Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

April 2025

2025 Lincoln Day Dinner Awards Congratulations to Our PRW Members





co-Master of Ceremonies

Kathy Ward

2024 Dixie Clem Award

Shelby Johnston

2025 Chairman's Award

Cleo Marchese

2025 Judge John McVeigh Award

Catherine Gibb

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Calendar of Events

Next Board Meeting

May 6, 11:30 Napoli's Restaurant

Next General Meeting

May 20, 11:30 Saltgrass - East Plano





2025 Lincoln Day Dinner Awards

Congratulations to Our PRW Members



PRW April Meeting



NEXT GENERAL MEETING: April 15, 2025

Derek M. Cohen, Chief Research Officer, Texas Public Policy Foundation

Derek M. Cohen, Ph.D, is the Foundation's Chief Research Officer and Right on Crime Senior Fellow. Previously the Vice President of Policy and Director of Right on Crime, the Foundation's criminal justice reform initiative, Cohen was instrumental in the passage of the First Step Act, federal legislation that borrowed from successful changes to prisons and sentencing that he had helped pass in conservative states. In addition to leading the Foundation's work on criminal justice, he is also the lead researcher of firearms policy.

Cohen currently serves as a commissioner on the State Commission on Judicial Conduct and as a member of the Judicial Advisory Council, both terms expiring in late 2029.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Cohen worked as a researcher with the University of Cincinnati's Institute of Crime Science and completed three advanced statistical trainings at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan. He also taught classes in statistics, research methods, criminal procedure, courts, and corrections.

Cohen's academic work can be found in Criminology and Public Policy, Victims and Offenders, the Oxford Handbook on Police and Policing, and many other academic outlets. He has presented several papers to the American Society of Criminology, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and the American Evaluation Association.

Cohen graduated with a BS in criminal justice from Bowling Green State University and earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in criminal justice from the University of Cincinnati.

Location: Saltgrass Steakhouse Plano East

3320 North Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75074

Time: 11:15 am: Arrive and check-in, 11:30 am: Meeting, Lunch & Program

Lunch is available for \$25.00 with RSVP, cash or check payable to PRW on arrival.

Lunch will be salad, entree with vegetable, and dessert.

RSVPs for lunch must be made by 5 pm Friday, April 11, 2025

RSVP here to pay with credit card

Please note: all Online Credit Card Payments include a processing fee.

To RSVP send an email to: rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org

Include your name in your email and specify whether you will/will not be having lunch

Législative Report

The 89th Legislative session is moving along. Thank goodness the deadline to file bills in the Texas House has already passed, because 6,572 bills have been filed. In the Texas Senate 3,484 bills have been filed.

The following are bills I am watching and ask that you contact your Texas House Representative and State Senator to give your opinion.

SB2 is the School Choice Bill. It has passed out of the Senate. HB3 is the companion bill and has been left in the Public Education Committee as of March 25th. The committee heard testimony for 22 hours from March 11th to the 12th. If these bills pass, parents would be able to sign up for a grant of \$10,000 to send their child to an accredited school of their choice. Special Education and low-income children would get first priority. This program would help only 100,000 children. Currently 5.5 million children attend public school in Texas.

SB673 by Senator Hughes: This bill would allow an accessory dwelling unit (guest house) on single family zoned property by right. The owner does not have to live in the primary or the guest house. That means that the property could be owned by a firm like BlackRock and both dwellings could be rented out. This would end single family zoning. So far, this bill does not have a companion. It has passed out of the Senate.

SB15 by Senator Bettencourt: This Bill relegates the size and density of residential lots. This bill will prevent municipalities from requiring single family home lot sizes to be more than 1,400 square feet, wider than 20 feet, and deeper than 60 feet. For regulating density a ratio of dwelling units per acre that results in fewer than 31.1 units per acre would not be allowed. Municipalities cannot require covered parking, more than one parking space per unit, or off-site parking. I don't know where people are going to park. The bill passed the Senate. The companion bill is HB3919 by Representative Gates. It has not been assigned to a House Committee as of March 25th.

