laura Richter, 2018 Delegate, Republican Party of Texas Convention; Lone Star Coalition SD 2; Red Texas Forum, SD 2

**Kathi-Ann Rivard,** Precinct Chair, Collin County Republican Party, Golden Corridor Republican Women, Frisco Tea Party, SD 30

George Rodriguez, President, El Conservador Radio & Blog, SD 25

**Kat Rowoldt,** Publisher/Owner, Christian Reporter News; Precinct Chair, Tom Green County Republican Party, SD 28

David Royer, East Texans for Liberty, SD 1

Diane Rydzak, Board Member, Grassroots America - We the People, SD 1

**Jeff Sadighi,** Chairman, SE Texas Tea Party; Vice Chair, Jefferson County Republican Party, SD 4

Ruben Salinas, Hispanic Christians 4 Trump, SD 12

Sudie Sartor, Treasurer, Texans United for Reform and Freedom (TURF), SD 25

Barry Schlech, PhD, Founder/past President, Texas Patriots TEA Party, SD 30

Judy Schmid, past President, Sugar Land Tea Party, SD 18

Josie D Schoolcraft, 2nd Vice President, Cherokee County Texas Republican Club; Precinct Chair, Cherokee County Republican Party, SD 3

**Bonnie Seelig,** Volunteer Deputy Registrar Coordinator, Austin Republican Women, SD 24











**Cynthia Simpson,** Election Judge, Brazoria County; Precinct Chair, Brazoria County Republican Party, SD 11

James Simpson, Election Judge, Brazoria County; Brazoria County Republican Party, SD 11

**Mike Slaton,** Precinct Chair, Dallas County Republican Party; past Treasurer Dallas County Republican Party, SD 2

Vicki Slaton, Former (term limited) SREC SD 2; RED Texas Forum, SD 2

Alan Smith, Steering Committee Member, Fredericksburg Tea Party, SD 24

**Angela Smith,** Founder & Steering Committee Member, Fredericksburg Tea Party, SD 24

Mike Smith, Central Texas TEA Party, SD 22

Murray Smith, past Secretary, Cherokee County Republican Party, SD 3

Tameka Smith, Board Member, Project Fort Worth, SD 12

Joan Somma, Board Member, Texans for Immigration Reduction and Enforcement (TFIRE), SD 17

Melody Spray, Director, Harrison County We the People, SD 1

Joel & Karen Starnes, Executive Director, Texas Liberty Initiative, SD 9

Barb Stauffer, Steering Committee Member, Garland Tea Party, SD 16

**Heather Stoner,** Board Member, Grassroots America - We the People; GOP Precinct Chair, Smith County, SD 1

Penny Story, Founder, Constitutional Conservative Activists, SD 22

Dwayne Stovall, Director, Get Off My State, SD 3

Mike Sweeney, Central Texas Tea Party, SD 5

Kaaren Teuber, Coordinator, Texoma Patriots, SD 30

Lyleann McClellan Thee, Co-founder & immediate past President, San Angelo TEA Party, SD 28

Elizabeth Theiss, former President, Stop the Magnet, SD 15

Martin Theiss, Grassroots America - We the People, SD 15

Pat Tibbs, President, Montgomery County TEA Party PAC, SD 4

**Bela Toth,** Board Member, Pearland Tea Party; Board Member, Pearland Area Republican Club, SD 11







Red Texas Forum ~ Dallas







Mildred Toth, Board Member, Pearland Tea Party; Pearland Area Republican Club, SD 11

John Tweedell, Coordinator, Convention of the States Project, SD 1

Lou Vail, Chair, Knox County Republican Party, SD 28

Karl Voigtsberger, former SREC SD 8, SD 8

Terry Wade, President, Collin County Conservative Republicans, SD 8

David Walls, Vice President, Texas Values Action, SD 14

Jay Ward, Board Member, Llano Tea Party, SD 24

James Wesolek, Longview Conservative Activists, SD 14

**Gary & Janet Whitehorn,** Board Member, Longview Tea Party; 2018 Delegate Republican Party of Texas Convention, SD 1

**Kevin Whitt,** Precinct Chair, Collin County Republican Party; Director, Mass Resistance Dallas, SD 8

Maggie Whitt, President, Minority Engagement Group, SD 8

Marshall Winegar, Precinct Chair, Denton County Republican Party; President, Legacy Republican Club, SD 12

Maggie & Carroll Wright, Founding member & past President, Texas Patriots TEA Party, SD 22

Karen Wylie, Precinct Chair, Smith County GOP; Grassroots America, SD 1

**Ruth York,** Vice President, Tea Party Patriots of Eastland County; Interim Secretary, EssentialCitizens.org; Precinct Chair, Eastland County GOP, SD 28

Pastor Greg Young, Nationally Syndicated Radio host, Chosen Generation Radio, SD 24

CC: The Honorable Dan Patrick, Lt. Governor of Texas



This letter was signed by **226 political opinion leaders (influencers)** from across Texas.

They are influencers in **210** unique organizations, political precincts, and districts.

\*Coalition "signatures" include organizational names for identification purposes only.









## PARK CITIES REPUBLICAN WOMEN





The Texas Conservative Grassroots Coalition is the premier project of Grassroots America - We the People PAC.

Paid for by Grassroots America - We the People PAC.

Contact: (903) 360-2858 grassrootsleadership@gawtp.com











**Cass County Patriots** 

