

LWW<sup>®</sup>

the

League of Women Voters  
of the Corpus Christi Area

voters  
guide

# table of contents

- 3 About this guide
- 3 Creating the guide
- 3 About the League
- 4 Using this guide
- 4 Voting by mail
- 5 Voting information
- 6 Voter ID requirements
- 7 Early voting locations
- 8 Election Day voting locations
- 9 Candidate profiles and responses to questions



# About this guide

This *Voters Guide* is funded and published by the League of Women Voters Texas Education Fund. Neither the League nor the Education Fund supports or opposes any political party or candidate. To fulfill its longstanding commitment to promote an active and informed electorate, this public service effort is designed to provide the voters with choices about candidates in the June 2018 Special Election.

## Creating this guide

In compiling information for this Voters Guide, the volunteers of the League of Women Voters of the Corpus Christi Area, together with other local Leagues and the League of Women Voters of Texas, sent questionnaires to all candidates in the U.S. House of Representatives, District 27, race whose names and email addresses were provided by the Texas Secretary of State. To follow up, candidates were contacted by email and by phone.

The League formulated all questions of asked of the candidates. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification. Due to space restrictions, candidates were given strict word limits. The form into which they entered their answers prohibited them from going over that limit.

The League assumes no responsibility for replies not received, or received after the deadline.

\* More information about the candidates and responses to additional questions can be reviewed by visiting [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org), your one-stop online resource for upcoming elections made possible by The League of Women Voters Education Fund. Simply enter your address to find your polling place, build your ballot with our online Voters Guide, compare candidates side-by-side, and much more. Also, check out our re-

## About the League

The League of Women Voters is a grassroots, volunteer organization that promotes the informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is strictly nonpartisan; we never support or oppose any political party or candidate. Born almost a century ago out of the national movement to give women the right to vote, the League is open to everyone. The women and men who belong to the League share a commitment to encourage political responsibility.

The League is widely known and well respected for our nonpartisan and fair work in voter education. We also hold forums on important public policy issues, organize voter registration drives, sponsor candidate debates, conduct get-out-the-vote campaigns and work with area schools and universities.

The League of Women Voters operates at national, state and local levels through more than 800 state and local Leagues, in all 50 states as well as in DC, the Virgin Islands and Hong Kong. At all three levels, we encourage informed and active participation of citizens in their government, educate citizens on major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and advocacy.

# Using this guide

This *Voters Guide* provides information about candidates running for  
**U.S. Representative, District 17**

## Voting by mail

In Texas, you can request a mail-in ballot if you are:

- Going to be away from your county on Election Day and during early voting
- Sick or disabled
- 65 years of age or older on Election Day
- Confined in jail, but eligible to vote

Contact Nueces County Elections, 361-888-0611 or [VoteByMail@nuecesco.com](mailto:VoteByMail@nuecesco.com), to request an application. Applications must be submitted, on paper with an original signature, to the Nueces County Elections Department no earlier than 2 months before Election Day and no later than 11 days before Election Day. Faxed or emailed applications will be accepted only if accompanied by a paper application with an original signature within four days of sending the electronic application.



**Vote!**  
IT COUNTS—

# Voting information

**TO VOTE IN THE JUNE 30 SPECIAL ELECTION, YOU MUST HAVE REGISTERED TO VOTE BY MAY 31, 2018.**

## Procedures at the polls

On Election Day, polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

People in line at 7 p.m. will be allowed to vote.

When you enter the polling place and reach the front of the line, hand your identification to the election official. This election official will check you in and have you sign for the slip of paper with a numerical access code. In the next available voting booth, enter your code and let the on-screen instructions guide you through the process of electronic voting.

- \* If your signature has changed significantly since you registered to vote, submit an application for a replacement card. Differences in your signature could cause your ballot to be rejected.

A tutorial for the voting system used in Nueces County is available at the following links:

<http://www.nuecesco.com/home/showdocument?id=11338> (English)

<http://www.nuecesco.com/home/showdocument?id=11346> (Spanish)

If you need instructions, you can ask the poll worker for assistance at any time.

- \* You can mark up this Voters Guide with your choices and bring it with you to the polls. You may not take any partisan campaign material to the polling site.

