

Primary Election Day: March 6, 2018 Early Voting: February 20 – March 2, 2018

We surveyed candidates seeking the Democratic and Republican nominations for the Texas House and Senate. These are the candidates who want to represent you at the Capitol in Austin. Answers provided have been unedited.

This voter guide was compiled, published, and funded by members of **Texans for Responsible Marijuana Policy**, a broad coalition of organizations, activists, and community leaders dedicated to 1) enacting a comprehensive and compassionate medical marijuana law; 2) removing penalties for adults' possession of marijuana for personal use; and/or 3) replacing the illicit market for cannabis with a safe, legal, and accountable market. **Texas NORML originated the guide in 2012, and we'd like to thank them for helping to put this year's guide together.** Our goal is to help voters make educated decisions when they go to the polls to vote in the Democratic or Republican Primary.





Texas is one of the 27 states where voters cannot collect signatures to place a measure on the ballot to change state law. Instead, Texans must rely on our state representatives and state senators to set marijuana policies. With primary election day just around the corner, it's the perfect time to take a close look at candidates' stances. If you're not sure what state House or state Senate district you live in, you can look it up at http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/Home.aspx.

Here are the five questions we asked the all Republican and Democratic candidates for state senator and state representative:

- 1) Do you support or oppose changing state law to allow residents with debilitating medical conditions (e.g. cancer, multiple sclerosis, PTSD) to access whole plant medical marijuana with a physician's certification?
- 2) Under current Texas laws, individuals found in possession of less than one ounce of marijuana can be arrested and given a criminal record, and they face up to six months in jail and a fine of up to \$2,000. Do you support or oppose changing state law to make possession of less than one ounce of marijuana a civil offense punishable by a fine and no time in jail?
- 3) Do you support or oppose changing state law to allow adults 21 and older to possess limited amounts of marijuana and establishing a system in which **marijuana is regulated and taxed similarly to alcohol**? Under such a system, it would remain illegal to consume marijuana in public or drive under the influence of marijuana.
- 4) Industrial hemp is genetically similar to marijuana but contains less than 0.3% of the psychoactive chemical in marijuana (THC). At least 34 states have passed legislation related to industrial hemp. The crop can be cultivated around the world for its seed and fiber, which are used in many legal products, such as paper, textiles, construction materials, and fuel. Do you support or oppose changing state law to allow the cultivation of industrial hemp?
- 5) Do you agree or disagree that states should be able to carry out their own marijuana policies without interference from the federal government?

(Key: Support/Agree ☑ or Oppose/Disagree ☑)



Thank you for your interest in reforming marijuana laws in Texas! *Please feel free to share this voter guide far and wide.*

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If a candidate running in your district resonates with your views, please consider contacting them to see how you can assist with their campaign.

If a candidate in your district does not have a very informed opinion, please contact them to educate them.

When reaching out to the candidates running in your district, please be sure to mention that you found them through the Texans for Responsible Marijuana Policy Voter Guide 2018.



Texas Sta	Texas State Representative Candidate Responses					
Office Sought	Candidate Information	Penalty Reduction	Medical Marijuana Access	Legal Market for Adults	Hemp Cultivation	States' Rights
House District 2	Name: Bill Brannon Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Not sure where I would fall on legalizing small amounts.	\checkmark	\checkmark	X		V
House District 3	Name: Lisa Seger Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	V	V	V	\lambda	V
House District 4	Name: Eston Williams Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	V	\checkmark	V	V	V
House District 11	Name: Alec Johnson Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I favor outright legalization of marijuana. Anti-marijuana laws were first and foremost Jim Crow laws and racist in origin. That origin, and the fact that marijuana is far less dangerous than legal alcohol consumption makes it clear to me that full de-criminalization makes the most sense. It would also help end the racist war on drugs which has been a war on communities of people of color.	×		V	V	V
House District 11	Name: Danny Ward Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments:	\checkmark	V	X	\checkmark	V



Texas State Representative Candidate Responses						
Office Sought	Candidate Information	Penalty Reduction	Medical Marijuana Access	Legal Market for Adults	Hemp Cultivation	States' Rights
House District 12	Name: Marianne Arnold Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I would prefer that marijuana laws be liberalized nationwide. However that is unlikely to occur during the present administration.	\checkmark	V	\checkmark	V	×
House District 13	Name: Cecil R Webster, Sr. Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I do support cultivation of industrial hemp by licensed facilities, but oppose such by individuals.		V	V	X	V
House District 14	Name: Josh Wilkinson Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: The criminalization of marijuana withholds pain-relieving therapy from those who need it most, exacerbates the opioid epidemic, bogs down our legal justice system, distracts law enforcement from more pressing matters, fills our prisons with non-violent (non-)offenders, keeps students from finishing school, keeps workers from getting jobs, and tears families apart. The criminalization of marijuana is a blight on society that must end immediately.	\sqrt			V	V
House District 15	Name: Jackie Waters Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments:	\checkmark	\checkmark	×	\checkmark	V



