



89TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



CANDY NOBLE
DISTRICT 89

Dear Friends,

I love serving on your behalf in the Texas House.

The 89th Legislative Session has come to a close, but Special Sessions kept us working in Austin. We’ve tackled some big issues, and have continued to make Texas the envy of the world. We once again balanced our budget, and kept it far under every strict measure required in our Texas Constitution, while meeting our obligations to fund our schools, roads and secure our border.

This newsletter will highlight some of the successes we achieved. These accomplishments will ensure that Texas remains an amazing place to live, work, and raise a family.

This term has been a busy one. I am serving on three committees: Ways and Means, Human Services, and as Vice Chair of the Sub Committee on Property Tax Appraisals. Each committee requires a great deal of time reading all of the bills and resolutions that are considered, and then listening to the testimony of those who come or submit an opinion on that issue. The work of the state is serious business. I do my best to represent you well, digging into the details of each bill to determine if it is both necessary and helpful for Texas.

Thank you to all who have called, sent emails and letters, or visited our office in Austin during the sessions to share your thoughts or advocate for or against a bill. It was both helpful and encouraging to have your input.

Also included inside is a brief, simplified summary of the seventeen proposed Constitutional Amendments that will be on your November ballot. Constitutional Amendments differ from regular legislative bills in that they require statewide voter approval. You will have a chance to make your preference known by voting on November 4th. Important election dates are listed on the back page of this newsletter.



Thank you for the honor of serving as your State Representative in the Texas House. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office if we can be of service.

Respectfully,

Candy Noble

★ ACROSS THE FINISH LINE ★

I was honored to carry and pass 18 bills this session to protect children, promote Texas values, and cut red tape!

HB 22 completely eliminates the Intangible Personal Property Tax from our tax code. These include such things as stocks, bonds, patents, or copyrights which will now not be taxable for anyone.

SJR 37 makes it clear that non-citizens may not vote in any elections in Texas! This will be Constitutional Amendment #16 on your November ballot.

SB 10 returns the Ten Commandments to our Texas classrooms. These have historical significance to both our American Educational and Judicial systems and are foundationally important to our nation.

HB 4211 the EPIC City bill, which went into effect immediately, will freeze the ability for state or local officials, cities, counties, or commissions (for instance, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) to issue permits of any kind (like water plans or a wastewater treatment facility) should the entity be found out of compliance with either the "Deceptive Trade Practice" or "Fair Housing Act". These protections have been in place for decades in Texas to protect Texans' property rights and should apply to this arrangement as well. It will also allow those who invest in this new type of "business residential arrangement" to transfer

or sell their investment if they wish, without the EPIC City parent company having any say-so.

HB 5129 the "Texas Right to Privacy Act", ensures a greater level of protection for everyone who holds an occupational license with the State of Texas. Your cell phone numbers, emails, as well as other personal information will now be withheld unless you request that information be made public.

SB 33 closes loopholes to protect taxpayer dollars.

HB 142 & SB 1038 are vital to protecting the funds dedicated to our vulnerable populations by authorizing the Office of Inspector General to recover those dollars from fraud, waste, and abuse.

HB 3307 ensures appraisal board arbitrators have the education to support taxpayers in property tax protests.

HB 3575 streamlines the filing process to run for the Appraisal Review Board.

HB 2358 cuts unnecessary government red tape to allow more time for inspectors to be in nursing homes looking out for this vulnerable population.

HB 4795 speeds up the process for adoptions by implementing electronic access to our Texas

Paternity Registry system.

HB 3629 prohibits those on the Registered Sex Offenders list from serving as a Public School Trustee.

SB 571 protects our children from predators and covers two bills that I filed. **HB 2378** which prohibits inappropriate relationships between Student Resource Officers and students and **HB 3347** which adds any school district employee to the "Do Not Hire" list for inappropriate behavior.

SB 2520 ensures that elderly and disabled homeowners can continue to take advantage of the lowest of a two year tax ceiling when their property tax freeze goes into effect.



Representative Noble laying out a bill on the House Floor.

★ NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS ★

TAX RELIEF

SB 1 dedicates \$51 billion in total property tax relief.

SB 4 & SJR 2 increases the homestead exemption from \$100,000 to \$140,000, pending voter approval on the November ballot.

