



Family Values Voter Guide

Recommendations for Propositions that are supportive of the Family

State of Texas Constitutional Amendment Election November 2, 2021

Proposition 1 (HJR 143)

Consider VOTING: [NO | AGAINST](#)

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the professional sports team charitable foundations of organizations sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association or the Women's Professional Rodeo Association to conduct charitable raffles at rodeo venues."

Proposition 2 (HJR 99)

Consider VOTING: [NO | AGAINST](#)

"The constitutional amendment authorizing a county to finance the development or redevelopment of transportation or infrastructure in unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted areas in the county."

Proposition 3 (SJR 27)

Consider VOTING: [YES | FOR](#)

"The constitutional amendment to prohibit this state or a political subdivision of this state from prohibiting or limiting religious services of religious organizations."

Proposition 4 (SJR 47)

Consider VOTING: [NO | AGAINST](#)

"The constitutional amendment changing the eligibility requirements for a justice of the supreme court, a judge of the court of criminal appeals, a justice of a court of appeals, and a district judge."

Proposition 5 (HJR 165)

Consider VOTING: [NO | AGAINST](#)

"The constitutional amendment providing additional powers to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct with respect to candidates for judicial office."

Proposition 6 (SJR 19)

Consider VOTING: [YES | FOR](#)

"The constitutional amendment establishing a right for residents of certain facilities to designate an essential caregiver for in-person visitation."

Proposition 7 (HJR 125)

Consider VOTING: [YES | FOR](#)

"The constitutional amendment to allow the surviving spouse of a person who is disabled to receive a limitation on the school district ad valorem taxes on the spouse's residence homestead if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of the person's death."

Proposition 8 (SJR 35)

Consider VOTING: [YES | FOR](#)

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a member of the armed services of the United States who is killed or fatally injured in the line of duty."

For more information and resources for voting in Texas, visit VoteTexas.gov

San Antonio Family Association

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Reality & Rationale

Proposition 1 (HJR 143)

Consider VOTING: **NO | AGAINST**

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the professional sports team charitable foundations of organizations sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association or the Women's Professional Rodeo Association to conduct charitable raffles at rodeo venues."

Reality: If passed, authorizes professional sports team charitable organizations to conduct raffles at rodeo venues and the measure amends section 47 of Article 3 of the state constitution. Recent previous ballot measure passed allows Professional Sports Teams to conduct similar fundraising activities.

SAFA position & rationale: Ideally, it might be best to vote against to say enough with special interest lobbies. Yet, practically, why not allow the PRCA and the WPRA to do the same as Professional Sports Teams who are more closely aligned with family values than most professional sports teams. So we can appreciate a voter voting yes for parity across professional sports.

Proposition 2 (HJR 99)

Consider VOTING: **NO | AGAINST**

"The constitutional amendment authorizing a county to finance the development or redevelopment of transportation or infrastructure in unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted areas in the county."

Reality: If passed, authorizes a county to issue bonds to fund infrastructure and transportation projects in undeveloped and blighted areas. Prohibits counties that issue bonds for such purposes from pledging more than 65% of the increase in ad valorem tax revenues to repay the bonds.

SAFA position & rationale: Counties can already issue bonds. This private component that stuffs developers' pockets must stop.

Proposition 3 (SJR 27)

Consider VOTING: **YES | FOR**

"The constitutional amendment to prohibit this state or a political subdivision of this state from prohibiting or limiting religious services of religious organizations."

Reality: If passed, amends Article 1 of the Texas constitution by adding a new section to prohibit the state or any political subdivision from enacting a law, rule, order, or proclamation that limits religious services or organizations.

SAFA position & rationale: The Texas Constitution already prohibits this. Even if we create redundancy in the text delineating our rights doesn't mean the judiciary will enforce our rights. The judiciary refused to uphold our religious rights during 2020 and likely will repeat its refusal despite this Constitutional redundancy. Yet, passing this measure will highlight the will of the electorate's desire to protect religious liberty.

Proposition 4 (SJR 47)

Consider VOTING: **NO | AGAINST**

"The constitutional amendment changing the eligibility requirements for a justice of the supreme court, a judge of the court of criminal appeals, a justice of a court of appeals, and a district judge."