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House District 16	Name: Mike Midler Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Many states have adopted similar laws/revisions to their laws. Enough evidence exists to draw a fair conclusion that the facts are there to support the above positions. A new tax source could help justify a decrease in property taxes.	V	V	V		V
House District 17	Name: Michelle Ryan Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: michellefortexas.org					V
House District 19	Name: James White Party: Republican Incumbent: Yes Comments: I joint authored HB 81 (Moody). That is the appropriate criminal response that I support.	\checkmark	\checkmark	×	\checkmark	V
House District 20	Name: Stephen Wyman Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: The policy needs to change across the nation State by state is a starter not a permanent fix.	V	V	V		×
House District 23	Name: Amanda Jamrok Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I fully support the legalization of medicinal marijuana and programs like the Harris County Marijuana Diversion Program until marijuana is fully decriminalized statewide.	\(\lambda	\(\lambda	V		V



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House District 25	Name: Damon Rambo Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: This is a very difficult issue. We need to protect the public from rampant misuse of drugs, while also allowing people access to the treatments they need without burdensome government regulations and laws. We need to have laws in place that focus more on misuse, and less on possession. It makes no sense to spend tax payer money to put someone in jail for personal use of marijuana. You not only punish the perpetrator, but the taxpayer as well. Enshrining these common sense ideas in law will be difficult, but I am willing to try.	\sqrt	\sqrt	X	\sqrt	√
House District 26	Name: Sarah DeMerchant Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Before being firm on industrial hemp, I would need more time to research it.		V	V	X	V
House District 27	Name: Wilvin Carter Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	V	\checkmark	V	V	V
House District 28	Name: Meghan Scoggins Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: It is far past time that Texans have access to medicinal marijuana. We are the home to leading cancer research centers, and are depriving patients of a natural substance that eases the side effects of chemotherapy. Legalization also provides additional revenue to our state that has cut so many vital programs claiming a lack of resources to fund them.	V		\	V	V



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House District 29	Name: Dylan Forbis Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	\checkmark	\checkmark	V	\checkmark	V
House District 29	Name: James Presley Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	V	V	V	V	V
House District 30	Name: Craig Carter Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments:		\checkmark			V
House District 37	Name: Arturo Alonzo Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: As a Veteran, former Law Enforcement Officer, and a Latino who has personally been affected by the War on Drugs who proudly lead the field efforts and messaging for Prop 64 in California and helped pass one of the largest criminal justice reforms in the country. Our staff and I are committed to leading the efforts to legalizing Marijuana by 2019 in Texas, decriminalize cannabis and pardoning all non-violent marijuana offenders, and invest millions of dollars from the marijuana-tax revenue to neighborhoods who have been disproportionately targeted by the War on Drugs and finally break the chains of oppression, mass incarceration, and poverty that have been inflicted to Black and Brown families in the Lone Start State.	√	\sqrt	V	V	✓



Office Sought	Candidate Information	Penalty Reduction	Medical Marijuana Access	Legal Market for Adults	Hemp Cultivation	States Rights
	Name: Michael Pinkard, Jr.					
House	Party: Democrat					
District	Incumbent: No	lacksquare	\checkmark	\checkmark	lacksquare	lacksquare
41	Comments: I strongly support Medicinal Marijuana to offset prescription cost and i support decriminalizing small amounts in possession.					
	Name: Rebecca Bell-Metereau					
	Party: Democrat					
House	Incumbent: No					
District	Comments: I support all sensible and sane marijuana laws, and I believe we	$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$	\checkmark	\checkmark	$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$	\checkmark
45	can look to other states and countries for models and best practices, possible					
	unintended consequences of various policies, etc. I support evidence-based,					
	science-based research, approaches, and solutions to all of these issues.					
	Name: Les Carnes					
House	Party: Democrat Incumbent: No		$\overline{\checkmark}$	$\overline{\checkmark}$		
District 45			V	V		V
45	Comments: The taxes on the legal sale of marijuana should be dedicated to public education. If Colorado can do it, Texas can.					
	Name: Erin Zwiener					
	Party: Democrat					
House	Incumbent: No					
District	Comments: I will support all of the above policies, but my end goal is full	$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$	\checkmark	\checkmark	lacksquare	$\overline{\checkmark}$
45	legalization of marijuana. There is not adequate social or medical risk to					
	justify it remaining illegal.					



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House District 46	Name: Sheryl Cole Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: For far too long, communities that are primarily low-income people of color have been jailed and disenfranchised due to regressive marijuana policy - a description that disproportionately describes my district, HD 46, compared to the rest of the state. I applaud the local efforts in Travis County (and elsewhere) to make sure we aren't ruining the lives of individuals for possessing marijuana, but we can do better at a state and federal level. While I do not believe that the legalization marijuana will solve all of our criminal justice issues, it is certainly progress and a necessary step. The additional tax revenue that can go towards our ailing education, healthcare, and transportation systems is also very welcomed.	V	V	V	√	V
House District 46	Name: Gabriel Nila Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: My platform is including changing legislation to reduce penalties for minors who are first-time offenders who are in possession of marijuana.			V	\checkmark	V



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House District 46	Name: Jose "Chito" Vela Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Below is my criminal justice agenda from my website: Texas incarcerates more people than any other state in the union. There are simply too many people in its county jails and state prisons that do not belong there. A disproportionate number of Texans in jail and prison are there because of mental health or drug problems. Many more are there because they cannot pay their bond or could not afford good legal representation. Texas needs to legalize and tax marijuana and reduce all other drug possession offenses to misdemeanors. And we need to make sure that the people in our prisons and jails are there because they are a threat to public safety, not because they are poor and cannot afford an attorney.	√	\sqrt	V	\sqrt	√
House District 47	Name: Elaina Fowler Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Marijuana was outlawed in the US in the 1930s when it gained its taboo status, which was further exaggerated by its categorization as a 'Schedule I' drug by the Controlled Substances Act in 1970. I am in favor of decriminalizing Marijuana for the simple fact that it would reduce barriers to employment, housing, education and public services. As such, decriminalization would move us closer to addressing drug use as a public health issue and not a criminal justice issue. Additionally, the legalization of marijuana, as seen in Colorado and Washington state would use funds to focus on substance abuse counseling for harder drug users and add a much needed overlooked tax base.			\sqrt		\sqrt