HB 9 & HJR 1 increases the homestead exemption from \$110,000 to \$200,000 for seniors and those with disabilities, pending voter approval on the November ballot.

HB 2730 stops appraisal districts from forcing residents to reapply for their homestead without clear evidence a homeowner no longer qualifies.

EDUCATION

HB 2 increases public education add a space after the word "to" to read: funding to \$8.5 billion the largest increase in state history, including record teacher pay raises, and historic reforms.

HB 6 "Teacher Bill of Rights." Teachers now have the right to restore order, maintain good conduct in the classroom, and hold greater authority to discipline or remove students who are combative, disruptive, or violent.

SB 13 grants greater parental access to school library catalogs, student library records, and establishes a local advisory council to oversee library acquisitions to ensure they are appropriate for students.

SB 260 provides significant increases in the school safety allotment - nearly \$430 million - to allow school districts more funding for their safety needs.

DOGE

HB 12 increases public participation in the sunset review process of state agencies and creates a new audit system to ensure taxpayer-funded resources are being used wisely.

ENERGY

HB 3809 protects Texas landowners by holding battery energy storage, wind and solar facilities accountable for the full removal, cleanup, and restoration of land after decommission or removal of infrastructure.

HOSTILE FOREIGN NATIONS

SB 2312 fortifies Texas against foreign threats by auditing vulnerabilities in our supply chains, infrastructure and military readiness to ensure the state is prepared for geopolitical conflicts.

SB 2368 closes security loopholes in Texas' critical infrastructure by imposing stricter penalties, enhancing ERCOT's authority, and requires stronger vetting of individuals and business linked to adversarial foreign nations like China, Russia, and Iran.

PUBLIC SAFETY

SB 9 overhauls Texas' pretrial bail bond release process to prioritize public safety, limit bail for high-risk defendants, prevent repeat offenses, and increase accountability in bail decisions.

HB 1024 mandates the immediate execution of arrest warrants for high-risk, violent offenders who violate parole conditions.

SB 1283 protects vulnerable elderly Texans by requiring criminal history background checks on staff applicants and vendors providing services to senior living facilities.

OTHER WINS

SB 38 empowers property owners by restoring the rule of law by putting a stop to radical attempts to block lawful evictions of tenants who are "squatters."

HB 668 grants a one-year grace period for law-abiding handgun license holders so that they don't have to start over on the full license to carry application process.

HB 1056 allows the use of gold and silver as real currency backed by the state, leveraging the Texas Bullion Depository to empower individuals to protect their wealth from inflation and instability.

SB 140 updates the telephone solicitation laws to, at last, include unwanted advertising text messages.

SB 1300 protects against the growing trend of organized retail theft.

SB 857 gives law enforcement officers the option of towing vehicles driven by unlicensed or uninsured drivers, instead of just issuing a ticket, as is the law now.



Representative Noble with Texas Armed Service Scholarship Program honoree Carter Wyatt of Lucas.

★ PROTECTING TEXANS ★

PROTECTING TEXAS CHILDREN

SB 20 creates an offense for the possession or promotion of explicit sexual material that appears to depict a child, including materials that are AI-generated, animated or do not depict a real child.

SB 835 “Trey’s Law” prohibits the use of Non-Disclosure Agreements in sexual abuse cases, it protects children and victims who are exposed to bad actors who seek to conceal harmful behavior.

SB 127 strengthens child protection laws by extending the statute of limitations to prosecute certain professionals (teachers, doctors, etc.) who fail to report child abuse when the offense is discovered, rather than when it occurred.

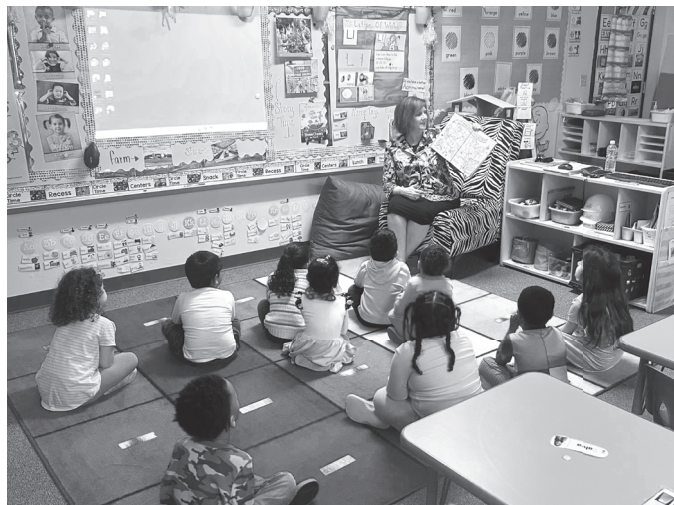
HB 908 requires information about missing children to be reported into a national database within two hours to increase the likelihood of finding them quickly, reducing their exposure to abuse or trafficking.

