2022 Midterm Election Voting Guide

GREATER HOUSTON
Asian Texans for Justice (ATJ) is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization that envisions a future where all people feel bold in their belonging. ATJ’s mission is to connect Asian and Pacific Islander Texans to civic action for personal and political power.

Founded in 2021, ATJ works to be a unifying voice for the state’s diverse AAPI community — to claim space and inspire Texas to invest in AAPIs’ well-being. ATJ works towards a future where AAPIs are a visible force shaping the state — free from discrimination, marginalization, and oppression. It aims to unite the community, train future leaders, and build solidarity across communities to advance equity, social justice, and civil rights for all. Prior to its founding, there were no statewide organizations devoted to the Texas AAPI community, despite statewide issues and needs that should include an AAPI perspective.

AAPI voter turnout has reached record highs in recent elections, but there continues to be a need to educate the community and counter barriers to voting. Commissioned by APIAVote and their partners, the 2022 Asian American Voter Survey reports that the majority of Asian Americans received no contact or were unsure if they received contact about elections from any political party. Despite the national trend of low voter outreach, an ATJ poll found that 64% of AAPIs in Texas are highly motivated to vote in the 2022 midterm elections.

For more information about ATJ, visit www.asiantexansforjustice.org
This project began as a vision to serve the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community across Texas in response to the reality that AAPI voters were rarely contacted by candidates and campaigns of any political party. Facing barriers to quality information and language access, Asian Texans for Justice (ATJ) created this resource with the AAPI voter in mind — empower the margin of victory to participate in the civic process.

Candidates on the 2022 Midterm Election ballot in Texas, ranging from the top executive office of Governor down to Texas Legislature offices, were included in this voter’s guide. All candidates were contacted with published contact information from public sources on multiple occasions. They were asked identical questions with the exact same character limits for responses.

No responses have been edited in the creation of this guide, with the exception of typographical errors. Candidates who declined to participate have been included and indicated with “No Response Received.”

Translations have been provided by native Chinese and Vietnamese speakers, through partner organizations in Texas. We appreciate their service and honor their native languages. We also recognize that there are dozens more languages that AAPI voters need access to and we aspire to eventually expand our resources to reach as many people as possible.
How to Register to Vote

**Deadline to register:**
October 11, 2022

The State of Texas does not have online registration — you must submit a paper form.

**Register to vote via mail-in-registration:**
https://vrapp.sos.state.tx.us/index.asp

Register to vote at your local county tax office.

**Check to see if you’re registered:**
https://teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov/MVP/mvp.do

How to Vote

Three Ways:

1. **Ballot by Mail**
   - Last day to request Mail-in-Ballot: October 28, 2022
   - Must be postmarked by election day
   - Must be received by the early voting clerk no later than 5:00pm on the next business day
   - If there is no postmark, an early voting clerk must be received by the early voting clerk no later than 7:00pm on Election Day.

2. **Early Voting**
   October 24, 2022 - November 4, 2022

3. **Election Day**
   Nov 8, 2022 (Vote on election day)
Voter ID Requirements

- Texas Driver's License
- US Passport (Book or Cards)
- Texas Election ID certificate
- Texas personal identification card
- Texas Handgun license
- US citizenship certificate with photo
- US military ID Card with photo
- Reasonable Impediment Declaration*

*If you do not possess and cannot reasonably obtain one of these IDs, fill out a declaration at the polls describing a reasonable impediment to obtaining it, and show a copy or original of one of the following supporting forms of ID:

- A government document that shows your name and an address, including your voter registration certificate;
- Current utility bill;
- Bank statement;
- Government check;
- Paycheck; or
- (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 your identity (which may include a foreign birth document).

Voter Protection Hotline by APIAVote

(1-888-API-VOTE)
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Governor

The Chief Executive of the state with responsibility for signing or vetoing bills passed by the legislature, making policy recommendations to the state legislature, commander-in-chief of the Texas’ National Guard, and managing state agencies.

CANDIDATES

Greg Abbott (R)*  
Delilah Barrios (G)*  
Beto O'Rourke (D)  
Mark Tippetts (L)

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I am a fourth generation Texan raising my three kids in El Paso with my wife, Amy. I served on the El Paso City Council between 2005 and 2011, and in the U.S. Congress (TX-16) between 2013 and 2019. I also founded and led Powered by People, a grassroots voting rights advocacy and voter mobilization organization between 2019 and 2021.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I’m running for governor to play a part in getting Texas past the divisive politics we see in our state today and bringing Texans together around the big, bold things we want to achieve for this state, like creating more high-paying jobs, ensuring Texas has world-class schools, and expanding health care so that more people can see a doctor.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) As Texas AAPI communities increasingly become the targets of hate crimes. I will direct state resources toward improving law enforcement responses to these threats and fight for commonsense, bipartisan gun safety measures to help keep firearms out of the hands of people looking to commit these crimes.
(2) As Texas faces a critical shortage of bilingual teachers, I will increase funding for bilingual educators and programming so that all children can access a world-class education. I will also fight for curriculum that teaches the complete and accurate history of our state and country, including the contributions of our AAPI communities.
(3) I’m also committed to supporting all Texans with a dream who are willing to put their work ethic and innovation into starting small businesses and creating great jobs in their communities. I’ll be a partner for AAPI-led small businesses by increasing access to capital, credit, and training in their communities.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
I will direct state agencies to increase language accessibility of all websites and other crucial information from the state; increase funding for bilingual education and recruit and retain more bilingual educators by strengthening their pay and benefits; expand adult education and job training programs that focus on language training; and remove unnecessary and burdensome election laws that place restrictions on translators and make it harder for non-native English speakers to vote.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I will establish non-partisan redistricting commissions to combat racial gerrymandering, expand voting options like curbside voting, reduce barriers to voting by mail, establish online and same-day voter registration, and eliminate voting restrictions that aim to intimidate translators and personal attendants.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I am bilingual and bi-cultural. I am an International Legal & Business Consultant for businesses and individuals that own property and/or do business in Mexico and Latin America. Making enemies with our southern neighbors and erecting walls between us is counterproductive, insulting, and foolish. I support school choice, free markets, free trade, civil liberties, and peace. In 2017 I served on the city council in Lago Vista, Texas.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
Too often Democrats want to force you to spend your money a certain way and Republicans want to force you to behave a certain way. Government should protect our liberties, not take them away. I respect your right to make choices for yourself and family. Freedom promotes peace, harmony, and abundance for all. I am a Libertarian, and I am running for Governor because I want to secure Liberty for my children, for you, and for generations of Americans to come.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Immigration: I'm an advocate for making legal immigration easier. Republicans want to close our borders and keep people out. Democrats have had control of the Presidency and Congress many times but have failed to implement a more humane, rational immigration system. America is great because of the many people that have immigrated here from all over the world.
(2) Legalize Marijuana: Locking up people for marijuana possession and use has resulted in a diversion of law enforcement resources to victimless crimes and an exploding prison population.
(3) Cut Taxes and Spending: Lower taxes means you keep more money in your pocket and can spend it the way you feel is best for your and your family.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
More School Choice so AAPIs can choose schools that best match their preferences. I support a voucher or tax credit system so even low-income families can afford to send their children to private schools or home school. A one-size-fits-all school system is bad for everyone. Parents should be allowed to have a say on what books should be in school libraries, how sex education should be taught, facemask wearing, how much to focus on math versus arts, and Asian American studies.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
Republicans and Democrats have passed laws to make it very hard for the Libertarian Party candidates and other third parties to be on the ballot. I support making it easier for everyone, including Asian Americans, to run for office and of course support making it easy for all who want to to vote.
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor is part of the executive and legislative branches and is the second-highest executive office of the state and is the President of the State Senate. Their responsibilities include assuming powers of the governor when the governor is out of the state, authority of the budgeting process, assigning committees in the senate and assigning all legislation to senate committees.