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House District 47	Name: Vikki Goodwin Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		V
House District 47	Name: Sheri Soltes Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: It is high time for Texas to join the several other states and at least decriminalize and eventually legalize marijuana. If we look to Colorado, their public school system is thriving from all of the tax dollars that have been brought in due to the legalization in that state. It's time to move the needle on this issue and pass meaningful legalization legislation, but we must have a restorative justice in the legislation to release those wrongfully incarcerated due to our antiquated drug policy laws in this state.	V	V	V	V	V
House District 47	Name: Jay Wiley Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: I support decriminalization of marijuana and medicinal use, but am not yet at the point where I believe full legalization is appropriate.			×	\checkmark	V
House District 47	Name: Candace Aylor Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Through the lived experiences of my own families members working to heal from traumatic stress and my work with the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, I've known for some time that safe, responsible use of marijuana is an essential component of a comprehensive plan for that healing for many people. Whether whole plant, CBD oil supplements, or some combination of those, evidence of their effectiveness is clear.	V	V	V		V



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House District 48	Name: Donna Howard Party: Democrat Incumbent: Yes Comments: In the 85th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature, I authored HJR 46, which would have proposed a constitutional amendment to authorize and regulate the possession, cultivation, and sale of cannabis. The bill failed to receive a hearing, but I plan to refile in the next session. I also coauthored HB 81, which would have reduced the penalty for possession of less than an ounce of marijuana. With regard to federal interference, I hesitate to make a blanket statement, as there might be some positive action at the federal level in the future. But I certainly oppose any federal action to punish states that have taken steps to legalize marijuana.	√	√	√	√	√
House District 52	Name: Christopher L. Ward Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: My opposition to question 3 is in regards to limited or no viable roadside test similar to a breathalyzer for alcohol and an established intoxication reference range to establish impairment. Current methods of behavioral analysis have not been as effective as sold and are subjective.			×		
House District 53	Name: Stephanie Ertel Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	V	4	V	V	V



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House District 53	Name: Joe Herrera Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I support the taxing of marijuana if those funds can be used to support public schools as well as funding state law enforcement programs.	\sqrt	\checkmark	V		V
House District 55	Name: CJ Grisham Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: No victim, no crime.	V		V		V
House District 62	Name: Valerie Hefner Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Taxes from sales could be funneled directly to a CHIP-like program for Texans or to the public school budget.		\checkmark	V	\checkmark	√
House District 63	Name: Richard Wolf Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Any changes to drug laws should also come with commuted sentences for any Texan incarcerated for crimes that would have been permissible under the new policy. Their criminal records should be expunged of marijuana related crimes as well.	V		V		V
House District 64	Name: Matt Farmer Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	\(\lambda		\checkmark		$\overline{\checkmark}$



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House District 64	Name: Andrew Morris Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I firmly believe that marijuana should be treated, taxed, and used in similar aspects to tobacco products and alcohol. The experiences of other states that have legalized marijuana — either solely for medical purposes or recreationally — have proved the supposed negative effects do not happen, and the many positive effects — increased state revenue, reducing the opioid crisis, diminishing incarceration rates — are a net benefit on society. As an elected official, I would advocate for legalizing recreational marijuana and using the tax proceeds to invest in Texas education and healthcare systems.	V	V	V	V	V
House District 64	Name: Mat Pruneda Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I support full legalization in Texas. Marijuana reform will end disproportionate prosecutions for minorities, it provides non-addictive pain management to solve the opioid crisis and can potentially provide ~\$700 million dollars which can be used to properly fund schools. My support for legalization is not limited to medical purposes and small amounts. I support full legalization & it's accompanying benefits including spurring jobs and growth.			V		V



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House Disctrict 64	Name: Mark Roy Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: I am a retired Marine. I have had too many combat Veterans confide in me that marijuana usage has helped their PTSD, when prescribed medicines have failed them. I have already lost too many to suicide to ignore this fact.	V		V		V		
House District 65	Name: Michelle Beckley Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: In the Texas House, we will legislate towards the immediate decriminalization of cannabis for medical use. Many veterans that suffer from PTSD, cancer patients and those with chronic illnesses need more access to low cost medicine to which medicinal cannabis can provide. In addition, we must look towards states like Colorado which have seen enormous economic gains from the industry and similarly use the opportunity of the cannabis industry to grow small businesses, put tax revenue towards education and increase the quality of life for all Texans. Our local communities deserve better than being put on the sidelines when so many benefits are being seen around them.	V		V	V	V		
House District 66	Name: Sharon Hirsch Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:			\checkmark		V		



