

Giovanni's Journal

A publication of Texas State Representative Giovanni Capriglione

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Dear friends,

Below you will find information regarding the proposed constitutional amendments for the November 3 election. The list below gives a brief summary of each, but a full report on these proposed constitutional amendments can be found at http://www.tlc.state.tx.us/const_amends.htm. Several of these proposed amendments are significant, so I encourage you to look over them before the election, and reach out if you have any questions. Since early voting is October 19-30, there is early voting information on the second page of this newsletter.

Thank you again for allowing me the privilege to serve you in the Texas House.

-Rep. Giovanni Capriglione

Proposed Constitutional Amdmts. for November 3, 2015 Election

Amendment No. 1 (S.J.R. 1)

- This constitutional amendment increases the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$15,000 to \$25,000,
- Provides for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for those purposes on the homestead of an elderly or disabled person to reflect the increased exemption amount,
- Authorizes the legislature to prohibit a political subdivision that has adopted an optional residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation from reducing the amount of or repealing the exemption, and
- Prohibits the enactment of a law that imposes a transfer tax on a transaction that conveys fee simple title to real property.

Amendment No. 2 (H.J.R. 75)

- This constitutional amendment authorizes 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 100 percent or totally disabled veteran who died before the law

authorizing a residence homestead exemption for such a veteran took effect.

Amendment No. 3 (S.J.R. 52)

- This constitutional amendment repeals the requirement that state officers elected by voters statewide reside in the state capital.

Amendment No. 4 (H.J.R. 73)

- This constitutional amendment authorizes the legislature to permit professional sports team charitable foundations to conduct charitable raffles.

Amendment No. 5 (S.J.R. 17)

- This constitutional amendment authorizes counties with a population of 7,500 or less to perform private road construction and maintenance.

Amendment No. 6 (S.J.R. 22)

- This constitutional amendment recognizes the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife subject to laws that promote wildlife conservation.

Amendment No. 7 (S.J.R. 5)

- This constitutional amendment dedicates certain sales and use tax revenue and motor vehicle sales, use, and rental tax revenue to the state highway fund to provide funding for nontolled roads and the reduction of certain transportation-related debt.

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Early Voting Times & Locations

Early voting for this election begins October 19 and runs through October 30.

DATE(S)	TIME
October 19-23	8 a.m. until 5 p.m.
October 24	7 a.m. until 7 p.m.
October 25	11 a.m. until 4 p.m.
October 26-28	8 a.m. until 5 p.m.
October 29-30	7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

LOCATIONS

Colleyville City Hall, 100 Main Street, Colleyville, TX 76034
Keller Town Hall, 1100 Bear Creek Parkway, Keller, TX 76248
Southlake Town Hall, 1400 Main Street, Southlake, TX 76092
The REC of Grapevine, 1175 Municipal Way, Grapevine, TX 76051

Texas Unclaimed Property

ClaimItTexas.Org is the official State of Texas unclaimed property website. According to the website, Texas has over 25 million properties from uncashed checks, overpayments, rebates, forgotten bank accounts, etc. There is a good chance you or someone you know has unclaimed property. Currently, there is about \$4 billion in missing money waiting to be claimed.

To see if you have unclaimed property, search your name and zip code at the link provided on the home page of *claimittexas.org*. Searches can also be requested by mail (Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Unclaimed Property Claims Section, P.O. Box 12046, Austin, TX 78711-2046), fax (1-888-908-991), and phone (1-800-654-3463).

If requesting by mail, fax, or phone, make sure to include the following in your request: (1) the name you would like searched, (2) addresses in the Texas cities in which that person has lived, (3) a social security number, (4) a current mailing address for claim purposes, and (5) your contact information.

October Events in District 98

- **Oct. 2-4: Southlake's Oktoberfest** at Southlake Town Square featuring live music, food, weiner dog races, and local vendors. For full schedule and times, visit oktoberfestsouthlake.com.
- **Oct. 5: Westlake's Coffee & Conversation with the Mayor** 8 - 9 a.m. at Westlake Town Hall in the Council Chambers/Courtroom. Complimentary tea and coffee will be provided for Westlake residents.
- **Oct. 17: Fifth Westlake Classic Car Show** 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Larry North Fitness of Solana, 2902 Sam School Road in Westlake. Awards for Best of Class are given in 18 classes along with Best of Show, People's Choice, Sponsor's Choice, and Mayor's Choice. The event, which benefits Westlake Historical Preservation Society, showcases classic automobiles, trucks and pickups from 1909 to 1959, the Golden Era of the Automobile. The event is free and open to the public.
- **Oct. 19-30: Grapevine Early Voting for Special City Council Election and State Constitutional Amendments Election** at the REC of Grapevine, 1175 Municipal Way. Voting on October 19-28 takes place 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., and voting October 29-30 takes places 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- **Oct. 23: Keller Public Library's 28th Annual Harvest Stew Festival** 6-8 p.m. There will be games, hayrides, a bounce house, a costume contest, a large petting zoo, our delicious stew, cookie decorating and more! Be sure to bring a bag for children so they can carry all their prizes home. Admission is free, but please bring one canned good per person to be used in the stew or donated to the Community Storehouse. For more information, call 817-743-4840.
- **Oct. 24: Southlake's Monster Mash** 4-7 p.m. at Southlake Town Hall. The whole family will have fun at this Halloween-themed party while enjoying a night full of candy, dancing, games, yummy desserts and fun surprises. Admission is \$10 per person - children under two are free. Pre-registration is required online at southlakeparksandrec.com.
- **Oct. 29: 2015 Mercy House's Fall Benefit**, 7-9:30 p.m. at the Hurst Conference Center, 1601 Campus Drive in Hurst. Register online at mercyhouse.org/benefit-registration/.



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