PROTECTING TEXANS ONLINE

HB 581 requires websites offering AI-generated deepfake content to verify that both the user and the person depicted in AI-generated sexual material are over 18.

SB 441 gives victims of non-consensual explicit AI deepfake images a clear path to justice by holding creators and platforms liable for the harm caused by the production and distribution of fake materials.

HB 783 “catfishing”, which is an online impersonation through the use of a person’s name, image, signature, voice, or likeness on social media or other digital means, without consent and with the intent to harm, defraud, intimidate, or threaten will now be subject to a civil lawsuit.



As a former educator, reading to students at Barron Elementary in Plano was especially delightful!



Honored to have Governor Abbott sign all 18 of the bills I carried into law.

MY STAFF & I ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU

Constituents of House District 89 are encouraged to contact my Capitol and District offices for assistance on state issues. We can also help you with:

- Researching Legislative Information
- Arranging Capitol Tours
- Assisting with State Agencies
- Ordering Congratulatory Certificates, Resolutions, and Texas Flags

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, comments, or concerns!

★ CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ★

PROPOSITION 1, SJR 59: TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE PERMANENT FUND

The Ballot Will Read: “The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the permanent technical institution infrastructure fund and the available workforce education fund to support the capital needs of educational programs offered by the Texas State Technical College System.”

Summary: This Constitutional Amendment seeks to address the lack of skilled-labor workforce in our state by addressing the underfunding of the Texas State Technical College System (TSTC). This measure, if passed, would create two new funds: a Permanent Technical Institution Infrastructure Fund and the Available Workforce Education Fund—to support capital projects and equipment purchases at TSTC.

PROPOSITION 2, SJR 18: PROHIBITING TAXES ON CAPITAL GAINS

The Ballot Will Read: “The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of a tax on the realized or unrealized capital gains of an individual, family, estate, or trust.”

Summary: Texas does not impose a realized or unrealized capital gains tax. Putting this in our Constitution would prohibit it from being levied in the future. Texas has a definite tax advantage for those living here compared to other states since we are only one of 8 states that does not tax an individual’s income, investment gains, or money that is inherited. California, which is the highest, taxes capital gains as ordinary income at 14.4%.

PROPOSITION 3, SJR 5: NO BAIL FOR CERTAIN FELONY OFFENSES

The Ballot Will Read: “The constitutional amendment requiring the denial of bail under certain circumstances to persons accused of certain offenses punishable as a felony.”

Summary: This amendment would prevent the revolving door that exists in some Texas counties of letting individuals out on bail who are accused of very serious crimes, especially if they are a threat to the public or at risk of fleeing from prosecution. The crimes included in this measure are: murder, capital murder, aggravated assault causing serious bodily harm or the use of a weapon in the act of an assault, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, aggravated sexual assault, indecency with a child, trafficking of persons, and continuous trafficking of persons.

★ CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ★

PROPOSITION 4, HJR 7: COORDINATION FOR STATE-WIDE WATER DEVELOPMENT EXPANSION

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment to dedicate a portion of the revenue derived from state sales and use taxes to the Texas water fund and to provide for the allocation and use of that revenue."

Summary: As the state continues to grow in population, this Constitutional Amendment looks to build on the work done two years ago when we established the Texas Water Fund. This amendment establishes the responsibilities of the Texas Water Development Board to develop and coordinate all water development and infrastructure entities across the state.

PROPOSITION 5, HJR 99: ELIMINATING TAX ON FEED

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation tangible personal property consisting of animal feed held by the owner of the property for sale at retail."