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House District 67	Name: Sarah Depew Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: The financial burdens to our justice system for the law enforcement, prosecution, and incarceration for marijuana use are not justified nor are they beneficial to our society. It empowers organized crime. I believe it should be legal, regulated, and taxed.	V	V	V	V	V		
House District 78	Name: Joe Moody Party: Democrat Incumbent: Yes Comments:				\square			
House District 81	Name: Armando Gamboa Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Legalization of recreational marijuana is an important plank of my campaign, and the resulting revenue will be vital for securing education funding, collecting money for road repair, and providing rehabilitation services for those who struggle with drug abuse.	V	V	V	\checkmark	V		
House District 82	Name: Spencer Bounds Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	V	\checkmark	\checkmark		V		



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House District 84	Name: Austin Carrizales Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I don't know enough about industrial hemp to actually support it. I would only support it being regulated and taxed similar to alcohol if we predetermined where the taxed would go, such as education or to lower property taxes.	V	V	V	×	V			
House District 84	Name: Samantha Fields Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Seeing the successful implementation of marijuana legalization and the boost it gave to state economies, I believe the conversation now necessitates action. I personally know people who have gone to jail for being in the wrong place at the wrong time and now they cannot escape the legal fees. And since legislators can't find the means to fund education, so they say, we should explore these options. Let's get rid of the criminal element, create a surplus in our budget, gives farmers in West Texas a heartier plant to cultivate, and give patients more options on their treatments.	V		V	V	✓			
House District 85	Name: Jennifer Cantu Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I do agree on access to patients, however we are still unaware of the impact of legalization on public health. Until substantial studies and the ability to extrapolate date, from such state as in Washington and Colorado to name a few, we must wait a bit more	V		X	V	V			
House District 86	Name: Mike Purcell Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	\checkmark	V		V	V			



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House District 89	Name: Ray Ash Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I have witnessed people drunk on alcoholic beverages. I have also witnessed people "high" on marijuana. They are two entirely different types of intoxication: the people drunk with alcohol start out in a pretty good mood, but then the more they drink, the more unruly, loud, and generally obnoxious they become; sometimes even to the point of violence. The people who get high on marijuana generally just seem to be in a relaxed and pleasant state of mind; and I have never seen anyone high on marijuana get violent. People who get drunk at the local tavern get to come back next weekend and do it again; people who get high on marijuana get labeled as criminals and can't get the good paying jobs. Go figure.	V	V	V	\sqrt	√		
House District 93	Name: Nisha Mathews Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I think State policies should be in line with Federal to avoid misunderstandings in the law and to allow for consistency. Laws become easier to enforce when it isn't confusing to the citizens and we can understand the laws.	V	V	V	V	X		
House District 97	Name: Beth Llewellyn McLaughlin Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I hope we will move eventually to uniform decriminalization in all states.	\checkmark	V	V	\checkmark	V		



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House District 98	Name: Mica Ringo Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I plan to make the expansion of medical marijuana a major component of my campaign after the primary. This expansion would cover individuals with conditions like cancer, PTSD, glaucoma, chronic pain, depression, and anxiety. I have already met multiple times with TCIA - Texas Cannabis Industry Association and plan to hold townhalls on this topic across my district.	V	V	V	V	V
House District 99	Name: Michael Stackhouse Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Legalization will be a large part of my campaign.	V	V	V		V
House District 100	Name: Sandra Crenshaw Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: If we pass laws giving women the choice to take a life when the emotions of the other parent and grandparents are not considered, then why the prohibition against those who choose to recreate with far less intrusion to the lives of others. We spend more tax dollars prosecuting marijuna charges that ruin lives with criminal records. Thank you guys for being brave enough to step up and make America a Democracy for the people again.	V	\sqrt	V	V	✓
House District 105	Name: Dinesh Mali Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: We need more study done in this issue. We need to take slow approach and not jump in.	V	V	V	×	



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House District 105	Name: Terry Meza Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:			\checkmark		V			
House District 106	Name: Michael Rhea Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	\checkmark	\checkmark	V	\checkmark	V			
House District 106	Name: Ramona Thompson Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:			V	\checkmark	V			
House District 108	Name: Joanna Cattanach Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:			\checkmark	\checkmark	V			
House District 108	Name: Zac Duffy Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:			\checkmark	\checkmark				
House District 109	Name: Victoria Walton Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Although, marijuana could become legal in Texas, I oppose to the used of young adult ages 21-30. With the economy changing our young adult children should focus more on education rather than drugs. Long-term used of psychoactive drug, can cause damage to the brain cells, etc. I am however, in support of State laws changing the punishment.	×	V	×	V	×			



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House District 109	Name: Christopher Graham Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I agree that Texas needs legalization of marijuana for recreational use. When in office one of my first actions will be to propose a comprehensive regulatory scheme for its legalization. The distinctions between medical use and recreational use are artificial and no longer needed.			V	V	V		
House District 112	Name: Brandy Chambers Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: My opposition to the civil offense question is because I don't think possession of marijuana should be a criminal or civil action UNLESS it is by a person under the age of 21. Then, it should be a civil offense with a fine, not criminal.	×		V	V	V		
House District 113	Name: Rhetta Bowers Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I support access to marijuana for medicinal purposes and believe that this would keep residents from having to move/travel to other states to receive proper treatment.			×		V		



