



Texas Constitutional Amendment Summaries

Seventeen constitutional amendments will be decided by Texas voters this fall. *Texas Farm Bureau policy supports 10 propositions and is neutral on the remaining seven.*

Proposition 1

Ballot Language: “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.”

This constitutional amendment would establish the Permanent Technical Institution Infrastructure Fund and the Available Workforce Education Fund as special funds for the purpose of providing a dedicated source of funding for capital projects and equipment purchases for the Texas State Technical College System and its programs.

Texas Farm Bureau supports the proposition. _____

Proposition 2

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

This constitutional amendment would prohibit the legislature from imposing a tax on the realized or unrealized capital gains of an individual, family, estate or trust.

Texas Farm Bureau supports the proposition. _____

Proposition 3

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

This constitutional amendment would require that bail be denied pending trial to a person accused of one or more of the following felony offenses if the state demonstrated by clear and convincing evidence after a hearing that granting bail would have been insufficient to reasonably prevent the person’s willful nonappearance in court or ensure the safety of the community, law enforcement and victim of the alleged offense:

- Murder
- Capital Murder
- Aggravated assault if the person caused serious bodily injury or used a firearm, club, knife, or explosive weapon.

- Aggravated Kidnapping
- Aggravated Robbery
- Aggravated Sexual Assault
- Indecency With a Child
- Trafficking Of Persons
- Continuous Trafficking of Persons

Texas Farm Bureau policy is neutral. _____

Proposition 4

Ballot Language: “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.”

Directs the first \$1 billion in sales tax revenue exceeding \$46.5 billion annually to the State Water Fund and allows the legislature to modify this allocation with a two-thirds majority vote. The State Water Fund finances water and wastewater projects. This dedication of sales tax revenue would be in effect until 2047. Prop 4 will not fund groundwater export projects taking water from rural Texas, and the Texas Water Fund cannot be used to take land for reservoirs.

Texas Farm Bureau supports the proposition. _____

Proposition 5

Ballot Language: “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.”

This constitutional amendment would authorize a property tax exemption for livestock feed held as inventory by feed retailers. Under current law, livestock feed is only taxed when it is sitting in a feed store as inventory. That cost is then often passed down to ranchers in the form of higher prices on feed. This would help alleviate costs for both feed retailers and ranchers.

Texas Farm Bureau supports the proposition. _____

Proposition 6

Ballot Language: “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.”

This amendment would prevent the Texas Legislature from creating new taxes on stock trades or on the businesses that run stock markets, like brokers and exchanges. It’s meant to protect investors and financial companies from extra costs that could affect things like retirement savings. The amendment would not stop the state from collecting general taxes like sales or business taxes.

Supporters say it helps keep Texas attractive for financial businesses, while critics worry it could limit future options for raising state revenue.

Texas Farm Bureau policy is neutral. _____

Proposition 7

Ballot Language: “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.”

This amendment would allow the Texas Legislature to give property tax exemptions to the surviving spouses of veterans who passed away due to illnesses linked to toxic exposure during their military service—such as Agent Orange, burn pits or radiation. If the surviving spouse moves to a new home, they would retain this tax break.

Texas Farm Bureau policy is neutral. _____

Proposition 8

Ballot Language: “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.”

This amendment would ban the Texas Legislature from creating any new taxes on estates, inheritances or gifts when someone passes away. It also blocks lawmakers from increasing or expanding any such taxes that were already in place as of Jan. 1, 2025. Since Texas doesn’t currently have these taxes, the amendment is meant to make sure they can’t be added in the future.

Texas Farm Bureau supports the proposition. _____

Proposition 9

Ballot Language: “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.”

This amendment would let the Texas Legislature give a property tax break to people who own items like equipment, tools or other personal property used to earn income. Specifically, it would allow up to \$125,000 of the value of that property to be exempt from local property taxes. The goal is to help small business owners and entrepreneurs by reducing their tax burden on the tools they use to make a living.

Texas Farm Bureau supports the proposition. _____

Proposition 10

Ballot Language: “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.”

This amendment would allow the Legislature to temporarily waive property taxes on parts of a home that are completely destroyed by a fire. For example, if a fire burns down the main house but leaves the garage or land untouched, only the damaged part—the house—would be eligible for the exemption. The Legislature would decide how long the exemption lasts and what conditions must be met. A related law, SB 467, says the exemption would apply for the rest of the year that the fire occurred if the damage makes the home unlivable for at least 30 days, but it wouldn’t cover structures like garages or barns.

Texas Farm Bureau policy is neutral. _____

Proposition 11

Ballot Language: “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.”

This amendment would allow the Legislature to increase the property tax exemption for elderly and disabled homeowners. If approved by voters, the exemption would rise from \$10,000 to \$60,000, helping reduce the

taxable value of their homes. Combined with the proposed increase in the general homestead exemption under Proposition 13, qualifying homeowners could receive up to \$200,000 in total exemptions. This change is aimed at easing the financial burden for those living on fixed incomes.

Texas Farm Bureau supports the proposition. _____

Proposition 12

Ballot Language: "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."

This amendment would change the composition of the Texas State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC) by requiring only two of the six judicial members of the commission to be trial court judges. It would also prohibit judges from the same type of court from serving on the commission, except for trial judges. In addition, the amendment would change the composition of the tribunal that reviews the commission's recommendations and give the commission the authority to make changes to the judicial oversight process.

This amendment would update the powers of both the SCJC and the Texas Supreme Court to strengthen its ability to discipline judges for misconduct.

Texas Farm Bureau policy is neutral. _____

Proposition 13

Ballot Language: "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."

This amendment would increase the portion of a homeowner's residence homestead value that is exempt from property taxes. Currently, the exemption is set at \$100,000, but if voters approve the change, it will rise to \$140,000. This means a larger share of a home's value would be protected from taxation, potentially lowering the overall property tax bill.

Texas Farm Bureau supports the proposition. _____

Proposition 14

Ballot Language: "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."

This amendment would establish the Dementia Prevention and Research Institute of Texas to provide grants and assistance to support research, prevention and treatment for dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and related disorders. The amendment would also transfer \$3 billion from the state's general revenue to support the institute and its operations.

Texas Farm Bureau policy is neutral. _____

Proposition 15

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

This amendment would officially recognize and protect the rights of parents to raise their children as they see fit. Although these rights are generally recognized under U.S. law, the amendment would make them

part of the Texas Constitution and provide stronger legal protections at the state level.

Texas Farm Bureau policy is neutral. _____

Proposition 16

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

This amendment would change the Texas Constitution to clearly say that only U.S. citizens are allowed to vote in Texas elections. Texas law currently requires voters to be U.S. citizens, but the state constitution does not explicitly say that non-citizens are not allowed to vote.

Texas Farm Bureau supports the proposition. _____

Proposition 17

Ballot Language: "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."

This amendment would allow the Texas Legislature to provide tax relief for landowners in counties along the Texas-Mexico border who install or build border security infrastructure such as border walls, fences, surveillance equipment or other security-related improvements. When landowners build border security infrastructure on their property, it can increase the property's market value, which in turn can raise their property taxes. This amendment aims to prevent those tax increases by exempting that added value from property taxes.

Texas Farm Bureau supports the proposition. _____