CANDIDATES

Mike Collier (D)
Dan Patrick (R)*
Shanna Steele (L)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
An energy expert, Mike Collier has a deep understanding of the Texas economy. After starting his career as a landman, he worked as a senior CPA at PriceWaterhouseCoopers before later building a successful Texas energy company. He graduated from The University of Texas where he marched in the Longhorn Band. Mike and his wife Suzanne have two sons and recently welcomed their first grandchild. In 2018, he ran for Lt. Governor, running the closest general election race in nearly two decades.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
For eight years, Dan Patrick has been more interested in sound bites than sound policy. He has proven he has no interest in solving the challenges facing Texas. As your Lt. Governor, Mike will work to lower property taxes to help Texas families keep up with rising costs, improve your public schools, protect our rights, and fix the damn grid. Because in Dan Patrick’s Texas, our taxes are too high and freedoms are too few.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) There is no greater state responsibility than supporting our local public schools. As Lt. Governor, Mike will fight tirelessly for Texas to have the best public schools in the nation by investing in smaller class sizes, more special education support, and great teachers. Mike will close tax loopholes for out-of-state corporations that cost taxpayers billions of dollars each year and use the money to lower property taxes and improve your local schools.
(2) Mike is an energy expert who will fix the damn grid by increasing energy production and transmission. He supports an all-of-the-above approach to energy so that Texas remains the energy capital of the world.
(3) Mike will fight to ensure that women and their doctors—not politicians—make decisions about their own healthcare. As Lt. Governor, he will work to codify Roe v. Wade into state law.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Mike will work to increase state funding and grants to city and county departments to provide public guidance and documentation, particularly election resources, in all necessary languages so that every community is reached.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
First, Mike will fight for fair maps that don’t dilute the voting power of Texas’ growing, robust, and diverse AAPI population that has been structurally denied fair representation. Second, he will work to provide state funding and compel counties to provide election materials, including public education about ballot materials, in all languages in every county so that no Texan is left behind.
Attorney General

The attorney general is the chief lawyer and legal officer for the state. Their responsibilities include defending the laws and the constitution of the state of Texas, representing the state in litigation, approving public bond issues and serving as legal counsel to all boards and agencies of state government.

CANDIDATES

Mark Ash (L)
Rochelle Garza (D)
Ken Paxton (R)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I am a lawyer with an active practice who has represented many persons from all ethnic and racial backgrounds for the last 28 years. Also, I am a property tax arbitrator who has worked with taxpayers and appraisal districts to decide property tax values of commercial and residential properties. I have been an active member of the Libertarian party.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
As an actively practicing attorney who has represented individuals in different areas of the law, I understand ordinary persons and the legal issues that affect them in their everyday lives. I will seek within the law to limit the power and scope of state government to prevent abusive overreach. Individual rights do matter.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Focus on providing assistance to the county and district attorneys in their efforts to prosecute persons charged with violent crimes.
(2) Providing online user friendly data service that allows access to statewide criminal records and information about other services of the office of the attorney general from all over the state for all of the state.
(3) Phasing out and eliminating unnecessary lawsuits against businesses that otherwise provide useful and appropriate products and services to the community.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
All ballot information should be available online and fully translatable in all world languages.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
My office would be open to take complaints that will address all issues regarding safety and fairness. No person should fear exercising his or her legal right to vote.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I’m an attorney, fifth generation Texan and a new mom. As a new mom, I want to ensure that my
daughter grows up with the freedom to determine her own course in life, to marry who she loves, to
decide if, when or how to become a parent, and to grow up in a clean, safe environment. I want that
for all of our children, and the best way to accomplish that is by taking back the Office of Attorney
General for the people of Texas.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I know what it’s like to fight for individuals in Texas courts and also how to build a case that reinforces
civil rights across the country. My work has had broad impacts, like the “Garza Notice,” a federal
notice requirement that teens in immigration detention have a right to abortion care without fear of
retaliation or obstruction, and meaningful individual impacts, like helping Trans people affirm who
they are through requesting name and gender marker changes in court.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
I stand with the AAPI community and will fight to ensure the safety and full inclusion of AAPI Texans.
(1) As TX AG, I will create a fully funded Civil Rights Division to combat the continued
disenfranchisement of communities of color, including Asian Americans. This includes protecting the
right to vote and ensuring accessibility for language preference, disability, voting by mail, and
ensuring voters are not purged illegally from the voter registration rolls.
(2) I will be a fierce advocate to stop Asian hate in our state, including partnering with local
prosecutors to offer more resources when prosecuting violence against the AAPI community and
ensuring that the AG’s victim compensation program is providing needed assistance to impacted
families/individuals.
(3) I will also ensure that the Office of the AG is accessible to members of the AAPI community and will
have our website and other resources available in as many languages as possible so everyone is
equally able to engage with my office.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
When elected, I will ensure we have our website and other resources and services available in as
many languages as possible to accommodate our diverse AAPI community, which is the fastest
growing demographic in Texas. Our government needs to be reflective of those demographic
changes to better serve our residents. Y’all means all.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal
access to safe and fair Elections?
On day one as Attorney General, I will dismantle Ken Paxton’s “election integrity unit” — which is really
about enforcing the GOP’s cruel voter suppression measures, instead of protecting voting rights — and
replace it with a voter protection unit under a fully-funded Civil Rights Division. I will use the power of
this office to ensure that voting rights are protected in the courts if there are further attempts to make
it harder for any Texan, especially Texans of color, to cast a ballot.
Comptroller

The Comptroller of Public Accounts is the chief tax collector, accountant, auditor, and treasurer. Their responsibilities include estimating revenue and disbursing and bookkeeping the state’s money.