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House District 117	Name: Terisha DeDeaux Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I thank you for reaching out to me to hear my view point on certain matters. I have answered each question to best of my ability but variables do apply. Thank you, Terisha DeDeaux	✓	V	V	×	V		
House District 117	Name: Carlos Antonio Raymond Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: I have never smoked any form of nicotine, therefore, I have some reservations about the movement to legalize marijuana. As a compassionate conservative Republican, I believe this matter rest solely with each state legislature to make that decision. I have heard that marijuana has some medicinal effects on such medical conditions as: epilepsy, and multiple sclerosis. Families appear to share these views as they have personally reported to me how much it has improved the quality of their lives. Therefore, I will keep an open mind, and examine more closely the pros and cons of this issue. I truly respect the will of the people.	√	V	V	√	V		
House District 118	Name: John Lujan Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments:	\checkmark	\checkmark	×		V		



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House District 120	Name: Barbara Gervin-Hawkins Party: Democrat Incumbent: Yes Comments: I believe responsible handling of this issue is crucial for the future of Texans	\checkmark	Ø	\checkmark		V		
House District 121	Name: Adrian Spears Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments:			×		V		
House District 122	Name: Claire Barnett Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Our criminal justice system wastes valuable resources on criminal prosecution of non-violent drug offenses. The black market that currently exists is far more dangerous to public health and safety than legalizing medical marijuana and decriminalizing and regulating possession of marijuana in small amounts.	✓	V	√	✓	V		
House District 124	Name: Ina Minjarez Party: Democrat Incumbent: Yes Comments:	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	V		



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House District 126	Name: Undrai Fizer Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I strongly agree with the clinical usage of all forms of marijuana, as prescribed by physicians. I also support being more lenient when it comes to possession of less than an ounce. But to make it the focus of a "capitalistic gain," will only add to the "abuse of it," simply because there will be many who seek to make it more "potent and lethal" which in turn, may provoke greater "abuse of restrictions and guidelines. As for its industrial importance. I agree with cultivating its use, but under certain protective guidelines that will protect our citizens from "foul" intention and abuse. I am careful when it comes to agreeing with liberties that may destroy lives and character, even if they are no longer going to jail because of it!	V	\sqrt	X	V	√			
House District 126	Name: Natali Hurtado Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:			\checkmark	\square	×			
House District 127	Name: Reginald Grant Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: I believe the party has consistently come down on the wrong side when it comes to the prohibition of recreational and medicinal marijuana use. There are many studies that have shown the effects of marijuana use in comparison with that of alcohol and cigars. In some cases, its long term use has shown least harmful than that of the others. The first property we own is, our bodies. As the Freedom Fund describes it, "Self-ownership means you have freedom of speech, because you own your voice and can say what you want." Without being able to control one's self and assert this ownership we are merely subjects of the government.	\sqrt	\sqrt	V	V	V			



Texas State Representative Candidate Responses							
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House District 130	Name: Fred Infortunio Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Definitely in favor of regulated legalisation for recreational use.		\checkmark	\checkmark		V	
House District 132	Name: Gina Calanni Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I think the wording of the last question is problematic.	\checkmark	\checkmark	V	\checkmark	×	
House District 133	Name: Sam Tejas Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: U have our full support when I'm elected.	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	V	
House District 134	Name: Allison Lami Sawyer Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	×	
House District 136	Name: John Bucy Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: While I favor allowing the use of medical marijuana and decriminalization for small amounts of marijuana I would like more information around the legalization debate. I am eager to learn more and have an open dialogue.			X		V	



Texas Sta	te Representative Candidate Responses					
Office Sought	Candidate Information	Penalty Reduction	Medical Marijuana Access	Legal Market for Adults	Hemp Cultivation	States' Rights
House District 138	Name: Adam Milasincic Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Regarding federal intervention: There are extreme instances where some federal intervention could be warranted; for example, if State X chooses to retain harsh anti-marijuana laws but enforces those laws in a way that discriminates by race, then federal relief would be appropriate. Outside of those extreme circumstances, I agree that states should be left to regulate marijuana in much the same way that alcohol regulations are currently handled state by state.	\sqrt	\sqrt	V	\sqrt	V
House District 139	Name: Jarvis johnson Party: Democrat Incumbent: Yes Comments:	V		V	\square	V
House District 144	Name: Gilbert Peña Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: I feel that the legalization of marijuana will stop the criminalization of our youth, reduce prison population, increase state tax revenue and stop the use of dangerous drugs.	\checkmark		V	V	V
House District 146	Name: Ricardo Soliz Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	V		V	V	V



Texas State Representative Candidate Responses									
Office Sought	Candidate Information	Penalty Reduction	Medical Marijuana Access	Legal Market for Adults	Hemp Cultivation	States' Rights			
House District 147	Name: Garnet Coleman Party: Democrat Incumbent: Yes Comments:			\checkmark		V			
House District 147	Name: Thomas Wang Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: While I support the legalization of marijuana however we must do so with great care and with great deal of responsibility to ensure the highest of quality of life for everyone, we must not to infringe upon others rights and not add to the problems of criminal trafficking, addiction and DUI. Portion of the tax revenue generated must be designated to help fund social services like treatment of mental health, forster care system, addiction and drug recovery etc. please include my above comments when publishing. Thank You.	√	√	V	\sqrt	V			