Summary: Businesses in Texas pay a tax, called the "Business Personal Property Tax", on the inventory they hold based on the value of the items they use to conduct business and also the items they have on their shelves that are for sale. Unfortunately, even though agricultural animal feed does not have a sales tax at the point of sale, businesses that sell that feed have to pay the Personal Property Tax on the feed they have in stock on January 1 of each year. This amendment would eliminate that feed from the items included in that tax's assessment.

PROPOSITION 6, HJR 4: NO NEW OCCUPATIONAL TAXES FOR INVESTMENTS

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment prohibiting the legislature from enacting a law imposing an occupation tax on certain entities that enter into transactions conveying securities or imposing a tax on certain securities transactions."

Summary: As we look forward to the anticipated opening of the Texas Stock Exchange in 2026, this amendment makes it clear, to those that invest through the new exchange or other investments, that our state will not impose an occupational tax on financial market operators, such as brokers or exchanges. It also preemptively prohibits the imposition of future fees and taxes targeted to security transactions.

PROPOSITION 7, HJR 133: EXEMPTION FROM PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE SURVIVING SPOUSE OF A VETERAN WHOSE PASSING WAS SERVICE CONNECTED

The Ballot Will Read: "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 veteran who died as a result of a condition or disease that is presumed under federal law to have been service-connected."

Summary: In the past we have passed Constitutional Amendments that give a property tax exemption to a veteran's surviving spouse if the veteran died as a result of their service to our nation or were 100% disabled as a result of that service. But sometimes it has been years before the federal government acknowledges a link between their service and the resulting disability or death (ex: Agent Orange exposure or side affects). This amendment will fill that gap for the surviving spouse. If passed, this proposition will give an exemption for the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a veteran who died as a result of a condition or disease that is determined under federal law to have been service-connected, even if the cause was unknown when the service member died. Note: if the surviving spouse remarries, they lose this benefit. If they move, they are only entitled to the property tax break equal to the home in which they lived prior to their spouse's death.

PROPOSITION 8, HJR 2: NO DEATH AND INHERITANCE TAXES

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment to prohibit the legislature from imposing death taxes applicable to a decedent's property or the transfer of an estate, inheritance, legacy, succession, or gift."

Summary: Texas does not have a death tax, as some states do. Putting this prohibition into the Constitution would mean that it could not be imposed in the future.

PROPOSITION 9, HJR 1: ALLOWS BUSINESS TO SAVE \$125,000 IN TAXES

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation a portion of the market value of tangible personal property a person owns that is held or used for the production of income."

Summary: If you could take a business and pick it up and shake out all the things they use to do business (other than their building and land), those things are taxed as "tangible personal property." Currently businesses are taxed for every item they own or lease with the exception of an exemption of \$2,500. Local governments collect and use these tax dollars. This amendment, if passed, will raise that exemption for businesses to \$125,000. Businesses argue that the "Tangible Personal Property" tax is entirely unfair since they paid a sales tax on those items at the time of purchase.

PROPOSITION 10, SJR 84: PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR HOMES TOTALED BY FIRE

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide for a temporary exemption from ad valorem taxation of the appraised value of an improvement to a residence homestead that is completely destroyed by a fire."

Summary: Last year the wildfires that devastated the Panhandle region of Texas showed a glaring problem with our appraisals. Land that once held a home now has none, yet homeowners are being taxed at full pre-fire appraisal totals. This amendment, should it pass, would allow for that homeowner to have a temporary break while rebuilding their home.

PROPOSITION 11, SJR 85: REDUCING PROPERTY TAXES FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district of the market value of the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled."

Summary: Currently when Texans turn 65 they are able to not only freeze their school district property tax and have their homestead exemption, they are also given an additional exemption of \$10,000. This amendment, if passed, would give our over 65 and disabled homeowners an additional exemption of \$50,000. If this proposition and proposition 13 both pass, our over 65 and disabled Texans would have a total property tax homestead exemption of \$200,000.

★ CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ★

PROPOSITION 12, SJR 27: HOLDING JUDGES ACCOUNTABLE FOR UNETHICAL CONDUCT

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment regarding the membership of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct, the membership of the tribunal to review the commission's recommendations, and the authority of the commission, the tribunal, and the Texas Supreme Court to more effectively sanction judges and justices for judicial misconduct."