CANDIDATES

Janet Dudding (D)
V. Alonzo Echevarria-Garza (L)*
Glenn Hegar (R)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I am a governmental accountant who has spent the last 35 years in state and local governmental audit, accounting, administration and even investigation to hold government accountable to people instead of special interests. My spouse of 31 years, James Kaihatu, and I moved to Bryan-College Station, Texas in 2006, a year after Hurricane Katrina’s 32’ storm surge tried to wipe us off the map along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Climate change is personal to me.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
The Comptroller is the state’s accountant, an office that is tailor made for me. I am a certified public accountant with 35 years in state and local governmental audit, accounting, administration and even investigation. The Comptroller has authority over renewable energy. Climate change is personal to me. Being able to grow the energy market and curb the underlying causes of the problem is my reason for running.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Economic insecurity: since there is a perception that AAPI is a minority demographic that is a model for success, they are often underrepresented in surveys, and thus data, regarding economic disadvantage.
(2) Hate crimes: Texas ranks 4th in the nation in AAPI hate crimes.
(3) Language: the perception is that all AAPI know how to speak English fluently. This is not true, and accommodation for this in the court system, as an example, is difficult due to the vast array of languages associated with AAPI.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Offer information in brief, direct messages in different languages and utilize technology to broaden the languages available.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I fully support same-day voter registration and online voting. Of course, this requires access to broadband, which the Comptroller oversees.
Land Commissioner

The Commissioner of the General Land Office is the head of the Texas General Land Office. The Agency’s responsibilities include managing all state-owned land, operating the Alamo, providing relief during and after natural disasters, funding Texas public education through the permanent school fund, providing assistance and benefits to Texas Veterans, and managing the Texas coast.

CANDIDATES

Dawn Buckingham (R)*
Jay Kleberg (D)
Carrie Evelyn Menger (Write-In)*
Alfred Molison (L)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I grew up in an agricultural community in South Texas, where I developed a deep respect for the land. I have spent my whole career in conservation – previously serving as the Associate Director of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation, and now as an environmental educator, documentary filmmaker and owner of a land-based conservation business.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I have dedicated my entire life to enhancing our natural resources and ensuring that we manage and conserve land for the benefit of future generations. I believe that our quality of life, food stability, energy dependence, and diversity of wildlife depend on the responsible stewardship of Texas landscapes. Equipped with land management experience, an understanding of our state’s environmental challenges, and an MBA from the University of Texas, I’m ready to get to work.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) While the GLO has a limited purview and cannot create legislation directly affecting many issues, I would be a proud advocate and ally for the AAPI community. One of the top issues I would advocate for would be addressing the escalation of hate crimes and harassment towards the AAPI community since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
(2) Within the GLO, I plan to hire a Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to ensure that the agency reflects the diversity of the state. I’d also ensure that communities of color, which are disproportionately impacted by climate change, have the resources to apply for and receive benefits from FEMA and HUD in a timely manner.
(3) If elected, I intend to send the maximum $600M to the Texas Permanent School Fund annually, which provides funds to K-12 public education in Texas. I would also advocate for the expansion of options for Asian American studies courses to allow Texans the opportunity to learn about diverse communities and perspectives.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Language access plays a vital role to make sure that all Texans are not only able to participate in our democracy but are encouraged to. I would advocate for language access measures such as assistance in jurisdictions where a threshold number of language minority voters reside. We must protect the rights of language minorities by providing registration or voting notices, forms, instructions, or other materials or voting information, including ballots in the language appropriate to all Texans.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
Voting is a right that should be accessible to all Texans. But in the last legislative session, we witnessed an all-out assault on voting rights in Texas. I would advocate against the state voter suppression laws that restrict the availability of absentee/mail-in ballots, remove ballot drop boxes, limit early voting opportunities, create confusing voter ID requirements, and purge registered voters from the rolls – just some of the provisions that most harm the AAPI community’s ability to vote.
Agriculture Commissioner

The Commissioner of Agriculture is the Head of the Texas Department of Agriculture. The Agency’s responsibilities include promoting production agriculture, consumer protection, economic development and healthy living.

CANDIDATES

Susan Hays (D)
Sid Miller (R)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
As an attorney raised around agriculture with decades of Texas government experience, I am adept at analyzing then solving problems. With my servant’s heart, I will be dedicated to public service, helping farmers, & improving food quality. After decades of work on reproductive and voting rights, I shifted focus to cannabis law, helping draft & pass the law that legalized hemp. My husband & I live in Alpine where we are experimenting with growing both hemp & hops in a microclimate.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I understand the legislative process and how the government works. The incumbent and animus toward him have resulted in the paring down of the Agriculture Commission making it a much less effective organization. My focus on ethics will steer the Commission to a functioning agency again. My deep understanding of and dedication to making government work for the People, particularly rural Texas, whether improving healthcare or economic development, make me both electable to and effective in the job.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Encouraging more AAPI folks to get into agriculture with targeted outreach to the community. We need more farmers in Texas and more access to locally grown and raised food.
(2) Encouraging more diverse and healthy food choices in school lunches.
(3) Fighting against anti-Asian racism and Islamophobia pushed by the incumbent and hideous Facebook feed.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Ensure the Texas Department of Agriculture publishes materials especially those regarding accessing funding and programs to support small businesses in Vietnamese and Chinese, particularly in Harris, Tarrant and Travis Counties. Diversify TDA staff. Designate staff both in the Austin headquarters and in field offices to liaison with the AAPI communities.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I have worked on voter protection issues for more than 20 years and am board certified in Legislative and Campaign law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. As a candidate, I will be using my social media platforms and voice to educate people on how to vote and their rights as voters.
The Railroad Commissioner is the head of the Railroad Commission of Texas. The agency responsibilities include regulating the oil and gas industry, gas utilities, pipeline safety, safety in the liquefied petroleum gas industry, and surface coal and uranium mining.

CANDIDATES

Wayne Christian (R)*
Hunter Crow (G)
Jaime Andres Diez (L)*
Luke Warford (D)