Texas State Senator Candidate Responses									
Office Sought	Candidate Information	Penalty Reduction	Medical Marijuana Access	Legal Market for Adults	Hemp Cultivation	States' Rights			
Senate District 2	Name: Kendall Scudder Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: The issue of marijuana isn't as controversial with my generation as it is within the generations of my parents and grandparents. I believe it is silly that we spend so much time/money/resources trying to restrict access to medical cannabis when there is overwhelming scientific evidence surrounding the benefits to people who are in severe pain. In the legislature, you can count on me to be a vote in favor of the legalization of medical marijuana and, beyond that, a supporter of full recreational marijuana in Texas as a means of generating revenue to appropriately invest in our public schools.	V	\sqrt	V	V				
Senate District 3	Name: Shirley Layton Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:		V						
Senate District 5	Name: Brian Cronin Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments:	\checkmark	V	V	\checkmark	V			
Senate District 5	Name: Glenn Williams Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Would support bill allowing mandatory pre-natal education and treatment for pregnant woman as I have seen first hand the problems associated with child born with fetal drug syndome	\checkmark		V		V			



Texas Sta	te Senator Candidate Responses					
Office Sought	Candidate Information	Penalty Reduction	Medical Marijuana Access	Legal Market for Adults	Hemp Cultivation	States' Rights
Senate District 8	Name: Brian Chaput Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: We need to consider all possibilities around our historic approach to scientific research, laws, and the socioeconomic impact Texas has assigned to many policies such as this. Medicine, industry, state regulation, and criminal reform should be allowed a fresh approach to our state and federal laws on this matter. I would support reform with transparent discussion for its legality and uses within our state. Additionally, Texas could benefit due to its geographical location that might further curtail ancillary illegal activity due to better state control of the cultivation and distribution within its borders.	V	V	V	V	V
Senate District 9	Name: Gwenn Burud Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: For the last question, I marked disagree because the federal government might get to legalization before states such as Texas do.			\checkmark		×
Senate District 10	Name: Allison Campolo Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Per the last question: While the states should absolutely have more regulation over the legal treatment of marijuana, we need to find an agreement between the states and the federal government that works comfortably for everyone. The current system is not working, but complete autonomy from the federal government might not be the best either.	V	V	V	V	X
Senate District 10	Name: Konni Burton Party: Republican Incumbent: Yes Comments:	\sqrt	\(\lambda	X	V	V



Texas Sta	Texas State Senator Candidate Responses									
Office Sought	Candidate Information	Penalty Reduction	Medical Marijuana Access	Legal Market for Adults	Hemp Cultivation	States' Rights				
Senate District 15	Name: Damian LaCroix Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I support the full legalization of marijuana in Texas and will work to make sure that happens.	galization of marijuana in Texas and will work								
Senate District 16	Name: Nathan Johnson Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Regarding the legalized and regulated use of marijuana (Question 3), I think Texas needs more time and more data before asking the public to decide the matter. Other states are currently serving as laboratories. Data from their experiences will affect attitudes here, and will help the discussion proceed on a more informed, less conjectural basis. De-criminalization, meanwhile, is urgent, benevolent, and beneficial to the state.	V		×	V	V				
Senate District 16	Name: Joe Bogen Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: For me this is a personal and moral issue. I have had a 17 year old client miss school because he could not afford to post bail on a marijuana charge. I have seen a grandmother living on disability walk out of the courthouse terrified about getting locked up because she could not afford to pay her court costs and fines from a marijuana charge. Reforming these laws is a priority for me because I have seen the unnecessary suffering they inflict on the most vulnerable in society.	V		V	V	V				



Texas Sta	te Senator Candidate Responses					
Office Sought	Candidate Information	Penalty Reduction	Medical Marijuana Access	Legal Market for Adults	Hemp Cultivation	States' Rights
Senate District 17	Name: Rita Lucido Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: While the policies described in your questionnaire are sensible, much of the political will to make these changes must come from Texans themselves. I believe the compassionate use of cannabis for those afflicted with debilitating illness is the change most likely to be made to Texas law because people are vocal about this issue. State law can change when citizens make it a priority.	\sqrt		V	V	V
Senate District 17	Name: Ahmad Hassan Party: Republican Incumbent: No Comments: Legalizing weed is the right thing to do for criminal justice reform, economic growth, and national security.	V	7	V		V
Senate District 25	Name: Jack Guerra Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: Regarding last question, I believe that States have the right to make laws and it may be up to Federal officers to enforce, if they wish. So in that respect, the Federal government may interfere if it decides but must consider the regulatory setting in each State. I believe that any production and regulation must be done by Texans and that start-up companies must be 80% owned by non-existing large corporate entities. This is a new industry and we need to allow regular citizens/investors to benefit as well as users. I also believe that any producer/distributor must be 35% owned by a historically underutilized business as certified by the state of Texas.	√	\sqrt	√	V	×



Texas Sta	Texas State Senator Candidate Responses									
Office Sought	Candidate Information	Penalty Reduction	Medical Marijuana Access	Legal Market for Adults	Hemp Cultivation	States' Rights				
Senate District 25	Name: Steven Kling Party: Democrat Incumbent: No Comments: I am for full repeal of cannabis prohibition and unconditional release of all non-violent drug offenders. I support extensive mental health and addiction counseling and therapy and the treatment of drug abuse as the public health issue it is, not a criminal justice one.	V	V	\checkmark		\checkmark				



Texas state senators serve 2-4-4 terms, where senators serve one two-year term and two four-year terms each decade. In elections with years ending in 2, all seats are up for election. Half of the senators will serve a two-year term, based on a drawing; the other half will fill regular four-year terms. Therefore, about half of the Texas Senate is on the ballot. The following Senators are **not** up for election this year:

Senate District 1 - Senator Bryan Hughes

Senate District 4 - Senator Brandon Creighton

Senate District 6 - Senator Sylvia Garcia

Senate District 11 - Senator Larry Taylor

Senate District 12 - Senator Jane Nelson

Senate District 13 - Senator Borris Miles

Senate District 18 - Senator Louis Kolkhorst

Senate District 19 - Senator Carlos Uresti

Senate District 20 - Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa

Senate District 21 - Senator Judith Zaffirini

Senate District 22 - Senator Brian Birdwell

Senate District 24 - Senator Dawn Buckingham

Senate District 26 - Senator José Menéndez

Senate District 27 - Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr.