In this Special Election, **you can vote for only candidate.**

Make sure you follow the instructions to submit your ballot.

All polling places must be accessible to people with disabilities. People with mobility issues request curbside voting. Curbside voting is available at any polling location in Nueces County. All sites also have voting machines accessible to sight-impaired voters.

A tutorial for the accessible voting system used in Nueces County is available at the following links:

<http://www.nuecesco.com/home/showdocument?id=11342> (English)

<http://www.nuecesco.com/home/showdocument?id=11348> (Spanish)

Ballots are provided in both English and Spanish. People who are not proficient in either language may select as an interpreter anyone who is not the voter's employer, an agent of the voter's employer, or an officer or agent of a labor union to which the voter belongs. The interpreter must take an oath of interpreter.

A person who is physically unable to mark the ballot or read it may ask for assistance from anyone who is not the voter's employer, an agent of the voter's employer, or an officer or agent of a labor union to which the voter belongs. The assistant must take an oath of assistance. Two poll workers can also assist.

# Voting information

## Voter identification

All voters must show identification before voting. The preferred method is to show one of the seven acceptable forms of photo identification issued through the Texas Department of Public Safety.

- Texas Driver License issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS
- Texas Handgun License issued by DPS
- United States Military Identification Card containing the person's photograph
- United States Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph
- United States Passport (book or card)

If you have one of these forms of identification but both failed to bring it and cannot return to the polls with it before closing, you can vote a provisional ballot. For your ballot to be accepted, you must take your ID to the Nueces County Elections Department office within 6 calendar days of having voted.

If you do not have one of the acceptable IDs and cannot reasonably obtain one, you can fill out a Reasonable Impediment declaration explaining why and show a document from a list of supporting forms of ID:

- copy or original of a government document that shows the voter's name and an address, including the voter's voter registration certificate;
- copy of or original current utility bill;
- copy of or original bank statement;
- copy of or original government check;
- copy of or original paycheck; or
- copy of or original of (a) a certified domestic (from a U.S. state or territory) birth certificate or (b) a document confirming birth admissible in a court of law which establishes the voter's identity (which may include a foreign birth document)



## Am I registered to vote?

<https://teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov/MVP/mvp.do>

# Voting information

## Sample Ballot

**Sample Ballot**

**27th Congressional District Special Election**  
**June 30, 2018**  
**Nueces County, Texas**  
*elección especial del distrito 27 congressional*  
*30 de junio de 2018*  
*Condado de Nueces, Texas*

Precinct 1-127  
*Precinto 1-127*

**Page 1 of 1**  
*Página 1 de 1*

Please use a black or blue ink pen to mark your choices on the ballot. To vote for your choice in each contest, completely fill in the box provided to the left of your choice. Por favor solamente use pluma de tinta negra o azul. Llene completamente el espacio cuadrado a la izquierda de su selección. No use tintas que puedan penetrar el papel.

Correct | Incorrect

Correct A  
 Correct B  
 Correct C

Incorrect A  
 Incorrect B  
 Incorrect C

**United States Representative, District 27**  
*Representante de los Estados Unidos, Distrito Núm. 27*

Christopher Suprun IND IND

Bech Bruun REP REP

Eric Holguin DEM DEM

Raúl (Roy) Barrera DEM DEM

Mike Westergren DEM DEM

Judith Cutright IND IND

Michael Cloud REP REP

Daniel Tinus LIB LIB

Marty Perez REP REP

# Early voting information

## Dates & times

<b>June 13th — 15th</b>	<b>8:00 AM — 5:00 PM</b>
<b>June 18th— 22nd</b>	<b>8:00 AM — 5:00 PM</b>
<b>June 25th—June 26th</b>	<b>7:00 AM — 7:00 PM</b>

✱ Curbside voting will be available at all locations. Call 361-888-0303.