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
Hunter Crow was born in Grand Prairie, Texas. As of December 2021, Crow was awarded a Certificate of Completion in Library Technician from Tarrant County College Trinity River Campus and is commissioned by the State of Texas as a Notary Public. He has been affiliated with the Tarrant County Green Party, with the Green Party of Texas, the National Lavender Green Caucus, the Young Ecosocialist Caucus, Socialist Party USA, and with the Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I am not a not career politician and have no connection to the oil and gas industry. I feel it is important that we have an elected railroad commissioner's that represent and are part of the popular movements so we advance the causes of economic, racial and environmental justice.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Work to put an End Discrimination Against AAPI. AAPI Americans are more likely to be blamed for a variety of issues, ranging from the current coronavirus pandemic to struggles with employment. To combat this discrimination, the voices of AAPI Americans need to be heard, to raise awareness and fix the problems that AAPI Americans have been facing for generations.
(2) I would like to address the issue of Political Representation. American politics is enhanced when it reflects the diversity in American communities. Like other minority communities, A better, more accessible system to elevate, support and nominate AAPI politicians for political office at all levels of government will help ensure a government that is more responsive to the concerns of minority communities.
(3) Immigration is a core issue for the AAPI community: in 2019, 28.2% of immigrants into the United States were AAPI. I will work to support a humane path to citizenship.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
I will support freedom of information and will support language access and resources to AAPIs when such requests are made to the Texas Railroad Commission.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I will work if elected to push for the following election reform recommendations. Require voter-verified paper ballots or records for every vote cast. Replace old voting machines. Conduct robust post-election audits to confirm election outcomes. Update and secure outdated voter registration systems and e-poll books. Require minimum cybersecurity standards for voter registration systems and other pieces of voting infrastructure.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I am a 32-year-old first-time candidate running for Texas Railroad Commission. I most recently served as Chief Strategy Officer for the Texas Democratic Party, am a Fulbright Scholar, and received a masters degree from London School of Economics. In previous roles, I have advised global energy companies, helped fight misinformation online, and worked on the 2012 and 2016 Democratic Presidential Campaigns.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
Texas is the largest greenhouse gas emitter in the country and the Texas oil and gas industry is the largest contributor to those emissions. Each year, millions of tons of methane and other greenhouse gases are emitted into the atmosphere because the Texas Railroad Commission fails to enforce existing regulations. I will treat this job with the respect it deserves, making a real climate impact and gaining a critical statewide foothold for Democrats in Texas.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Keeping the lights on.
(2) Lowering emissions.
(3) Lowering energy bills.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Currently, the Railroad Commission website, meeting minutes, and nearly all materials are wholly inaccessible. When elected, I will work on providing resources in as many languages as we can to ensure people are able to understand exactly what the commission does.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
While the Railroad Commission does not have the power to impact election laws, I would support the offices that are working on more equitable election laws that create safe and fair elections for all eligible AAPI voters.
The House of Representatives of the United States is the federal-level legislature that is elected every two years. Member responsibilities include writing, sponsoring, and introducing bills, initiating revenue bills, impeaching federal officials, and electing the President in the case of an Electoral College tie.

CANDIDATES

Lizzie Fletcher (D)
Dr. Johnny Teague (R)
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
A native Houstonian, I represented people from all walks of life in the courtroom before I was elected to Congress. Since 2019, I have had the honor and privilege of representing the people of Texas’ Seventh Congressional District. I have used my experience to fight for the people of our district, and for all Americans. I am committed to working to ensure that our community’s core values—inclusion, innovation, and collaboration—result in progress, equality, and opportunity for all Americans.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
As the Representative for TX-07, I have the unique experience to continue representing this diverse and dynamic district. Since 2018, I have worked to bring together a broad and diverse coalition of people and communities across the greater Houston area. Together, we have worked effectively to deliver meaningful results for people in the district and for our entire community. I remain committed to serving the people in this diverse and dynamic TX-07 now and in the future.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
As a member of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, I am working with my colleagues to ensure that legislation addresses the priorities and needs of the AAPI community in all areas of American life. I have been proud to work with my colleagues in Congress to address three priority challenges facing AAPI communities (1) combatting the dangerous and growing anti-Asian sentiment in our country arising from the COVID-19 pandemic; (2) ensuring economic opportunity and promoting workforce diversity in the public and private sector for the AAPI community; and (3) eliminating health disparities and improve access to care.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
In Harris County, the Elections Administrator provides virtual translators at polling places to assist voters in Chinese, Vietnamese, and 26 other languages. In Fort Bend County, our Clerk’s office—where residents access property records, birth certificates, marriage licenses, and more—offers services in 240 languages. I support ensuring our local agencies have the funding and tools they need to provide these resources to everyone in our community.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
The right of citizens to cast their ballots should not be a partisan issue. All eligible voters must have the ability to cast their votes safely, securely, and without obstruction. I have supported legislation to ensure eligible voters equal access to the ballot, modernize voter registration, & eliminate deceptive practices, including HRI, For the People Act; HR4, John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act; HR5746, Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act; and HR2358, the Voter Empowerment Act.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I am a pastor and a rancher, married with two daughters. I have five college degrees. I have worked as an accountant for Shell, a healthcare representative for Pfizer, a manager for SCI, and now a pastor for 23 years. I raise cattle and run a hay operation. I am a published author of 4 books including The Lost Diary of Anne Frank, and The Lost Diary of George Washington.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I believe each one of us needs someone to represent us in Washington DC. We all have complaints and input on what is going on in our community and our nation. Most of us do not have time to go to Washington and address issues important to us, so we elect someone to go for us, to be our voice, and to conduct our business. Too long, the people we send are inaccessible to us, so how can they represent us. I am committed to go for us to Washington and personally report to our neighbors.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
The top three issues we must deal with are: food and gas prices, crime, and the danger that open borders are exposing our families to.
(1) High food and gas prices are bringing an unfathomable burden on our families. People cannot get what they need. They have to do without. This once was the land of plenty. No matter how hard people work, the vast majority do not have enough to pay their bills and enjoy life. We must open up drilling, refining, and transporting our oil and gas to bring all prices down.
(2) Crime is at an all time high. There are shootings, road rage, and smash and grabs. We must enforce our laws, following the broken window policy where we deal with even the smallest offenses to prevent greater ones. We must close our borders. Drugs like fentanyl are crossing every day, sex trafficking, and terrorism are given free access. We are not far from a tragedy like 911 returning to our shores.
(3) We must be vigilant to defend our borders, our homes, and our families.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
We must make the English language instruction available to everyone who comes to our nation. We are a nation composed of people from all around the world seeking to be free. They wish to be Americans, to assimilate. But, how can they assimilate if we aren't willing to teach them the language of this nation which will remove all barriers. As we seek to teach the English language, we can also provide aids to help those who are learning.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I believe that everyone needs to be taught the election laws and requirements of our nation. This should be done in between elections so that when election time rolls around, people are ready. Voter identification is essential to ensure free and honest elections. So many come from countries where the vote was not sacred nor dependable. We must work tirelessly to make sure everyone who is eligible to vote, who wants to vote, is able to vote. I also believe in random audits of every election.
The House of Representatives of the United States is the federal-level legislature that is elected every two years. Member responsibilities include writing, sponsoring, and introducing bills, initiating revenue bills, impeaching federal officials, and electing the President in the case of an Electoral College tie.