Senate District 28 - Senator Charles Perry

Senate District 29 - Senator José Rodríguez







House District	Name	Party	Compassionate Use Act (SB 339) 2015	Medical Marijuana (HB 3785) 2015 (No Vote)	Medical Marijuana (HB 2107) 2017	Civil Penalties (HB 507) 2015	Civil Penalties (HB 81) 2017
1	Gary Van Deaver	R	Yes		Co-Author		
2	Dan Flynn	R	No				
3	Cecil Bell	R	No				
5	Cole Hefner	R	n/a				No
6	Matt Schaefer	R	Yes				
7	Jay Dean	R	n/a				
9	Chris Paddie	R	No				
10	John Wray	R	No				
11	Travis Clardy	R	Yes		Co-Author		
12	Kyle Kacal	R	Yes				
13	Leighton Schubert	R	No				
14	John Raney	R	Yes		Co-Author		
16	Will Metcalf	R	No		~		
17	John Cyrier	R	No		Co-Author		
18	Ernest Bailes	R	n/a		Co-Author		
19	James White	R	Co-Sponsor/ Yes		Joint Author		
20	Terry Wilson	R	n/a				Co-Author/ Yes
21	Dade Phelan	R	Yes		Co-Author		
22	Joe Deshotel	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	
23	Wayne Faircloth	R	Yes		Co-Author		
24	Greg Bonnen	R	No		ı		
25	Dennis Bonnen	R	No				
26	Rick Miller	R	Co-Sponsor/ Yes				Co-Author
27	Ron Reynolds	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
28	John Zerwas	R	Joint Sponsor/ Yes		Co-Author		
29	Ed Thompson	R	No				
30	Geanie Morrison	R	Yes		Co-Author		
31	Ryan Guillen	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	
32	Todd Hunter	R	Yes			Absent	Yes
33	Justin Holland	R	n/a		Co-Author		
34	Abel Herrero	D	Yes			Yes	
35	Oscar Longoria	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
36	Sergio Munoz	D	Yes		Co-Author		
37	Rene Oliveira	D	Yes				Co-Author
38	Eddie Lucio III	D	Yes		Joint Author	Joint Author	Co-Author
39	Armando Martinez	D	Yes		Co-Author		
40	Terry Canales	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author/ Yes	Co-Author/ Yes







House District	Name	Party	Compassionate Use Act (SB 339) 2015	Medical Marijuana (HB 3785) 2015 (No Vote)	Medical Marijuana (HB 2107) 2017	Civil Penalties (HB 507) 2015	Civil Penalties (HB 81) 2017
41	Bobby Guerra	D	Co-Sponsor/		Co-Author/		
42	Richard Raymond	D	Yes Yes		Yes		
43	JM Lozano	R	Yes		Co-Author		
44	John Kuempel	R	Yes		CO-7 futfior		
46	Dawnna Dukes	D	Absent		Co-Author		
47	Paul Workman	R	Yes		Co-Author		
48	Donna Howard	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
49	Gina Hinojosa	D	n/a		Co-Author		Co-Author
50	Celia Israel	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
51	Eddie Rodriguez	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
53	Andrew Murr	R	No				
54	Scott Cosper	R	n/a				
55	Hugh Shine	R	n/a				
56	Doc Anderson	R	Yes				
57	Trent Ashby	R	No				
58	DeWayne Burns	R	No				
59	J.D. Sheffield	R	Joint Sponsor/ Yes		Joint Author/ Absent		
60	Mike Lang	R	n/a				No
61	Phil King	R	No		Co-Author		
63	Tan Parker	R	Yes				
64	Lynn Stucky	R	n/a		Co-Author		
65	Ron Simmons	R	Yes		Joint Author		
66	Matt Shaheen	R	No				
67	Jeff Leach	R	No				
68	Drew Springer	R	Yes				
69	James Frank	R	Yes		Co-Author		
70	Scott Sanford	R	Yes				
71	Stan Lambert	R	n/a		Co-Author		
72	Drew Darby	R	No		Co-Author		
73	Kyle Biedermann	R	n/a		Co-Author		
74	Poncho Nevarez	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
75	Mary Gonzalez	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
76	Cesar Blanco	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
77	Lina Ortega	D	n/a	T 1 4 4	Co-Author	A 14 /==	Co-Author
78	Joe Moody	D	Yes	Joint Author	Co-Author	Author/Yes	Author/Yes
79	Joe Pickett	D	Yes			Co-Author	
80	Tracy King	D	Yes				
81	Brooks Landgraf	R	No				
82	Tom Craddick	R	No				
83	Dustin Burrows	R	Yes				