Reality: Passage with change the eligibility requirements for the following judicial offices: a justice of the supreme court, a judge of the court of criminal appeals, a justice of a court of appeals, and a district judge. New requirements: a. Candidates should be residents of Texas as well as citizens of the United States; b. Candidates should have 10 years of experience in Texas as a practicing lawyer or judge of a state or county court for candidates of the supreme court, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, or a court of appeals; c. Candidates should have 8 years of experience in Texas as a practicing lawyer or judge of a state or county court for candidates of a district court; d. It would disqualify candidates if their license to practice law was revoked or suspended during experience requirement; and e. These requirements would be applied to individuals elected or appointed to a term beginning after January 1, 2025.

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SAFA position & rationale: This is an effort to stop a baby lawyer fresh out of law school or a previously disciplined lawyer from winning a judicial seat. If a seasoned lawyer can't beat a baby lawyer or a disciplined lawyer in a race then too bad. Let the people decide in elections without unfairly enhancing the legal establishment's power.

Proposition 5 (HJR 165)

Consider VOTING: **NO | AGAINST**

"The constitutional amendment providing additional powers to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct with respect to candidates for judicial office."

Reality: Passage authorizes the Texas State Commission on Judicial Conduct to accept and investigate complaints and reports against candidates running for state judicial office.

SAFA position & rationale: It's an imprudent way to create a fundamental law that might possibly be changed by the State Legislature. Moreover, it will create an additional bureaucracy that is not directly accountable to the electorate.

Proposition 6 (SJR 19)

Consider VOTING: **YES | FOR**

"The constitutional amendment establishing a right for residents of certain facilities to designate an essential caregiver for in-person visitation."

Reality: Passage allows residents of nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, or state-supported living centers to designate an essential caregiver that shall not be prohibited from visiting the resident, even during a pandemic.

SAFA position & rationale: The government should not have placed our seniors under house arrest in nursing homes. Creating a "right" supposedly to allow one visitor during a future house arrest is not a real right BUT is a green light to enable future orders of house arrest. Instead, there should be an amendment precluding orders of mass house arrest. Period. However this will highlight the fact that citizens demand access to their loved ones in any facility.

Proposition 7 (HJR 125)

Consider VOTING: **YES | FOR**

"The constitutional amendment to allow the surviving spouse of a person who is disabled to receive a limitation on the school district ad valorem taxes on the spouse's residence homestead if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of the person's death."

Reality: Passage allows the legislature to extend a homestead tax limit for surviving spouses of disabled individuals as long as the spouse is over 55 years old and resides at the home.

SAFA position & rationale: yes, lower the taxes.

Proposition 8 (SJR 35)

Consider VOTING: **YES | FOR**

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a member of the armed services of the United States who is killed or fatally injured in the line of duty."

Reality: Passage amends the Texas Constitution to authorize a total exemption from a residence homestead property tax for a surviving spouse of a member of the armed services "who is killed or fatally injured in the line of duty." Currently, the Constitution grants the exemption to the surviving spouse of a member of the armed services "who is killed in action". The amended version would also include service members who were fatally injured during military training or other military duties.

SAFA position & rationale: yes, lower the taxes and help give back to those defending our freedoms in harms way.

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Other Resources:

Texas Public Policy Foundation

<https://www.texaspolicy.com/2021-guide-to-constitutional-amendments-in-texas/>

<https://www.texaspolicy.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/2021-Guide-to-Constitutional-Amendments-in-Texas.pdf>

Texans Uniting For Reform & Freedom | TURF

<https://www.texasturf.org/>

Texas Score Card | Texans For Fiscal Responsibility

<https://texasscorecard.com/commentary/sullivan-how-im-voting/>

Credit to the “BexarRepublican” for parts of the “Reality” content.

***Note: This Voter’s Guide may or may not include all of the elections on the ballot. San Antonio Family Association encourages you to become a resource to help SAFA educate the voting public on pro-family issues.**

The love of husband and wife is the force that welds society together. -- John Chrysostom

As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live. – Pope John Paul II

The importance of the family for the life and well-being of society entails a particular responsibility for society to support and strengthen marriage and the family. Civil authority should consider it a grave duty to acknowledge the true nature of marriage and the family, to protect and foster them, to safeguard public morality, and promote domestic prosperity.

We cannot have long-term domestic prosperity without a solid foundation for society and we cannot have that good foundation without strong families.

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