CANDIDATES

Al Green (D)

Jimmy Leon (R)
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I’ve engaged in solving the problems that impact the people I represent. I am a liberated Democrat, unbought and unbossed, who will fight against all odds for healthcare for all, equal access to the economy by way of jobs, contracts, and business opportunities, enhancement of Social Security, quality schools in every community, rights of workers, comprehensive immigration reform, an end to systemic injustice, and even when the odds are against us, if the cause is righteous, I will fight.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
A2: Aside from 10 yrs. as a NAACP President, 25 yrs. as a Judge, & 17 yrs. as a US Rep., I am a minority born into poverty & invidious discrimination. I’ve been taught that righteous change requires outright courage. I have the courage to fight injustice & the scars to prove it.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
I co sponsored several pieces of legislation to include the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act that requires a designated officer or employee of the Department of Justice to facilitate the expedited review of COVID-19 hate crimes and reports of COVID-19 hate crimes; the Teaching Asian Pacific American History Act that requires entities, in order to be eligible for certain grants administered by the Department of Education, to include Asian Pacific American history in their teaching of American history; and the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act which establishes a Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
In my district, ballots are printed in 4 languages, & I support the expansion of this list, as well as any initiative to have more counties offering such diverse options. I voted for the Financial Services Racial Equity, Inclusion & Economic Justice Act which includes establishing language access requirements for creditors & servicers to better serve borrowers with limited English. I oppose legislation like TX Senate Bill 1 that imposes more requirements on persons assisting voters at the polls.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I cosponsored and voted for legislation including: HR 1–For The People Act, which improves the election system and expands access to the polls; HR 4– the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, which restores the Voting Rights Act to its full strength after its preclearance provisions were struck down; S.2747– the Freedom To Vote Act, which requires states to automatically register voters with easier access to vote by mail; & HR 5746–the Freedom to Vote: John Lewis Act, which combines HR 4 and S.2747.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
VFW Member, Signed the Term Limits on Congress Pledge, Statesman, was a candidate for the Univ. of KY-Patterson Graduate School of Diplomacy & International Commerce, attended UH Central & UK, Past US Census Officer with Secret Clearance, Rotary International Award Winning Rotarian & District Assistant Governor 2017-2020. I will never say "my Congressional District is Black", I will say "I Represent Everyone in my Diverse Congressional District!"

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
Al Green has been a Congressman for 17 years, he will be 75 years old in September. The Biden Democratic Party Policies have been a Complete Failure: No more Energy Independence has led to Inflation and Lack of Baby Formulas?? I will push to Reopen the Keystone Pipeline! Energy cost has a Domino affect on the World Economy. I have Signed the Term Limits on Congress Pledge, which means I will Not serve more than 3 Terms or 6 years in Congress.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Funding more Education is the surest way to turn back Hate Crimes.
(2) We must understand, we are ONE Human Race and are stronger together when we appreciate our Diversity. We must be Bold to publicly call out anyone who tries to capitalize on issues of racism for their personal gains.
(3) The Media & Social Media must not be Bias by: Reporting Fairly, Investigating thoroughly and Educate responsibility

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Increase Funding.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
Checking ID's and Compliance with the National Voter Registration Act "NVRA" by removing Deceased and Other Ineligible Voters! A No Vote is a Vote for Al green and their Green New Deal, its time to STOP Al Green & the Green New Deal!! All Votes Matter. We the People have a Civic Duty to Clean the Swamp and take our Country Back from Extreme Secular beliefs. Elections have Consequences! PLEASE VOTE EARLY AND AVOID A RAINY DAY ON ELECTION DAY.
The House of Representatives of the United States is the federal-level legislature that is elected every two years. Member responsibilities include writing, sponsoring, and introducing bills, initiating revenue bills, impeaching federal officials, and electing the President in the case of an Electoral College tie.

CANDIDATES

Vince Duncan (I)
Sheila Jackson Lee (D)*
Phil Kurtz (L)*
Carmen Maria Montiel (R)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
Native Houstonian from the community of Groveland Terrace: was among the first group of school students to integrate public schools here in Houston. I have had front seat view of watching the city of Houston grow by leaps and bounds. I attended Wheatley High School and From there I went on to Lamar University, where I was studying to become a Dentist. While I was waiting to be accepted into Dental School I discovered my true passion: Carpentry and Homebuilding.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I am an Example that Persistence and Commitment is the pathway to success, other candidates have come and gone they didn’t believe that working and serving the people of Congressional District 18 Houston Texas was worth a second or third Try. I’ve taken the resources I have and built a Political Platform that works for the Citizens, for Free and Clear Property Ownership Reform Act. I'm The Candidate that is here to Serve Every citizen in the District and Beyond.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
When I attended Lamar University my roommate was from New Delhi his name was Deepak Sapra. I am open to learning the needs and concerns of the AAPI Community.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
By Providing Translation By Voice or Video or Written Translation.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
Creating Free and Fair For Every American As The Standard and Not The Exception.
Congress District 22

The House of Representatives of the United States is the federal-level legislature that is elected every two years. Member responsibilities include writing, sponsoring, and introducing bills, initiating revenue bills, impeaching federal officials, and electing the President in the case of an Electoral College tie.

CANDIDATES

Jamie Kaye Jordan (D)*
Joseph LeBlanc Jr. (L)
Troy E. Nehls (R)*
Jim Squires (Write-In)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I graduated from Mayde Creek HS in Katy, then joined the Army in ’02 as an MP. Honorably Discharged in ’05. I moved to Arizona attended Northern Arizona University studying history. Returned to Texas in 2012, and then settling in Fort Bend County in 2015 where I live and work.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I come from humble beginnings. I watched my father struggle to support us after the Military cutbacks in the 90’s. I myself have struggled as a young adult trying to find my own way. I am not beholden to any corporate donors, nor will I be beholden to voting party lines. I believe in Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness and am willing to defend that for everyone in this country.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Ease of business creation and ownership. I love the Houston Metro area for the diversity in cultures on display, between the restaurants and other small businesses that fill our city Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders mean a great deal to our region. They shouldn’t be handcuffed by legislation that favors large corporations that seek to stifle competition.
(2) Reform the Immigration process: Our immigration process is arduous an costly and puts those who look to make a better life for themselves and their families at a great disadvantage.
(3) Education: We need to tackle the deficits in our education system all around as it would help not only the AAPI communities but everyone.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Try to incorporate 1st and 2nd Generation Americans to assist in translation and teaching.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
Removing some of the barriers that are in place to keep the status quo.
Congress
District 36

The House of Representatives of the United States is the federal-level legislature that is elected every two years. Member responsibilities include writing, sponsoring, and introducing bills, initiating revenue bills, impeaching federal officials, and electing the President in the case of an Electoral College tie.