House District	Name	Party	Compassionate Use Act (SB 339) 2015	Medical Marijuana (HB 3785) 2015 (No Vote)	Medical Marijuana (HB 2107) 2017	Civil Penalties (HB 507) 2015	Civil Penalties (HB 81) 2017
84	John Frullo	R	Yes				
85	Phil Stephenson	R	Yes				
86	John Smithee	R	No				
87	Four Price	R	No		No		
88	Ken King	R	Yes				
90	Ramon Romero Jr.	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
91	Stephanie Klick	R	Sponsor/Yes		No		
92	Jonathan Stickland	R	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	
93	Matt Krause	R	Yes				
94	Tony Tinderholt	R	Yes				
95	Nicole Collier	D	Co-Sponsor/ Yes		Co-Author/ Yes	Co-Author	Co-Author
96	Bill Zedler	R	Joint Sponsor/ Yes		Co-Author/ Yes		
97	Craig Goldman	R	Yes		Co-Author		
98	Giovanni Capriglione	R	Yes				
99	Charlie Geren	R	Co-Sponsor/ Yes				
100	Eric Johnson	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
101	Chris Turner	D	Yes	Joint Author	Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
102	Linda Koop	R	No				
103	Rafael Anchia	D	Yes		Co-Author		Co-Author
104	Roberto Alonzo	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
105	Rodney Anderson	R	No				
107	Victoria Neave	D	N/A				
108	Morgan Meyer	R	No				
110	Toni Rose	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
111	Yvonne Davis	D	Yes				Co-Author
112	Angie Chen Button	R	Yes		~		
114	Jason Villalba	R	Yes		Co-Author		
115	Matt Rinaldi	R	Yes				
116	Diana Arévalo	D	n/a		Co-Author/ Yes		Co-Author
117	Phillip Cortez	D	n/a		Co-Author/ Yes		
118	Tomas Uresti	D	n/a		Co-Author		
119	Roland Gutierrez	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
120	Barbara Gervin-Hawkins	D	n/a		Co-Author		Co-Author/ Yes
122	Lyle Larson	R	No				
123	Diego Bernal	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
124	Ina Minjarez	D	Yes		Co-Author		Joint







House District	Name	Party	Compassionate Use Act (SB 339) 2015	Medical Marijuana (HB 3785) 2015 (No Vote)	Medical Marijuana (HB 2107) 2017	Civil Penalties (HB 507) 2015	Civil Penalties (HB 81) 2017
							Author
125	Justin Rodriguez	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
127	Dan Huberty	R	Yes		Co-Author		
128	Briscoe Cain	R	n/a				
129	Dennis Paul	R	No				
130	Tom Oliverson	R	n/a		Co-Author/ Yes		
131	Alma Allen	D	Co-Sponsor/ Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
132	Mike Schofield	R	Yes				
133	Jim Murphy	R	Yes		Co-Author		
134	Sarah Davis	R	Yes				
135	Gary Elkins	R	No				
136	Tony Dale	R	No				
137	Gene Wu	D	Yes		Co-Author	Joint Author	Co-Author
138	Dwayne Bohac	R	Yes				
139	Jarvis Johnson	D	n/a				Co-Author
140	Armando Walle	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
141	Senfronia Thompson	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
142	Harold Dutton Jr.	D	Yes		Co-Author	Joint Author	Joint Author
143	Ana Hernandez	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
144	Mary Ann Perez	D	n/a		Co-Author		
145	Carol Alvarado	D	Co-Sponsor/ Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	Co-Author
146	Shawn Thierry	D	n/a		Co-Author		Co-Author
147	Garnet Coleman	D	Joint Sponsor/ Yes	Joint Author	Co-Author/ Yes	Co-Author	
148	Jessica Farrar	D	Yes		Co-Author	Co-Author	
149	Hubert Vo	D	No		Co-Author		
150	Valoree Swanson	R	n/a				







Senate District	Name	Party	Compassionate Use Act (SB 339) 2015	Reduce Penalties (SB 170) 2017 – No Vote	Expand Compassionate Use Program (SB 269) 2017 – No Vote
1	Bryan Hughes	R	Yes (as House member)		
2	Bob Hall	R	Yes		
3	Robert Nichols	R	Yes		
4	Brandon Creighton	R	No		
5	Charles Schwertner	R	Yes		
6	Sylvia Garcia	D	Yes		
7	Paul Bettencourt	R	Yes		
9	Kelly Hancock	R	No		
10	Konni Burton	R	Yes		
11	Larry Taylor	R	Yes		
12	Jane Nelson	R	Yes		
13	Borris Miles	D	n/a		
14	Kirk Watson	D	Yes		
15	John Whitmire	D	Yes		
16	Don Huffines	R	Yes		
17	Joan Huffman	R	Yes		
18	Lois Kolkhorst	R	Yes		
19	Carlos Uresti	D	Yes		
20	Chuy Hinojosa	D	Yes		
21	Judith Zaffirini	D	Yes		
22	Brian Birdwell	R	No		
23	Royce West	D	Yes		
24	Dawn Buckingham	R	n/a		
25	Donna Campbell	R	Yes		
26	Jose Menéndez	D	Co-author/ Yes		Author
27	Eddie Lucio Jr.	D	Yes		
28	Charles Perry	R	Yes		
29	Jose Rodriguez	D	Co-author/ Yes	Author	
30	Craig Estes	R	Yes		