SB854 by Senator Middleton would allow land owned by a religious organization to build apartments on it by right. The religious organization would not have to apply for a zoning change. Faith organizations that testified in the Senate Local Government Committee on March 10th claimed they want to build low-income housing but are running into lots of red tape by local governments. The bill passed out of committee and has been place on the intent calendar as of March 24th. The companion bill is HB3172 by Representative Gates. It is scheduled for a public hearing on March 27th in the Land and Resource Management Committee.

Lastly, SB840 by Senator Hughes would allow a property owner to convert an office, commercial, retail, or warehouse into any kind of multifamily residential by right without a zoning change. Permit fees and parkland fees would be waved. The municipality cannot require more than one parking space per dwelling unit. This bill has passed the Senate. The companion bill is HB3404 by Representative Hefner and was referred to the Land and Resource Management Committee.

Please let your elected officials know how you feel about these bills. It is best to call their offices.

- Jennifer Groysman, Legislative Chair

March Photos



























AMERICANISM REPORT

by Ellen Leyrer



DR. JOSEPH WARREN: A REVOLUTIONARY LEADER AND MARTYR FOR FREEDOM APRIL 1, 2025

Dr. Joseph Warren was one of the most influential figures in the early days of the American Revolution. His contributions to the Patriot cause were instrumental in setting the stage for American victory. A physician by trade, Warren's courage, leadership, and ultimate sacrifice made him one of the Revolution's heroes. His actions—ranging from intelligence gathering and mobilizing militias to personally fighting on the battlefield—demonstrate a rare combination of strategic acumen and unshakable commitment to liberty.

The Night Ride and the Call to Arms

On the night of April 18, 1775, Joseph Warren received intelligence through Boston's revolutionary underground that British troops were preparing to cross the Charles River and march to Lexington. Their likely objective was to arrest John Hancock and Samuel Adams, who were hiding there. Recognizing the urgency, Warren immediately dispatched Paul Revere and William Dawes to warn the countryside. This famous midnight ride set the events of the next day in motion, leading to the Battles of Lexington and Concord—the first military engagements of the American Revolution. Warren's quick thinking and leadership helped prevent the capture of two key revolutionary figures and ensured that the colonial militias were prepared to resist British aggression.

The Fiery Oration and Call for Resistance

On March 5, 1775, Joseph Warren delivered an impassioned speech at Old South Meeting House in Boston, commemorating the anniversary of the Boston Massacre. This annual oration was meant to remind the colonists of British tyranny, and Warren's speech was one of the most provocative yet. In front of an audience that included British officers, he boldly condemned British oppression, called for colonial resistance, and warned that war was inevitable. His speech was not only defiant and inspiring, but also a direct challenge to British authority, making it one of the most memorable revolutionary addresses of the period. Despite threats and intimidation from British officers in attendance, Warren remained steadfast, further establishing himself as a leader who was unafraid to stand for liberty.

The Battle of Bunker Hill and His Heroic Sacrifice

Despite being a newly appointed major general in the Massachusetts militia, Warren chose to fight as an ordinary soldier at the Battle of Bunker Hill (June 17, 1775). When offered command, he declined, stating that he wished to fight alongside his men rather than command them from a position of safety. His presence on the battlefield was immensely inspirational to the colonial forces, as he personally took up arms and engaged in direct combat. Unfortunately, as the British launched their third and final assault, Warren was killed by a musket ball to the head. His death was a significant loss for the revolutionary movement, as he was widely recognized as one of its most promising leaders. The next day, Abigail Adams wrote to John Adams, lamenting his death:

"I have just heard that our dear Friend Dr. Warren is no more but fell gloriously fighting for his Country—saying better to die honourably in the field than ignominiously hang upon the Gallows. Great is our Loss. He has distinguished himself in every engagement, by his courage and fortitude, by animating the Soldiers & leading them on by his own example."

Americanism Report

Continued

Forensic Dentistry

The identification of Joseph Warren's body involved what is considered one of the first instances of forensic dentistry in America. After the battle, Warren's body was thrown into a mass grave by the British. It was later exhumed in 1776, and since it had decomposed, Paul Revere—who had practiced amateur dentistry—was able to identify Warren by a false tooth he had crafted for him. This early example of forensic identification further highlights Warren's close connections to other revolutionary leaders and his role in the movement.