### **BISHOP COMMUNITY CENTER**

102 West Joyce St.

Bishop TX 78343

June 20-22 8:00 AM— 5:00 PM

June 25-26 7:00 AM—7:00 PM

### **DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CENTER**

5151 McArdle Rd

Corpus Christi TX 78411

### **ETHEL EYERLY SENIOR CENTER**

654 Graham Rd

Corpus Christi TX 78418

### **GREENWOOD SENIOR CENTER**

4040 Greenwood Dr

Corpus Christi TX 78416

### **HILLTOP COMMUNITY CENTER**

11425 Leopard St

Corpus Christi TX 78410

### **JOHNNY CALDERON BUILDING**

710 E Main St.

Robstown TX 78380

### **NUECES COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

901 Leopard St

Corpus Christi TX 78401

### **PORT ARANSAS CITY HALL**

710 W Avenue A

Port Aransas TX 78373

June 20-22 8:00 AM— 5:00 PM

June 25-26 7:00 AM—7:00 PM

### **SCHLITTERBAHN**

14353 Commodores Dr

Corpus Christi TX 778428

### **THE VALENCIA**

6110 Ayers St

Corpus Christi TX 78415

# Election Day voting information

## Date & times

**June 30, 2018**

**7:00 AM—7:00 PM**

★ Curbside voting will be available at all locations. Call 361-888-0303.

Bishop CISD High School--100 Badger Ln. -BISHOP  
Cimarron Senior Apartments--2802 Cimarron Blvd.  
Corpus Christi Christian Fellowship--6602 S. Staples St.  
David Berlanga Community Center— --1513 Second St. -AGUA DULCE  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center--5151 McArdle Rd.  
Del Mar College--101 Baldwin Blvd.  
Driscoll ISD (Guadalupe Hernandez Complex)— --315 West Dragon St. -DRISCOLL  
Ethel Eyerly Senior Center--654 Graham Rd.  
Fire Station #7--3722 S. Staples St.  
Fire Station #9--501 Navigation Blvd.  
Fire Station #11--910 Airline Rd.  
Fire Station #12--2120 Rand Morgan Rd.  
Grace Presbyterian Church--6301 Yorktown Blvd.  
Greenwood Senior Center--4040 Greenwood Dr.  
Hilltop Community Center--11425 Leopard St.  
Island Presbyterian Church--14030 Fortuna Bay Dr.  
John F. Kennedy Elementary--1102 Villarreal Dr.  
Johnny Calderon Building--710 E. Main St. -ROBSTOWN  
Korean Presbyterian Church--4326 McArdle Rd.  
La Retama Central Library--805 Comanche St.  
Lindale Senior Center--3135 Swantner Dr.  
London ISD Middle/High School--1306 FM 43  
LULAC West Apartments--10702 IH 37  
Magee Elementary--4201 Calallen Dr.  
Nueces County ESD #4--5781 FM 666 -ROBSTOWN  
Oak Park Recreation Center--842 Erwin Ave.  
Oveal Williams Senior Center--1414 Martin Luther King Dr.  
Parkway Presbyterian Church--3707 Santa Fe St.  
Petronila Elementary— --2391 County Rd. 67 -PETRONILA  
Port Aransas City Hall— --710 W. Avenue A. -PORT ARANSAS  
River Hills Baptist Church--16318 FM 624 -ROBSTOWN  
Robstown Community Center--415 Mainer Rd. -ROBSTOWN  
Scott Veters Scout Hut--3221 McKinzie Rd.  
St. Anthony Violet Catholic Church— --3918 County Rd. 61 -ROBSTOWN  
The People's Baptist Church--1355 FM 665 Rd.  
The Valencia--6110 Ayers St.  
Villa of Corpus Christi South--4834 Yorktown Blvd.  
West Oso Junior High School--5202 Bear Lane  
Zavala Senior Center--510 Osage St.

# U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 27

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE: This special election was called by Texas Governor Greg Abbott to fill a vacancy in the U.S. House of Representatives for the 27th Congressional District of Texas. The term for the now vacant seat in this race ends Jan. 3, 2019.

