

PUT PROPOSITIONS ON THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY BALLOT!

GIVE US A VOICE!

LET US HAVE A SAY IN OUR OWN PARTY! GIVE US SOMETHING TO VOTE FOR!
STOP SQUAWKING ABOUT THE WRONG THINGS!

GET US EXCITED ABOUT VOTING IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

We, the Democratic voters in Texas, feel disenfranchised, angry, and apathetic when we leave the polling place without having the opportunity to voice our concerns or to influence our representatives on current and urgent issues affecting us in our daily lives.

Giving voter input directly to our representatives in **real time** via the ballot will reflect current and urgent data to our representatives allowing them to prioritize issues. The result will be that we will get more Democrats to the polls and more Democrats will be elected.

MAKE IT EASY

Contacting our Representatives is cumbersome, intimidating, inconvenient, unfamiliar, and time consuming, especially for younger voters, busy voters, working class voters, low-income voters, and non- English-speaking voters. It is an unpopular and antiquated way of expressing voter concerns.

We, the Democratic voters of Texas, should have the right and opportunity to express our views and priorities and influence our Representatives on State issues with easy, convenient, **immediate**, expedient, and readily accessible means during the voting process regardless of ability or desire to investigate and navigate the cumbersome method of contacting Representatives. We should further have the right and opportunity to expose the entire group of State Representatives of both Parties, the general population, and media outlets to the values and ideals of We the People.

HEAR WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO US

Democratic voters need to leave the polling place knowing we have used our hard-won, well- deserved, God-given Constitutional right to be represented and to influence Party ideals and values in **real time**. We fight hard out here. Our choice to be a Democrat is unpopular, intimidating, and often dangerous. We need our Party to **stop squawking about the wrong things**.

Legislators should and must provide all Democrats in the State of Texas the opportunity to express our ideals, values, and priorities in **real time**. We need to be inspired to keep fighting the good fight, elect more Democrats, and feel good about ourselves and the Party. We can stop the Republican demonization of Democrats by exposing the masses to our truth about our Party issues and dispelling misinformation, disinformation, and lies from the Republican Party and their far right-wing media and social platforms in real time.

GET US TO THE POLLS

Democrats have a dismally low turnout in Texas. We cannot seem to elect more Democrats to represent our ideals and values. The Party is all too quick to claim that we don't have a Democrat problem in Texas but rather a voter turnout problem. Well, **give us something to vote for!**

The real problem with getting Democrats elected in Texas is NOT non-voters but rather disheartened and disenfranchised Democrats. We have given up on the system because we perceive that we have **no real-time influence on politics**. This perception can very directly and successfully be remedied with the addition of Democratic Propositions that are mindfully written and easily available to every Democrat via the voting process. Again, the Party must allow us to give real time data and information to Representatives, the General Population, and to media and social network outlets. Give us a voice!

CONTINUED ON BACK →

THIS IS WHERE THE TEXAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY THINKING IS WRONG

The standard answer as to why propositions are not written and placed on the ballot is, "They don't mean anything." We say they do mean something! They mean we get a real opportunity to be an active participant in the political process. It will get us excited about voting. It will get more Democrats elected.

We also hear, "The Texas Democratic Party Platform has already been written and published and is available to our voters, reflecting voter input and concerns." Exactly when and where did we have any personal and direct input? That supposition is misleading and cannot reflect the urgency felt by voters on issues that may have changed since the Party Platform was written. Furthermore, we don't read the Party Platform! It is ridiculously long and includes everything but the kitchen sink. Our core values get watered down in all the smaller causes in the Platform that don't apply to most of us.

Others say that it will make the lines too long because voters will have to read too much. Democracy takes time! Perhaps the Party thinks Republicans are smarter than we are because they have quite lengthy propositions on their ballots and it certainly motivates them to vote.

Some elected Party members even claim voters will think they are passing laws. Really! That could easily be remedied by having voter instructions at the top stating something like, "Tell us what you think should be the major priorities of the Texas Democratic Party by answering the questions below."

Example:

How important is it to fight to raise the minimum wage to \$15.00?

*Very important

*Somewhat important

*Not very important

Other topics are immigration reform, crime, drugs, gay rights, women's rights, transgender rights, taxes, school funding, school testing (STAAR), etc.

We want to vote on more than ten propositions. We want the topics to be big and controversial. You will find that while many topics are important to us, they are not all in our top ten of importance.

HOW WE CAN GET IT DONE

Democratic Propositions for the Primary ballot should be written with input from County Parties, County Chairs, SDEC members, recognized groups within the party, and **YOUNG PEOPLE**. These are the people on the ground. These are the people that are more exposed to, more sympathetic to, less intimidating to, and more approachable in their communities. Furthermore, the Propositions should be major decision-making issues. **Don't give us patronizing little issues** like "Democratic values should focus on this or on that." We are not stupid, nor are we children. There should be no assuming that the Party elite know what is best for us. That presumption has gotten us nowhere.

Propositions should be accessible to voters at the polling place on the ballot where Democratic voters can easily and quickly exercise our right to have influence on our Party priorities, ideals, and values. We need to be leaving the polling place feeling good about our choice to be a Democrat. We need to look forward to and be excited about participating in future elections and in spreading the good word about our values and ideals for America.

Petitions are now circulating to present to our SDEC (State Democratic Executive Committee). When we have enough signatures, a Resolution will be written for submission to the State Chair, Kendall Scudder, and the SDEC.

printed name _____ email _____

address _____ county _____

signature _____ date _____