Honoring His Legacy: The Bunker Hill Monument

Joseph Warren's sacrifice was so impactful that he became the first figure honored on Breed's Hill (the actual site of the Battle of Bunker Hill). In 1794, the first monument was erected there—a wooden pillar dedicated to Warren. This early memorial was eventually replaced by the Bunker Hill Monument, a towering granite obelisk that stands today as a tribute to the battle and those who fought there, including Warren. Though his role is often overshadowed by later Founding Fathers, his influence was profound enough to earn him a place of lasting remembrance.

The Personality and Legacy of Joseph Warren

Warren was not only a brilliant organizer and strategist but also a man of immense courage, selflessness, and passion for the Patriot cause. He was willing to risk everything for the principles of liberty and self-governance. Unlike many political figures of the time, he did not seek personal power but instead led by example, whether by delivering stirring speeches, organizing the resistance, or fighting alongside his men in battle. His tragic but heroic death only solidified his place as a martyr of the Revolution.

Had he survived, Warren would likely have been one of the most prominent leaders in post-revolutionary America, perhaps even a signer of the Declaration of Independence or a key figure in shaping the new nation. Though he never lived to see American independence, his contributions helped lay the foundation for it. His legacy remains one of unyielding dedication to freedom, making him one of the most inspiring figures of the Revolutionary era.

Learn more here about Dr. Joseph Warren and the Sons of Liberty (including videos).

Sources: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Joseph-Warren, History.com, https://www.battlefields.org/learn/biographies/joseph-warren, ChatGPT

President Trump appointed **Karoline Leavitt** as White House Press Secretary. Her appointment signaled a shift in the administration's media strategy, focusing on direct communication with the public through social media and branching out from legacy media outlets. The White House implemented changes in press access, including some conservative outlets and starting a new policy of seat rotation in order to be fair to all outlets. Now some conservative views are included ensuring that both conservative and liberal perspectives are represented in press access.



Political Action Hours

by Political Action Chair Jennifer Groysman



Keep the challenge going! 10 hours per month!



litical Activity Ho

- - o Political Events & Fundraisers
 - County or State GOP meetings
 - School Board or City Council meetings
- - · Any time you spend traveling to and from political events and meetings.
- Legislative Advocacy
 - o Time spent calling, writing, about legislative issues

- - · Block walking. sign waving, phone banking, digital work
 - · Running for office
- Election Support
 - · Election Judge, Election Clerk, Deputy Voter Registrar
- Appointed or Elected Service
 - o Prep time, travel time, and attendance at meetings you were appointed or elected to serve at any level

Any political activity you do that is not for your primary job counts!

Political Action Report

By Jennifer Groysman

Ladies, I am happy to report that you all have turned in 3,422 hours and 245 phone calls as of March 25, 2025. Great job, ladies, but I know there are still more hours and calls that have not been reported. Every hour and call matters.

We are in a Women's Convention year. That means that I have to turn in all of the hours and calls our members and associate members completed in the last two years by July 10, 2025 to our parent organization (Texas Federation of Republican Women). So, if you have any hours that you have not reported to me since January 2025, get them to me ASAP. The easiest way to remember to report your hours is to fill out the hours slip at our monthly meetings when Cleo talks about them. A month, for your hours, goes from one meeting date to the next. You can also submit your hours on our website, www.planosrepublicanwomen.org

We have an hours tracker that you can download to your computer to help you keep track of your hours. You can also use a pocket calendar or the one on your phone. Whatever way works for you is best.

Also remember to turn in your phone calls. The easiest way to track your calls is to look at your cell phone log. Every month I look at my log to see who I talked to. When I see the PRW's board members names I know that was a call where I talked about politics or the club. Those calls count as political phone calls. If you made calls for a candidate, the computer keeps track of those. Just remember to write down the total calls you made that day when you are done. Lastly, calling your representatives counts as a call. The time you spend on the call counts toward your political action hours.

At the National Federation of Republican Women's (our grandparent organization) last board meeting, Texas had the most hours and calls of any other state for 2024. This year Texas has reported over 2 million hours so far. Keep it up ladies.

You can submit your hours on our website here: Political Action Hours

Connections

For the April Connections meeting, we will be writing notes and sending as our candidates for the election have requested!! Thanks to Cathie Alexander organizing this!





Sue Reeves, Jerry Barnett, Teri Ann Rogers, Dianna Wike loading border project on its way to our excellent border patrol men and women! Please join other PRW members for Connections, following our General Meeting.