CANDIDATES
Brian Babin (R)*
Jon Haire (D)

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I have spent my career in nuclear technology. I have a B.S., M.S., and PhD in Nuclear engineering. As a young man I was an Assistant Professor of Nuclear Engineering at Georgi Tech University. I work for 34 years as an engineer/scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Following that I formed a high-tech energy company. I will apply the lessons I learned in high technology to solving public issues.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I will apply the lessons I learned in high technology to solving public issues. My opponent focuses on cultural war issues. I will bring further economic development, and prepare Texas and the U.S. to face the future.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
Our democracy is in peril. That is, our access to voting is being suppressed, equality among all is being challenged, even our freedom of religion is of concern. One race is being pitted against another, one religion against another. We must learn to live together, respectfully, medical care should be free and accessible to everyone, we should increase the number of years of education to prepare ourselves for the future.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Government literature, information and policy should be written in as many languages as possible.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
There should be more uniform federal election laws applicable across states.
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CANDIDATES

Joel Dejean (I)
Wesley Hunt (R)*
Duncan Klussman (D)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
Electrical Engineer inspired by the Apollo program as a young Haitian immigrant to study science, recruited to Texas Instruments 1980. I met Lyndon LaRouche’s Fusion Energy Foundation in 1987 while visiting defense contractors. Working with the LaRouche movement since 1988 to promote fission & fusion energy & worldwide economic development & fighting the Voodoo science of man made climate change.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I am the only candidate with a plan to deal with the hyper-inflationary blowout and the push for war with Russia and China coming from the Republicans and Democrats.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Reinstall Franklin Roosevelt’s Glass Steagall Act to separate the commercial banks from the vulture investment banks on Wall Street.
(2) Turn the Federal Reserve Bank to a National Bank to issue long term, low interest loans for real infrastructure like water projects and high speed rail.
(3) Fund a crash program for commercial Thermonuclear Fusion in the coming decade, along with full funding for the Artemis program.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
I encourage parents to become active in their school districts to create the basis for solving such language issues.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I will fight for the right of all Americans to exercise their Constitutional Rights and obligations.
The Texas State Senate is the state-level legislative body that serves 4-year terms.

CANDIDATES

Misty Bishop (D)
Brandon Creighton (R)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I'm a Houston mother of 4 sons and wife of a visual artist for 21 yrs and counting who wear many hats. I'm a paralegal, entrepreneur, published author and community advocate with a bachelors and masters degree from Texas Southern University. I'm also pursuing my PhD in Public Administration and Public Policy. In addition, I'm the founder of #WeAre1 Movement and VP of Student Affairs & Marketing of Swag Achievement in which both organizations empower and uplift everyone to walk in their purpose.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I'm the Voice of All People who advocates for Equality, Accountability and Justice among everyone with an extensive educational background in policymaking and 20 years of community engagement as a Student and a Professional.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) For the Asian American community, I would address the school curriculum to include Asian American history like any other cultures that contribute to this State and this nation.
(2) I will also address the level of respect that should be given to the Asian American community that will eliminate hate crime against any Asians.
(3) Plus, I would reassure Asians Voting and Civil Rights are protected with bills that focus on equal protection for all minorities including Asians.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
I would advocate for any public printed informative materials or working sites along with products that need to be assembled to increase the Asian culture language.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I would not be in the middle...I would be in front making sure Asian American will receive equal treatment and protection like every other race when they are voting doing the election. Also, I will implement a bill to protect any voter rights at all cost.
TX State Senate District 15

The Texas State Senate is the state-level legislative body that serves 4-year terms.

CANDIDATES
George Brian Vachris (R)
John Whitmire (D)
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
Go to vachriscampaign.com to read political resume.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I support what most Texans want. I have elected experience, multiple degrees, engineering license, business and security background. I support the Constitution, Individual Rights, Law Enforcement, Texas Industry, Texas Energy, lower Fuel Prices, Property Tax Reduction, A robust Power Grid, Keeping Jobs and Production in America to reduce supply chain problems, Border and immigration control, School Choice, a free and open public domain where ALL ideas can be discussed.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
What issues do YOU have that are different. I think we the people should not allow ourselves to be divided and branded into groups by ethnicity. We are all equal as expressed in the Declaration of Independence. Ethnic division is a bad idea and reminds me of the “divide and conquer” strategy expressed by Julius Caesar.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Language study is very important. I have encouraged all my students to improve their English skills. I also encouraged all my students to learn at least one other language. Language study requires time, dedication, hard work and attention to detail.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
Texas already provides more access to safe and fair elections than many other states. For example, many states do not have early voting at all. This is a specious issue raised by those who don’t read the law. If you are a citizen over 18 and not adjudicated as mentally incompetent or convicted of and serving punishment for a felony, you may register to vote. If you are registered, you can vote.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I represent the 15th Senatorial District comprised of north Houston and parts of Harris County. I was elected to the Senate in 1982 after serving 10 years in the House of Representatives. With over 38 years of service in the Texas Senate, I rank first in seniority and am "Dean of the Texas Senate." I am Chair of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee and also a member of the Senate Business and Commerce Committee and the Senate Finance Committee.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
As the longest serving Senator, I use my experience, relationships, and knowledge of the legislature and state government to foster compromise and develop solutions. I am the only Democrat to serve as Chairman of a Senate Committee and am one of 3 democrats to serve on the powerful Senate Finance Committee and the Senate Business and Commerce Committee. I believe public service is a calling and strive every day to help people and to give a voice to those who are too often heard.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Increased representation at all levels of government. The AAPI community in Texas is filled with inspired leaders and future leaders and should be at the table whenever public policy is discussed and enacted. We must recruit more AAPI candidates. We must fight for fair redistricting maps that do not dilute the power of AAPI communities across Texas. We must increase access to voting and ensure candidates are consulting with the AAPI community on outreach and messaging.
(2) Fighting discrimination and hate. We must stand up against the hate and rhetoric that the AAPI community continues to experience. There should be zero tolerance for discrimination, hateful actions and violence aimed at AAPI communities and all elected leaders must denounce the hate and bigotry and stand in solidarity.
(3) Equality. Access to education, health care, economic development, mental health services, employment, housing, etc. are crucial to the AAPI community. We must ensure access to all government services.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
The State of Texas does not do near enough to address language barriers. Government documents should be available in multiple languages with adequate resources to provide translation and services to anyone needing it. Whether you are seeking medical care, mental health care, assistance with a driver's license, or help from law enforcement, we must commit ourselves to tearing down the language barrier faced by many AAPIs in Texas.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
There is no reason we cannot have safe and fair elections while also expanding voter access. Increased hours, easier mail in voting, online registration and ballots provided in multiple elections should all be included in election laws.
TX State House District 26

The Texas State House is the state-level legislative body that serves 2-year terms.

CANDIDATES

Jacey Jetton (R)*
Daniel Lee (D)

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I'm a Chinese American born in Dallas Texas and I've been a lawyer for 15yrs. My parents are from Hong Kong and the Philippines. I have a wife and 3 kids, 4 cats and 1 dog.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I'm the right person because I know the law as a lawyer and it can get worse if my opponent is still in office.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) Physical violence in the community
(2) Lack of voter and government participation
(3) Small business issues

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Clinics and seminars monthly.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
Draft legislation that ensure ballots and voter registration are in more languages, provide translators and helpers at the poll.
The Texas State House is the state-level legislative body that serves 2-year terms.

