

NOVEMBER 2023 BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

(Based on Bexar County recommendations; propositions edited for simplicity and explanations added.)

(No official position has been taken by the Grayson County Democratic Party)

Proposition	Description	For/ Against
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 1	"The constitutional amendment protecting the right to engage in farming, ranching, timber production, horticulture, and wildlife management." Limits local government options	Against
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 2	"The constitutional amendment authorizing a local option exemption from ad valorem taxation for a child-care facility."	For
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 3	"The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of an individual wealth or net worth tax." Another effort to protect the wealthy.	Against
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 4	"The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to establish a temporary limit on the maximum appraised value of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem tax purposes; to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads from \$40,000 to \$100,000;.....; to except certain appropriations to pay for ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations; and to authorize the legislature to provide for a four-year term of office for a member of the board of directors of certain appraisal districts." Sounds great (lower property taxes) and will almost certainly pass BUT what about future years when there is no longer a big surplus to pay for these cuts? Likely response then will be to cut social welfare programs to balance the budget.	Against
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 5	"The constitutional amendment relating to the Texas University Fund, which provides funding to certain institutions of higher education to achieve national prominence as major research universities and drive the state economy."	For
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 6	"The constitutional amendment creating the Texas water fund to assist in financing water projects in this state."	For
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 7	"The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the Texas energy fund for the construction, maintenance, and operation of electric generating facilities." Primarily supports natural gas powered plants, thus adding to climate crises.	Against
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 8	"The constitutional amendment creating the broadband infrastructure fund to expand high-speed broadband access."	For
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 9	"The constitutional amendment authorizing the 88th Legislature to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to certain annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas." Texas teachers do <u>not</u> get Social Security and have had <u>no cost of living increase</u> since 2004. (Another reason why there is a teacher shortage in Texas!)	For
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 10	"The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation equipment or inventory held by a manufacturer of medical or biomedical products to protect the Texas healthcare." Exempts industry from taxation and thus shifts burden to individual tax payers	Against
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 11	"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities."	For
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 12	"The constitutional amendment providing for the abolition of the office of county treasurer in Galveston County."	
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 13	"The constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory age of retirement for state justices and judges."	
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 14	"The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the centennial parks conservation fund to be used for the creation and improvement of state parks."	For