Candidates must be 25 years old or older, a US citizen and a resident of Texas. The United States House of Representatives has 435 members of which Texas is entitled to 36. Responsible for representing the citizens of his/her district in the US House of Representatives. Powers the U.S. House of Representatives shares with the U.S. Senate include the power to levy taxes, borrow money, regulate interstate commerce, and declare war. The annual salary for a United States Representative is \$174,000.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- QUESTION 1:** Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.
- QUESTION 2:** What are the most important challenges facing our country/district, and how would you address them?
- QUESTION 3:** What changes, if any, should be made in immigration policies? Why?
- QUESTION 4:** The cost of prescription drugs, across the board, should be decreased substantially. Strongly oppose/Oppose/Neither support nor oppose/Support/Strongly support. Explain your response.
- QUESTION 5:** What is your opinion of the current balance between 2nd Amendment rights and prevention of public and domestic gun violence? Much less/Somewhat less/Fine as is/Somewhat more/Much more. Explain your response.



### Michael Cloud (R)

**ANSWER 1:** I am committed to the people of our district. I was married here, my kids were born here, and I built my business here. I served on staff at Faith Family Church in Victoria. I represent most of the district on the leadership committee of the Texas Republican Party.

As a small business owner, I understand that our economy works best when the ingenuity of the American People is free to thrive unencumbered by Federal bureaucracy. And as a husband and father, I understand the urgency of transforming Washington and preserving for future generations the liberty and prosperity we enjoy as Americans

**ANSWER 2:** One major challenge is the Washington culture of corruption. Our government has become all-controlling, benefiting the politically well-connected at the expense of ordinary Americans. I support term limits and oppose Congress exempting itself from the laws it passes. I will work to reduce the control of the federal government over the lives of individuals.

The United States has also acquired an enormous national debt, one which we can fix only by economic growth. Taxation slows the economy; the solution is reduced spending if we are to avoid passing on a crushing debt burden to our children.

**ANSWER 3:** Our immigration system is broken. An unwillingness to enforce the law over the past several decades has favored those who choose to break the law rather than go through the legal process. And Congress has been negligent in finding a solution to this serious problem. The first step in any immigration policy must be border security and enforcement, and Congress should pursue an “all of the above” approach. We should build a wall where it makes sense. President Trump’s approach to include DACA in a solution that secures the border and defunds “sanctuary cities” is a practical, balanced approach.

**ANSWER 4:** Strongly support. Obamacare has not only increased the cost of healthcare but has also restricted the freedom of Americans to choose their healthcare options. Obamacare must be repealed. Limiting regulation and lawsuit abuse would bring down costs, as would preventing Medicare fraud, which by itself costs each U.S. household on average nearly \$500 per year. An approach that restores free market principles will lower cost and increase access to quality care.

**ANSWER 5:** No scaled response. The right to keep and bear arms is essential to defend ourselves not only from others but also from tyranny. In general, Americans are safer today from gun crime than at any time since the 1960s. As a father of three students and the husband of a teacher, I am especially aware of the need to improve school safety, but many “solutions” from the left would only make our families less safe. A few areas to focus on are more armed security, counseling, mental health, enforcement of laws to keep guns out of the hands of children, and rethinking policies that have led to the breakdown of the family.

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## Judith Cutright (I)

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**ANSWER 1:** I am an entrepreneur, active community volunteer, and longtime resident of Corpus Christi. Twenty two years ago, I founded Cutright Communications, media consulting firm, serving national and local clientele. I have held executive/managerial positions at major corporations, broadcast networks, non-profits, and higher educational institutions. I hold a Masters Degree in PR from George Washington University. Communication expertise facilitates strengthening relationships, securing funding, advancing sensible policies, and promoting our community. I live by Rotary creed, Service Above Self.

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**ANSWER 2:** High quality of life, safety, and welfare of our citizens are ongoing challenges. Healthy economic growth throughout our District will help pay for needed support services. A skilled workforce, higher wages, affordable housing, and a clean, safe environment will attract new business. STEM program expansion, infrastructure and connectivity upgrades, natural resource preservation, expanded military presence, and enhanced border security will address these challenges. Strengthened partnerships between Government and industry will reinforce our District as a national asset and wise investment.

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**ANSWER 3:** We are a nation of immigrants who have made invaluable contributions to society; however antiquated, broken immigration policies need to be overhauled. Approvals are stalled for millions of applicants for citizenship who have followed the law. Illegal immigrants who do not contribute tax dollars place undue stress on educational systems, medical services, and law enforcement. Immigration laws need to be made fairer, merit-based, and enforceable. DACA dreamers, who demonstrate moral character and contribute to the tax base should be allowed to earn legal status and pursue path to citizenship.