Summary: This proposition, if passed, would change the makeup and enhance the authority of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct. This will expand the membership on the Commission to include more public members. Passage of this amendment is intended to promote transparency and accountability in our judicial system. It will allow penalties for willful or persistent conduct that is clearly inconsistent with the proper performance of a judge's duties.

PROPOSITION 13, SJR 2: PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR HOMESTEADS

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment to increase the amount of the exemption of residence homesteads from ad valorem taxation by a school district from \$100,000 to \$140,000."

Summary: Currently each homeowner who claims a homestead exemption does not pay School Maintenance and Operation (M&O) Property Taxes on the first \$100,000 of that home's value. This amendment, if passed, would raise that homestead exemption to \$140,000. This would go into effect on your next property tax bill.

PROPOSITION 14, SJR 3: CREATION OF THE DEMENTIA PREVENTION AND RESEARCH FUND

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment providing for the establishment of the Dementia Prevention and Research Institute of Texas, establishing the Dementia Prevention and Research Fund to provide money for research on and prevention and treatment of dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and related disorders in this state, and transferring to that fund \$3 billion from state general revenue."

Summary: Most research done on disease treatment is done by companies who are not focused on developing a cure. Unfortunately, they are not in the business to find cures, just treatments that will bring in money for their stockholders. This amendment, should it pass, would establish a research fund of \$3 billion for the purpose of preventing and curing dementia, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and other related disorders.

PROPOSITION 15, SJR 34: PARENTS ARE THE PRIMARY DECISION MAKERS FOR THEIR CHILDREN

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment affirming that parents are the primary decision makers for their children."

Summary: In some foreign countries, and even in the US, the authority of parents is under attack. Under Texas law, parents have the rights and responsibilities to make decisions on behalf of their child. If passed, this would place the rights of parents in the Texas Constitution, ensuring the longevity of these rights for future generations.

PROPOSITION 16, SJR 37: REQUIRING US CITIZENSHIP TO VOTE

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment clarifying that a voter must be a United States citizen."

Summary: This proposition is my favorite, because I had the honor of carrying and passing it in the Texas House. Currently our Texas statutes affirm that citizens have the right to vote. However, in our Texas Constitution, there are only three reasons that someone is disqualified from voting: 1. Being under 18 years of age. 2. Being declared mentally incompetent by a judge. 3. Being convicted of certain felonies. This might lead someone to believe that citizenship is not an important criteria, but it certainly is. Passing this amendment will make it clear that non-citizens are disqualified from voting in any election in Texas.

PROPOSITION 17, HJR 34: NO PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR BORDER WALL IMPROVEMENTS

The Ballot Will Read: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of the amount of the market value of real property located in a county that borders the United Mexican States that arises from the installation or construction on the property of border security infrastructure and related improvements."

Summary: Our state has spent a good bit of taxpayer funds building the wall along our Mexico border. Because this wall was built on land owned privately by Texans, we had to get their permission to build on their land. However, now local taxing entities are trying to raise the appraised value of that portion of land because of the protective fencing placed on it, even when it takes up what was formally usable agriculturally productive farm or ranch land. This amendment, if passed, would prohibit appraisal districts from over-taxing citizens, who helped secure our state, by allowing the security infrastructure portion of that land to be property-tax exempt.



I enjoyed visiting with friends during Collin County Days at the Capitol.



I love having students from home serve as Honorary Pages during session. Marco Hunter-Lopez of Wylie was one of those who served this session.

CANDY NOBLE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ DISTRICT 89

CAPITOL OFFICE
Room E1.508
P.O. Box 12910
Austin, TX 78711-2910
512.463.0186



DISTRICT OFFICE
206 N. Murphy Road
Murphy, TX 75094
972.423.6542

Candy.Noble@house.texas.gov

Committees: Ways and Means | Human Services | Subcommittee on Property Tax Appraisals, Vice Chair

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CANDY NOBLE
P.O. Box 12910
Austin, Texas 78711-2910



ELECTION DATES:

★ **MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2025**
LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE

★ **MONDAY, OCTOBER 20 -
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2025**
EARLY VOTING

★ **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025**
ELECTION DAY

Polls are open 7 A.M. - 7 P.M. on Election Day.



I enjoy visitors to the Capitol, especially my grandkids!