Let's plan to work together for an hour or so. Come and go as your schedule allows.

Bring your staplers, scissors and pens and you will be prepared for whatever we tackle!

Our projects continue to evolve. Whatever we do, we will get to do it together.

The tasks may change but the Connections will remain.

As per NFRW bylaws, PRW will not endorse any candidate for public office in contested Republican Primaries, Runoff Elections, Special Elections and/or non-partisan elections when more than one Republican is in the race. All Republican Candidates are welcome to contact us for more information.



GOP GUEST ARTICLE



Dear Friends,

The first <u>House calendar</u> is set! Next week, April 1, we will begin to hear and debate bills on the House floor. Here's a couple highlights of what's coming up this week:

We have multiple bills coming to the House floor that will cut and ban taxes in Texas:

- HJR 1: \$250,000 Personal Property Exemption for Businesses
- HJR 2: Prohibiting a Death Tax
- HJR 4: Banning New Taxes on Financial Transactions
- HJR 6: Prohibiting a Capital Gains Tax
- HB 22: Eliminating Property Tax on Intangible Personal Property

HB 195, which I'm proud to joint author, is ultimately a transparency bill for taxpayers. This bill will let you know how much of your property taxes are going towards your local schools and how much is sent back to the state in recapture. As taxpayers, we have the right to know how our money is being spent, and as a legislature we have a duty to uphold that right. I look forward to seeing this bill pass the Texas House.

Another important bill being heard next week is <u>House Bill 13</u> by my friend and colleague, Representative Ken King. This bill will help strengthen Texas' response and recovery efforts in regards to wildfires. HB 13 creates the Texas Interoperability Council which is tasked with developing and coordinating the implementation of a statewide strategic plan for emergency communication and alerts – ensuring that all entities have the tools they need in these critical, and often life threatening, situations.

In committee this week, I had the privilege of laying out <u>House Bill 7</u>, the Parents' Bill of Rights. This legislation empowers parents, protects students and strengthens transparency in Texas Schools. Parents should be key partners in their child's education, not bystanders. HB 7 ensures that by:

- Requiring TEA to publicly outline parents' rights
- Giving parents access to their child's library book records
- Restoring opt-in requirements for sex education
- Strengthens in the Do-Not-Hire registry to better protect students
- Clarifying and enforcing parental grievance procedures

I look forward to working with my colleagues to get this important legislation across the finish line this session.

Have a great weekend friends!

All my best, Jeff Leach

Capitol Office Room GN.11 P.O. Box 2910 Austin, TX 78768 (512) 463-0544 Phone

Patrons and Membership Report

by Membership Chair Ushma Ferguson

Many Thanks To Our Club Patrons

These members have donated \$100.00 in cash, given items to the club, or paid budgeted expenses valued at \$100.00 or more.

Evelina Davitian-Abounayan Cathie Alexander

Debby Arrant Sara Billingsley

Deb Blencowe Pat Donley

Ushma Ferguson Catherine Gibb

Jennifer Groysman Madelon Issaeff

Donna Krauss Cleo Marchese

Lynn McCoy Merie Spaeth

We are currently accepting Membership Renewals for 2025! And we always welcome new members!

Membership dues can be paid at the meeting, online through our website https://planorepublicanwomen.org/become-a-member

Or checks can be mailed to Plano Republican Women, P O Box 940461, Plano, TX 75094-0461.

Memberships:

\$40 Full Active Single Membership (PRW receives \$15, TFRW and NFRW receive \$25)

\$45 Full Active Membership with Spouse

\$25 Associate Membership – for Men or Active Members of other Republican Women Clubs

\$20 Young Affiliate (young woman, age 10-17)

\$140 Patron Member (includes Full Active Single Membership)

\$145 Patron Member with Spouse

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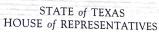
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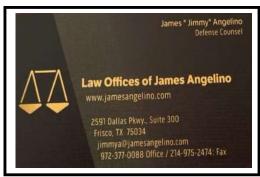
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April Birthdays

Shelby Johnston 4/8
Kathaleen Sharpe 4/18
Sherran Gammon 4/20
Chris Beninger 4/23
Arya Knapp 4/25
Anne Logan 4/25
Sharon Bradford 4/27