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**ANSWER 4:** Support. Millions of Americans can't afford the drugs they need. Patients and taxpayers suffer consequences of inflated drug prices. Possible cures: Allowing Medicare to negotiate drug pricing without limiting drug availability will help seniors obtain affordable drugs. Deregulation and facilitation of new and generic drugs coming to market will cut drug costs and spur research and development programs. Lessening regulations to allow reputable foreign drug competition and streamlining the FDA approval process will help patients get drugs they need and can afford. Visit [cutrightforcongress.com](http://cutrightforcongress.com) for more

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**ANSWER 5:** Somewhat less. I believe the Second Amendment Right to "Keep and Bear Arms" should not be infringed. Recent shootings indicate an imbalance between our inalienable rights and prevention of gun violence, especially among youth. Reforming gun laws to raise ownership legal age limit and to tighten background checks will help keep guns out of hands of unstable individuals. In the short-term we need to strengthening security measures in and around schools. Long-term, we need to offer preventive

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### Eric Holguin (D)

**ANSWER 1:** I come from a family of public servants. My father is a public school teacher, my mother is a veteran's nurse, brothers that are veterans that veterans, and more. I previously worked with the NYC Comptroller as a Community Adviser and prior, did constituent affairs with a U.S. Congresswoman. In my role with the Comptroller, I spent the majority of my time in various diverse communities to resolve local issues, worked with small businesses to get government contracts, and sat on the board of 5 BIDs (business improvement districts). I know how to listen to issues and convert them into action.

**ANSWER 2:** We have a huge problem with under-investment in the 27th Congressional District. Ranging from our infrastructure to education to community services and more. After Hurricane Harvey, we saw the effects of what happens when you don't invest in having a strong and sound infrastructure. We need to expand our Port so we can diversify our local economy and build jobs, and protect our military base. Our public education system is being depleted in favor of private schools - along with our teachers being underpaid. We need to ensure everyone has quality healthcare by expanding Medicare-to-All.

**ANSWER 3:** First of all - we DON'T need a wall. We are a compassionate country and should be helping families - children, mothers, etc.- that are fleeing violence in their home country. Becoming a naturalized citizen is very expensive and time consuming. We need to repeal the 3 and 10 year bar that separates our mixed-status families, & promote naturalization. We must pass a clean DACA bill. I support shutting down private detention centers that are locking up our kids after they are separated from their parents. The Trump Administration's attacks on our immigrant communities is vile and must be stopped

**ANSWER 4:** Strongly support. Prescription drugs are over-priced and also contribute to the opioid problem. We should open our borders to other medications that are available in other countries that meet our FDA standards - to truly have a competitive market. These outrageous costs are a major contributing factor to the high premiums and high cost of getting care in this country.

**ANSWER 5:** Strongly support. Shooting after shooting - we can't continue on like this. We need to have common sense gun reform so that our children and teachers aren't afraid to go to school. So that our families can go to church in peace. So that we can enjoy concerts and movies without a fear of being gunned down. We HAVE to do more to lower the body count in this country. This includes closing the "Charlestone Loophole" that allows thousands of guns to be sold without a completed background check. We need to ban military assault rifles - including the AR-15. We have to act now - not later.

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### Marty Perez (R)

**ANSWER 1:** I have managed a successful small business for 34 years including but not limited to hiring and firing employees, instituting the first computer fiscal system in the CC Medical Community, paying a myriad of taxes with accounting assistance , meeting labor laws, meeting OSHA laws, and integrating a medical record system including laboratory and x-ray results.

**ANSWER 2:** Jobs is the number 1 issue including the need for more and better paying jobs.I would focus on obtaining federal funds so we can dredge to 87 ft, and expand the width of the dredged area in CC Port.The Victoria Port would be enlarged and deepened.This will create more commerce and construction,trucking,and railroad jobs into and out of the ports. Obtaining federal funding for completion of federal hwy. 69 with extensions to CC and Victoria. We need to obtain more federal funding for our college and University and our industrial training programs.