CANDIDATES

Briscoe Cain (R)*
Chuck Crews (D)

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I earned my BS in Chemical Engineering from Texas A&M University in 2005. I spent nearly a decade as a plant engineer, then several years in the insurance industry evaluating petrochemical plants all over America & Canada for reliability & safety. I know what it takes to make plants run cleaner & more safely for those in the plants as well as the surrounding communities. Now, I want to work in Austin to help all the plants across Texas run cleaner & more safely- and keep the lights on!!

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
HD-128 is a heavy industry district, and I know from nearly 15 years of field experience how to improve industry. The incumbent is a lawyer who knows virtually nothing of the petrochemical industry. Based simply on life experience, I am the superior candidate to speak for HD-128 in the Texas House of Representatives.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) I am a certified VDVR, and have worked for years to increase voter registration in Harris County. I recognize the value of a strong & vibrant immigrant community, and would like to help freshly naturalized citizens become active & engaged voters.
(2) I have served as an Election Worker for years, and view service to voters, especially those unfamiliar with the process, as an important contribution. I have seen first-hand the negative impact of the voter suppression bills coming out of the Texas Legislature, and seek to reverse such discriminatory legislation.
(3) I would also like to reverse the blatant Republican gerrymandering, by pushing legislation to establish a non-partisan redistricting commission which must prove statistically that future redistricting is in fact non-partisan.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Voter Registration Application Forms, sample ballots, and voting equipment must be multi-lingual. Harris County is off to a good start by offering Chinese and Vietnamese, but there are many other languages which must also be added. The push for expanding voter access by reducing language barriers must come from Austin, rather than relying on large counties to take the lead.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
Reduce language barriers as mentioned above.
TX State House
District 135

The Texas State House is the state-level legislative body that serves 2-year terms.

CANDIDATES

Mike May (R)*
Jon E. Rosenthal (D)

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I’m a family man with a lovely wife and 2 adult children! And I’m a career Mechanical Engineer from the Oil & Gas industry who ran for office in 2018 and beat a 24-year GOP incumbent. I’m a fierce advocate for public education with a long-term goal to overhaul how we test children in schools. I’m all-in with labor and I advocate for the most fragile among us. I prioritize access to healthcare and equity justice, and I am driven to fight against bigotry and discrimination in all forms.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I am driven to fight for the PEOPLE. My Integrity and values are my best qualifications. I’m guided by logic, kindness, honor and respect. In addition to my values, I rely on my background as an engineer and manager. I conduct fact-based analyses to develop pragmatic solutions. I understand how to work with different groups from different backgrounds, and I value input from all levels because understanding different perspectives is a key to breakthrough thinking.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
On top of my list for AAPI issues are ACCESS, ENGAGEMENT, and combating bigotry, discrimination, and hate. Access and engagement are critical towards having solid and caring representation, so it is a priority for me to be accessible and engaged. I'm here to listen so I can advocate for YOUR rights and act in your best interests. Access also includes language access for ALL of our communities.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
I favor making all government communications and forms (etc.) available in multiple languages, and also government and community services must have translation services available reflective of community populations. I advocate for mandates on these issues.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I’m sorry to report that in Texas we have the most restrictive and suppressive voting laws in the USA. I was willing to break quorum in the 87th Legislative Session and leave the state to prevent the GOP from passing even more restrictions and barriers than we already had. We did end up with some concessions but really our goal was to urge the congress to enact voting protections. I actively fight for voting rights for ALL, and will not stop.
TX State House
District 137

The Texas State House is the state-level legislative body that serves 2-year terms.

CANDIDATES
Lee Sharp (R)*
Gene Wu (D)

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I have been the incumbent in HD 137 for 10 years. I am the 5th Asian American ever elected to state office in the State of Texas.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I have a masters degree in public policy and a law degree. I have over 10 years experience in the legislature both as a staff and as a member of the House of Representatives.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
My main concerns for the Asian American community are representation, discrimination, and participation. I will use my position and influence to push to have Asian Americans appointed to boards and commissions. I will continue to fight against Anti-Asian hate and bigotry. And, I will continue to encourage the Asian American community to engage in the overall political process and fight for what the community wants.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
I will push for better funding at the state level to increase participation by providing language support.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I will continue to vote against Republican legislation that seeks to disenfranchise the Asian American community.
The Texas State House is the state-level legislative body that serves 2-year terms.

CANDIDATES
Lacy Hull (R)*
Stephanie Morales (D)

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I grew up in the Rio Grande Valley and attended Texas A&M. After A&M I moved to Houston to attend South Texas College of Law, while there I worked at Lone Star Legal Aid. After South Texas I worked for the District Attorney's Office and attended U of H for a Master of Laws. I now have opened the Morales Law firm and represent clients and misdemeanor and felony criminal cases, protects the rights of children and parents in CPS cases, and represent juveniles in juvenile court.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I am the right person to serve because I care. I will show up to events and hear from people of the community. I have a strong legal background and have worked with people from all works of life. I hope to go to Austin and work with Democrats and Republicans to try to reform Child Protective Services. Currently there is no CPS attorneys in the Legislature, and we need someone who understands the problems to fix them.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) First is access, I would do my best to make sure that my staff speaks multiple AAPI languages and would send them out to the community to find out what is really going on. I want to be a public advocate for underrepresented people, but first I must find out what they need.
(2) Second is education. Talking to people of the district, this is the number one issue that affects everyone.
(3) Third is Safety. I know a lot of people just want to feel safe, from random violent crime to the rise of racist attacks against the AAPI community. I want everyone to feel safe and will work to that goal.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
I would like my staff to speak multiple AAPI languages. I am aware that there are many different AAPI languages, and that I cannot have people that speak to them all, but sometimes people feel left behind when they cannot communicate with their legislatures, so the first step is to improve communications between my office and the community. We will work with local groups to find the people that we are still missing, and how we can solve their problems.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I want to be an advocate for everyone to have safe and fair elections. I would vote against laws that restrict voter access and would be supportive of laws that grant greater voter access.
TX State House District 148

The Texas State House is the state-level legislative body that serves 2-year terms.

