CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION

EXPLAINED

PROPOSITION 1

This amendment would create an endowment for the Texas State Technical College Program.

Unlike other public two-year colleges, Texas State Technical College does not have taxing authority to issue bonds, and underfunding has led to a halt in critical capital improvements. If voters approve the constitutional amendment, TSTC officials [have said](https://www.texastribune.org/2025/06/24/texas-workforce-training-legislative-session/) they will use the money to fix campus infrastructure, upgrade classroom equipment and expand its footprint across the state.

PROPOSITION 2

This would ban the state from taxing people or businesses on profits or potential profits from [capital assets](https://fmx.cpa.texas.gov/fmx/pubs/spaproc/ch1/1_1.php), such as investments, real estate, valuable items and certain personal property. It would also eliminate a franchise tax on business trusts, which would lead the state to [lose an estimated $152,000](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/fiscalnotes/pdf/SJ00018F.pdf#navpanes=0) in revenue per fiscal year, according to the state comptroller’s office.

PROPOSITION 3

This proposition would require judges to deny bail in certain cases for individuals accused of committing specific felonies, such as murder, aggravated assault and indecency with a child. The state would have to demonstrate that bail is not enough to prevent the defendant from being a flight or public safety risk. Defendants, who are legally presumed innocent, would also be entitled to the right to an attorney during their bail hearings.

PROPOSITION 4

To help the state boost and protect its water supply, state lawmakers are asking voters to [approve $20 billion for water projects over the next two decades.](https://www.texastribune.org/2025/05/27/texas-water-supply-infrastructure-deal-bill/) If approved, up to $1 billion of sales tax revenue would be deposited into the Texas Water Fund each year starting in 2027. The money would go to fixing aging pipes and other infrastructure; developing and increasing new water sources, such as desalination; flood mitigation projects; and supporting conservation efforts to help meet water demands. The amendment would also give the Texas Water Development Board flexibility in distributing funds.

PROPOSITION 5

This constitutional amendment would allow state lawmakers to extend tax exemptions on animal feed to include when animal feed is held as inventory to be sold. State Rep. [Cody Harris](https://www.texastribune.org/directory/cody-harris/), R-Palestine, [noted](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/analysis/pdf/HJ00099H.pdf#navpanes=0) animal feed is already typically tax exempt when it is harvested or purchased by a farmer or rancher.

If the constitutional amendment is approved, [accompanying legislation](https://capitol.texas.gov/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=89R&Bill=HB1399) from Harris would exempt animal feed inventory from property taxes. That would lower local property tax revenue and require the state to help school districts make up for that loss, but those costs are not expected to be significant, according to a [fiscal note](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/fiscalnotes/pdf/HB01399E.pdf#navpanes=0) from the state’s Legislative Budget Board.

PROPOSITION 6

This proposal would prevent the state from creating [new taxes](https://shieldslegal.com/texas-house-joint-resolution-4-constitutional-ban-on-stock-exchange-transaction-and-occupation-taxes/) on securities transactions, such as stock trading, and from taxing those who operate or work in the securities market, including financial institutions, brokers and dealers.

PROPOSITION 7

This change would allow state lawmakers to give property tax breaks on homes to the un-remarried spouses of U.S. veterans who the federal government determined died in connection to their service. State Rep. [Chris Turner](https://www.texastribune.org/directory/chris-turner/), D-Grand Prairie, said during legislative discussions that the change is meant to align Texas with a more recent [federal law](https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/) that expanded benefits for veterans exposed to toxic substances during their service.

PROPOSITION 8

Though Texas does not currently have an inheritance tax, this measure aims to prevent lawmakers from trying to impose a tax on an estate or when an estate or inheritance is transferred. It would not eliminate other existing taxes that can be associated with an inheritance, such as unpaid property taxes, according to committee discussions on the proposal. Critics of this constitutional amendment have said it is unnecessary and would limit state lawmakers in the future, according to the [House Research Organization](https://hro-dfr.house.texas.gov/bill-analysis?legislature=89&session=R&billNumber=HJR2).

PROPOSITION 9

This amendment, along with [accompanying legislation](https://capitol.texas.gov/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=89R&Bill=HB9), would exempt up to $125,000 of businesses’ inventory or equipment from being taxed by school districts, cities, counties or any other taxing entity. Under current law, businesses don’t have to pay taxes on that property if it’s worth $2,500 or less.