**ANSWER 3:** Immigration should be on a Merit based system .

**ANSWER 4:** Strongly support. The drug makers are making huge profits in America. The rest of the world controls the price of medication. So in essence we are subsidizing the world with our sky high profits.We cannot stifle profits completely because this would prevent Innovation in the medication area. Certainly the old drugs should be inexpensive

**ANSWER 5:** Strongly support. Guns and other weapons should be completely prohibited in K-12 and our pre-K programs. Only police , qualified security guards , and qualified school officials should be allowed guns. All students and personnel should have to pass through a screening process such as a metal detection device or scanner.

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### Christopher Suprun (I)

**ANSWER 1:** The most important issues that qualifies me for this position is a lifetime of community service including making a tough, but appropriate, decision in the Electoral College.

When I was 17, I received my first government appointment to an area Commission on Aging where I worked on issues related top senior citizens. For more than 25 years, have served in natural resources, public safety, and elections positions since and do so out of service to my community, state, and nation.

**ANSWER 2:** The most important issues for the district and for the nation are ensuring the Rule of Law and recovery from Hurricane Harvey.and preparation for the next disaster.

While Houston gets most of the attention, coastal Texas still has pockets that need relief efforts. It is wrong for unelected bureaucrats in DC to choose to rebuild Houston while leaving Rockport and other parts of TX27 without assistance. I remember when the USA was all in together, but now DC is too busy picking winners and losers instead of helping TX27 residents.

More about my platform can be found at [www.sendchris.org](http://www.sendchris.org).

**ANSWER 3:** Immigration is an important part of our national debate and an area of focus for TX27.

First, I believe Exodus 22:21 so I do not believe we should be separating parents from their children whether they are immigrants or seeking asylum.

Second, I believe Leviticus 19:33-34 so I do not believe CBP or ICE should be stalking schools, hospitals, and ambulances.

Third, I believe John 7:37 and I think we need to stop criminalizing pastors and priests who leave water for those who are thirsty.

Like Donald Trump I am the grandson of immigrants and believe they are vital to our national fabric.

**ANSWER 4:** Strongly support. Healthcare consumes nearly one fifth of our Gross Domestic Product. Prescription costs are a major factor here and while one of my opponents has received hundreds of thousands of dollars from DC special interests who hope to keep costs high and want to shut down the government, I want to make sure our senior citizens continue to receive their healthcare and social security.

To do this the government should control the cost of prescriptions and allow cross border competition to lower these prices also. Too many seniors and children go without their medicine due to cost. This is unfair!

**ANSWER 5:** No scale response. I support the 2nd Amendment written into our Constitution's Bill of Rights.

I do support mandatory penalties for those using a firearm to commit a crime. Felons and those judged mentally incompetent should not have access to firearms. As a paramedic, I had a convicted felon pull out a concealed handgun - multiple violations of his parole and state law. Strong prosecution returned this person to jail.

Additionally, there should be limits on possession of firearms by those who commit domestic abuse and our background check

# U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 27

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE: This special election was called by Texas Governor Greg Abbott to fill a vacancy in the U.S. House of Representatives for the 27th Congressional District of Texas. The term for the now vacant seat in this race ends Jan. 3, 2019.

Candidates must be 25 years old or older, a US citizen and a resident of Texas. The United States House of Representatives has 435 members of which Texas is entitled to 36. Responsible for representing the citizens of his/her district in the US House of Representatives.

Powers the U.S. House of Representatives shares with the U.S. Senate include the power to levy taxes, borrow money, regulate interstate commerce, and declare war. The annual salary for a United States Representative is \$174,000.

## QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**QUESTION 1:** Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

**QUESTION 2:** What are the most important challenges facing our country/district, and how would you address them?

**QUESTION 3:** What changes, if any, should be made in immigration policies? Why?

**QUESTION 4:** The cost of prescription drugs, across the board, should be decreased substantially. Strongly oppose/Oppose/Neither support nor oppose/Support/Strongly support. Explain your response.

**QUESTION 5:** What is your opinion of the current balance between 2nd Amendment rights and prevention of public and domestic gun violence? Much less/Somewhat less/Fine as is/Somewhat more/Much more. Explain your response.