CANDIDATES

Penny Morales Shaw (D)
Kay Smith (R)*
Grizzle Trojacek (L)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I grew up in Houston and attended public schools. I am of Hispanic origin. I am a 21-year practicing attorney with a large part of my practice focused on civil and human rights. I've been a business owner for 2 decades, while raising my family. I ran for office to be a voice for the people of Houston. I strive to be the positive and progressive change in Government that Houstonians and Texans deserves.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
To be an elected official means to serve. Putting the people, public interest and our environment before other interests is paramount and something that I am naturally compelled to do. I serve at the will of the people and they are my first priority. My career as an attorney has facilitated my ability to handle the complex legislative process and especially, to bridge the divide and work with all legislative members to focus our efforts on promoting universally favorable policy.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
(1) I will address the lack of healthcare, environment protection and public safety; and many more important issues. We have the highest level of uninsured, this means that populations are more vulnerable to chronic illness and delayed healthcare. Texas can and should do better in accepting federal funds for healthcare. Federal funds allotted for Texas would support our hospitals and healthcare workers.
(2) We all rely on our environment and its clean resources to sustain us. Yet, loosely regulated industry and poor standards allows unsustainable practices to harm the environment and resources. Concrete plants close to schools and parks and poor air quality are concerns that legislators can work to fix.
(3) Lastly, public safety. Specifically, we can save lives with more responsible gun laws and in general, allocating resources in ways that build strong families, neighborhoods and communities.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
I take my direction from the AAPI community to identify their needs to me and to then represent that at the state level. In addition, I will support the passage of language inclusion, such as translation and materials related to public comment periods for state agencies, public notices, and school resources.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I did and will continue to fight for equal access to the ballot box. In 2021, I chose to contest SB1, a bill that makes it harder to vote. AAPI people should be able to go to a poll and vote freely and easily. This includes not being harassed or intimidated when going to vote, easily registering to vote, and easily voting by mail if needed. Texas is one of the states that makes it hard for a person to cast their vote. I support protecting and expanding voting rights.
TX State House District 149

The Texas State House is the state-level legislative body that serves 2-year terms.

CANDIDATES
Braxton Bogue (L)*
Dr. Lily Truong (R)
Hubert Vo (D)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
Dr. Lily Truong currently serves the community as a Trustee for the Alief ISD for the second consecutive term. She studied biology at the University of Houston. She went on to earn a Doctor of Philosophy In Natural Medicine degree from Texas Chiropractic College through Kingdom College of Natural Health. Her primary profession revolves around providing assistance to families with children diagnosed with Autism. Additionally she provides administrative support to the Harris County Department of Adult Education 3 nights a week in ESL and GED. She is a founder and past president of the University of Houston Asian Alumni Association. She is a member of the Ascension Catholic Church in Alief. She served as a Pastoral Council Member for 19 years. Currently she is a member of the Finance Committee at the church. She married to her husband over 38 years, John Truong. Together they have 3 children, Michael, Anthony and Angela. She was recently promoted to grandmother with the birth of her first grandson Carter and her first granddaughter Mia, whom she adores and loves very much.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
I have confidence that I am the right person to serve in this elected office because I have been working and helping people in the communities. I can see that with all the experiences as a School Board it would help to promote more excellent education for the children. And the safety of our children in school and the people in the Communities are very important. My passion is always in education and I believe education is the foundation of everything.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
Promote Excellent in Education. Crime Prevention & Support for Police. Flooding infrastructure improvements. Public safety can be greatly enhanced by supporting law enforcement, funding law enforcement, removing no-cash bonds, securing the border, and avoiding letting felons out of prison during crises like during the COVID pandemic. The system of voter registration is readily available and easy.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
It is necessary to increase language access because there are so many diversities in the Houston area especially in District 149. With the experience through working with the background working with ESL students through Harris County Department of Adult Education, it is very important to increase the language access to help with the immigrant.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
The system of voter registration is readily available and easy. Voter ID is necessary. Poll watchers and random audits can increase voter confidence. The steps taking during the COVID crisis should be avoided as they made fraud more possible.
The State Board of Education is the governing body responsible for setting policies and standards for the Texas public schools and managing distribution of the permanent school fund.

CANDIDATES
Staci Childs (D)
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I am a former teacher turned lawyer that is fueled to make education better based on the experiences of my students and clients. Education is the gateway to freedom and I believe in that.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
My passion drives me and my work ethic will get the job done. If I don’t know, I admit, but work with the community to find the answer, and I realize the people are the greatest resource.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
Asian History reflected in history curriculum. Asian students and teachers feeling protected in schools. More resources made available for Asian students.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
Firstly, I would encourage more paper material and resources be translated in various languages.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I would do my part to make sure voting rights are expanded and protected and that people are not disenfranchised.
State Board of Education District 6

The State Board of Education is the governing body responsible for setting policies and standards for the Texas public schools and managing distribution of the permanent school fund.

CANDIDATES
Will Hickman (R)*
Michelle Palmer (D)

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
I am a history and government teacher as well as a public education advocate. I have lobbied the state legislature for a decade regarding charter schools, public education financing, and other education related issues.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
We need a teacher in this position because we understand the issues involved. As a history and government teacher I will fight for standards that are fact based and representative of ALL groups that helped build this country.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
I would like to see more AAPI representation in the US and World history curricula. We nearly ignore the existence of AAPI persons in the US except for the building of the Transcontinental Railroad, the racist Chinese Exclusion Act, and the Japanese Internment in WWII. The Pacific Islanders who were overthrown by white settlers in Hawaii are not mentioned in the standards but some of those white settlers are. It is atrocious that the standards are so neglectful of various groups including AAPI.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
This is not really in the purview of the SBOE, but we need to make certain that ALL teachers in Texas know who to teach Emergent Bilingual students and that it is not left to only a few people per campus. Alternative certification programs need to add more EB work to their requirements and schools need to work more with new teachers to make certain that they are effectively teaching EB students and using all of the resources available to them.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I have lobbied the state leg regarding the restrictions they have placed on voting in recent years. We need to work within the current laws and lobby for new laws to make certain that translators are available or accepted in EVERY voting location. If they don’t have someone who speaks a specific language, I know that the county clerk in my county has a hotline for people to call and they help the voter access the ballot. We need to make certain this is available everywhere it is needed.
State Board of Education
District 8

The State Board of Education is the governing body responsible for setting policies and standards for the Texas public schools and managing distribution of the permanent school fund.

CANDIDATES
Rhett R Smith (L)
Audrey Young (R)*

*No response received from candidate.
Q1: Tell us a bit about yourself and your background.
Longtime activist/supporter of ethnic diversity/minority civil rights; my first official campaign began in 2004 in Texas 21st Congressional District. I was unopposed in the Democratic Party primary election and I received more than 100,000 votes (35.5%) against the Republican incumbent during the General election in November of 2004.

Q2: Why are you the right person to serve in this elected office?
Our campaign for inclusion, diversity, and pluralism is the best choice for everyone's future.

A3: Inclusion, Diversity and Pluralism re: AAPI heritage as well as ethnic and cultural heritage throughout the western hemisphere.

Q3: What are the top three AAPI issues you would like to address if elected and why?
Inclusion, Diversity and Pluralism re: AAPI heritage as well as ethnic and cultural heritage throughout the western hemisphere.

Q4: How would you help to increase language access and resources to AAPIs if elected?
I am advocating for community college bypass alternative for every student and family that seeks that choice...so therefore, college accredited language courses would be available in most areas.

Q5: What role would you play to ensure election laws provide all eligible AAPI voters with equal access to safe and fair Elections?
I am demanding that eligible AAPI voters have equal access; and I will work with any and all Legislators to correct and improve laws re: elections and voting.