PROPOSITION 10

This amendment and accompanying legislation would create a process to temporarily lower property taxes on homes destroyed by fire. Homeowners could apply for an adjusted tax bill on the restored home for the year in which the fire occurred, according to the [accompanying legislation](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/analysis/pdf/SB00467F.pdf#navpanes=0). To qualify, the homeowner’s home would have to remain uninhabitable for at least 30 days after the fire. These property tax bill reductions could lower local tax revenue and require the state to help make up for school districts’ losses, but potential costs for the state could not be calculated, according to the legislation’s [fiscal note](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/fiscalnotes/pdf/SB00467H.pdf#navpanes=0).

PROPOSITION 11

This constitutional amendment would allow the state to raise a homestead exemption, a discount on school property taxes that lowers how much of a home’s value can be taxed to pay for public schools. The increased exemption would shave off $60,000 from the taxable value of elderly or disabled Texans’ homes, rather than just $10,000 under the current exemption.

PROPOSITION 12

This amendment would change the make-up of Texas’ State Commission on Judicial Conduct and related processes and powers.

Currently, the State Commission on Judicial Conduct is made up of the following:

* six judges from six different court levels,
* two attorneys appointed by the State Bar of Texas who aren’t judges, and
* five citizens appointed by the governor who are at least 30 years of age and aren’t attorneys or judges.
* If approved, the constitutional amendment would beef up the citizen representation on the commission by changing the makeup to:
* six judges or justices of courts appointed by the Texas Supreme Court of, two of whom would have to be trial court judges (judicial members of the commission would not be allowed to be judges in the same type of court), and
* seven citizens appointed by the governor, who are at least 35 years of age.

PROPOSITION 13

This constitutional amendment would allow Texans who own their home to see a boost in the state’s homestead exemption, or the slice of a home’s value that can’t be taxed to pay for public schools. The proposal would shave off $140,000 off the taxable value of the home, instead of the current $100,000.

PROPOSITION 14

This amendment would provide $3 billion to create the Dementia Prevention and Research Institute of Texas to study dementia, Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s disease and other brain related conditions. The measure received bipartisan support from a majority of lawmakers and was one of Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick’s legislative priorities.

If voters approve the constitutional amendment, an initial $3 billion in state surplus revenue would be transferred to the fund, and a board appointed by Patrick, House Speaker Dustin Burrows, R-Lubbock, and Gov. Greg Abbott would be set up to approve research proposals. Going forward, the institute would receive up to $300 million annually. This funding is intended to attract physicians, researchers, and experts to Texas.

PROPOSITION 15

This proposal would include parental rights, as currently outlined out in federal case law, in the Texas Constitution. The intent of the amendment is to protect parental rights since “case law can change and disappear over time with the appointment of new judges,” according to an [analysis of the legislation](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/analysis/pdf/SJ00034F.pdf#navpanes=0).

The constitution would be amended to include the following: “Provides that, to enshrine truths that are deeply rooted in this nation's history and traditions, the people of Texas hereby affirm that a parent has the responsibility to nurture and protect the parent's child and the corresponding fundamental right to exercise care, custody, and control of the parent's child, including the right to make decisions concerning the child's upbringing.”

Some questions were raised during legislative discussions about how the proposal would ensure children’s voices are also heard.

PROPOSITION 16

This amendment would add language to the Texas Constitution to explicitly say that “persons who are not citizens of the United States” cannot vote in the state. Though U.S. citizenship is already required to register to vote in Texas, this amendment aims to prevent local governments in Texas from allowing local residents who are not citizens to vote in local elections and comes in response to other states passing such policies, according to [analysis](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/analysis/pdf/SJ00037F.pdf#navpanes=0) of the legislation.

Critics of the measure said it is redundant and unnecessary.

PROPOSITION 17

This [proposal](https://capitol.texas.gov/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=89R&Bill=HJR34) and [accompanying legislation](https://capitol.texas.gov/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=89R&Bill=HB247) would allow the state to prevent property value in border counties from increasing due to border security infrastructure and related improvements.

This new exemption could reduce local tax revenue, but costs to the state to help address school district losses are not expected to be significant, according to a [fiscal note](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/fiscalnotes/pdf/HB00247E.pdf#navpanes=0). Other local governments may have to raise tax rates to offset the losses, according to the [fiscal note](https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/89R/fiscalnotes/pdf/HB00247E.pdf#navpanes=0).