

How pro-life are Republicans in Franklin County?

During the **2018 Republican Party Primary**, voters had the opportunity to vote on proposition #7. This proposition gave voters the chance to voice their opinion if they were "In Favor" or "Against" the following statement: *"I believe abortion should be abolished in Texas."* In Franklin County, out of 1,608 votes, 1,149 (71.46%) voted in favor of the pro-life proposition and 459 (28.54%) voted against.

During the **2022 Republican Party Primary**, voters had the opportunity to vote on proposition #5. This proposition gave voters the chance to voice their opinion if they were "In Favor" or "Against" the following statement: *"Texas should enact a state constitutional amendment to defend the sanctity of innocent human life, created in the image of God, from fertilization until natural death."* In Franklin County, out of 2,060 votes, 1,780 (86.41%) voted in favor of the pro-life proposition and 280 (13.59%) voted against.



Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn

Since June 11, 2019, a total of 75 cities and ten counties across seven different states have passed local ordinances going as far as they can to prohibit abortion within their jurisdiction. 58 of these cities and eight of these counties are in the State of Texas.

The Republican Party of Texas 2024 Party Platform and Sanctuary for the Unborn Ordinances

Several provisions found in Sanctuary for the Unborn Ordinances are in full alignment with pro-life planks found in the Republican Party of Texas 2024 Party Platform.

Plank #194(l). Pro-Life:

*Abortion is not healthcare, it is homicide. Until the abolition of abortion is achieved, we support laws that restrict and regulate abortion, including but not limited to . . . **Supporting the right of Texas municipalities to protect mothers and their preborn children in their communities by passing enforceable city ordinances that further ban abortions within their city limits, closing loopholes in state abortion laws.***

Plank #194(j). Pro-Life:

*We support laws . . . **Extending the private cause of action used in the Texas Heartbeat Act to all pro-life laws and policies in Texas.***

Plank #53. Prohibit Abortion Transportation Across State Lines:

*We support legislation to prohibit the use of any government funds, as well as the **transportation of pregnant women across Texas' state lines**, for the purpose of procuring an elective abortion and for the provision of **a private right of action** against all persons and organizations who aid and abet in the harming of the woman, and the killing of her preborn child.*

Plank #142. Preventing Any Death by Abortion:

*. . . We support protecting preborn children and their mothers by **stopping abortion pill distributors from sending and trafficking these lethal and illegal drugs into Texas** and holding those accountable who break state Pro-Life laws by selling and trafficking illegal abortion pills.*

Which political subdivisions in Franklin County can pass a 'sanctuary for the unborn' ordinance?

[Franklin County](#) (pop. 10,735)

[Mount Vernon](#) (pop. 2,769)

[Winnsboro](#) (pop. 3,614)

The Texas Legislature On Political Subdivisions Passing Ordinances Outlawing Abortion

During the **86th Legislative Session**, the State of Texas prohibited any political subdivision in the State of Texas from using taxpayer dollars to fund any abortion provider or any affiliate of an abortion provider. In the prohibition the State Legislature made clear that the law may not be construed to restrict a municipality or county from prohibiting abortion. See Tex. Gov't Code § 2273.005. (*"This chapter may not be construed to restrict a municipality or county from prohibiting abortion."*).

During the **87th Legislative Session**, the State of Texas explicitly allowed municipalities and counties to outlaw and prohibit abortion, and to establish penalties and remedies against those who perform or enable unlawful abortions. See Tex. Gov't Code § 311.036(b) (*"A statute may not be construed to restrict a political subdivision from regulating or prohibiting abortion in a manner that is at least as stringent as the laws of this state unless the statute explicitly states that political subdivisions are prohibited from regulating or prohibiting abortion in the manner described by the statute."*) While the **Texas Attorney General's Office** has stated that cities could always do this (See *Planned Parenthood v. City of Lubbock*, 2021), the passage of this provision in SB 8 (*The Texas Heartbeat Act*) made it explicitly clear that cities and counties had such authority.

In August 2023, 20 Texas Senators and Representatives penned a letter in support of cities and counties passing ordinances outlawing abortion across the State of Texas. The letter read: *"Currently there are over 50 political subdivisions in Texas which have passed local ordinances prohibiting abortion within their jurisdictions. As elected officials who voted for state legislation allowing these local actions, we are thrilled to see this wave of pro-life action at the local level and hope to see these ordinances continue to spread across our state - even in a post-Roe Texas. While it is true that abortion is outlawed in the entire State of Texas, from the point of conception, our work is far from over. Right now, throughout the State of Texas, women are being trafficked across our borders by abortion traffickers funded by abortion trafficking organizations still operating in our state. As a result, these women are being abused and traumatized by abortion across our Texas-New Mexico border and sent back to Texas for our cities and counties to deal with the aftermath taking place in our homes, our schools, our churches, and our hospitals. The Sanctuary for the Unborn ordinances seek to protect these institutions by putting safeguards in place to protect men, women, and their children for years to come. These ordinances, which seek to close as many loopholes as possible, do not penalize women who seek or undergo abortions, but places the penalty on the party who most deserves it - the abortionist and the industry profiting from the unjust procedure, including abortion traffickers."*



For more information, visit www.sanctuarycitiesfortheunborn.com. Mark Lee Dickson can be contacted by phone at 806-598-1919, by email at markleedickson@gmail.com, or through his website www.markleedickson.com.