### Daniel Tinus (L)

**ANSWER 1:** The qualifications I bring to this position are varied. I am a husband, a father and a grandfather. My wife and I are both Army veterans who met while serving in N. Africa and the Mid East. We serve our community through church and other organizations including food banks, and providing assistance to the poor and homeless. I also served as a Court appointed child advocate for 10 years. I funded this by designing and constructing bridges, roads and buildings of all types and sizes. I quit the engineering field and have been teaching high school for 18 years. A total 38 years of service.

**ANSWER 2:** 578 CR 136 The greatest issue I can effect as a member of Congress is the overreach of the Federal Government in our communities and as individuals. As a teacher we spend hours fulfilling mandates that have little to do with education or making our schools safer. Every person is impacted by regulations and restrictions making what should be simple near impossible. Many can not afford basic necessities as cost are driven up by burdensome regulations. Our children will now be left with over \$65K in debt each. This is unsustainable and we owe it to future generations to leave our nation better.

**ANSWER 3:** The reason many people come to our country is to seek a better life. I know my grand parents did and worked to make it better for all. They had to come for the right reasons as no one was going to provide incentives to do otherwise. We now encourage people to come for reasons that don't benefit this nation or even their own interest as we pay people to not work. We can not have open borders and a welfare state. I feel strongly about each of us helping people as my record proves but the government has exasperated the problem. We need to make sure it is in our interest those we allow in.

**ANSWER 4:** Strongly support. Health care and prescription drugs cost have sky rocketed after the federal government got involved to lower cost. I cared for my mom the last 8 years of her life and just one prescription cost \$7000.00 a month. DR.s said "her insurance will cover it" but her insurance was Medicare. Medicare/ Medicaid is now 1/3 of the federal budget and private health care cost are a huge portion of our incomes. This is unsustainable. The solution is to allow us to buy health insurance and prescription drugs to fit our individual needs. To buy what we want from who we want even if it is from Mexico or Canada.

**ANSWER 5:** Fine as is. With gun violence and school shootings in the news daily it gives the appearance violent crime is on the rise while statistics prove the opposite is true on a national level. Still many of our cities are racked with gang violence and one school shooting is unacceptable. A major problem is a lack of enforcement of existing laws. I don't see how placing more responsibility in the hands of our over burdened law enforcement will do anything but exasperate an already over whelming task. I am not for mak-

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### Mike Westergren (D)

**ANSWER 1:** Elected official in Nueces County for 30 years-Justice of the Peace, County Attorney, and District Judge. Receive honor of the Outstanding District Judge, 1995-96 by the State Bar of Texas.

As a young lawyer served as an attorney with Legal Aid to assist persons who were devastated by Hurricane Celia in 1970.

Have a self-imposed limit of \$500 for contributions to my campaign.

In the short time available, I believe that I can assists persons ravaged by Hurricane Harvey. There is no substitute for direct intervention by a Congressman in dealing with the federal government.

**ANSWER 2:** Assistance with the devastation of Hurricane Harvey. In fact the very reason for the Special Election as set out in the Governor's Proclamation: "Governor's disaster declaration related to the devastation resulting from Hurricane Harvey, and it is imperative to fill this vacancy to ensure that the 27th Congressional District is fully represented as soon as possible."

This will be the main duty of this office. Since I am not running for the permanent position in November, I can devote all my efforts to this mission.

**ANSWER 3:** We definitely need a more fair and comprehensive approach to immigration. Some attention should be given to a legal work program. The big problem today is that all the attention is given to those here without authorization, and none or very little attention paid to those who provide the jobs to aliens without proper paperwork.

**ANSWER 4:** Support. It is ridiculous that the federal government is not permitted to bargain with the pharmaceutical companies concerning the price of drugs for the various programs.

It is a sad day in America when people have to choose between adequate nutrition and life saving drugs.

**ANSWER 5:** Much more. We must stand up to various interest that have a disproportionate control over legislation both state and federal. This is why as stated above, I will not accept more than \$500 from any one donor. As a people, we should demand this of

Raul Roy Barrera (D), Bech Bruun (R)

**NO RESPONSE RECEIVED by print deadline.  
See VOTE411.ORG for any later responses.**