

# Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

October 2023

## President's Byline



In recent years, there has been a surprising and noteworthy trend taking place in liberal cities across our country, Democrat mayors, staunch supporters of their party, have started jumping ship to join the Republican party. A lot of critics believe this is because these mayors are smelling a change in the political winds of this country and want to keep their power or run for a higher office. I feel this shift reflects a growing disillusionment with the Democratic Party's policies and the benefits of conservatism for fiscal policies. This week, Dallas mayor, Eric Johnson in an op-ed in the Wall Street Journal detailed his reasons for leaving the Democrat party. He cited his continued frustration over his party's inability to fix homelessness, poverty, improve schools and tackle crime.

Texas Democratic Party leadership called Eric Johnson's switch "welcome" and said "Given his long-standing affinity with Republican leaders and ideology ... this announcement is neither surprising nor unwelcome," the party wrote in a statement. "This feeble excuse for democratic representation will fit right in with Republicans — and we are grateful that he can no longer tarnish the brand and values of the Texas Democratic Party."

I am not sure what values the Texas Democrat party are talking about. They seldom fix problems, and their policies are often directly responsible for keeping people impoverished and running cities into the red financially. After Mayor Eric Johnson made his announcement, every major liberal rag wrote the same talking points. Democrats party leaders claim these mayors are leaving their party because they want more gentrification in their cities because wealthier residents bring in more tax revenue and businesses. They believe these "newcomers" may have different political preferences and priorities than long-time residents, leading to a reevaluation of the mayoral party affiliation to better represent the evolving demographics. Some claimed these mayors are misguidedly adopting more fiscally conservative policies to attract businesses to potentially spurring economic growth and job creation. I think we are not giving these mayors or any politician leaving the Democrat party credit for being able to learn or think on their own or even better, see what their own eyes are telling them.

Let's look at the reality of Democrat run cities. On Sept 19th in Eagle Pass, Democrat mayor, Rolando Salinas declared a state of emergency because of the continued illegal immigrant crisis. A town of 30,000 people had over 4,000 illegal immigrants coming through on Wednesday and they saw an average of 2,500 on other days. The largest group since the 15,000 Haitians that cross the neighboring city of Del Rio last year in one day. Bruno Lozano, the Democrat Mayor of Del Rio has broken quite a lot of barriers from being the city's first openly gay official, and youngest mayor to a staunch critic of border polices facing his town. In a town of 34,500 people saw over 480,00 border crossing. He said "Mr. President, my name is Bruno Lozano, mayor of the city of Del Rio, Texas. And I am pleading and requesting with you to please put a halt to any measures regarding the release of immigrants awaiting court dates into the city of Del Rio and surrounding areas." Let's not forget what Mayor Eric Adams said in NYC, he feels the city will never recover from the migrant crisis and that it's a never-ending problem that he sees no end in sight. Adams, a Democrat in his second year in office, has clashed with leading members of his party as New York City has struggled to provide housing and services to the illegal aliens. He criticized President Biden and New York, Gov. Kathy Hochul for failing to help the city handle the asylum seekers and has pleaded for more funding.

Illegal immigration is not the only problem. The latest estimate is there are over 600,00 people homeless in America's largest cities. Homelessness had surged in the past two years taking over Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Washington, D.C. Crime since the BLM defund the police movement has reached unprecedented levels in Democrat cities. Schools are not improving since COVID, leaving children even more behind than their suburban counterparts. In Baltimore, Maryland, not one student in thirteen high schools passed

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## Calendar of Events

**Next Board Meeting**  
Oct 4th, 11:30  
Napoli's Restaurant

**Next General Meeting**  
October 17, 2023, 11:30  
Saltgrass - East Plano

**TFRW Convention**  
Oct 12-14, 2023  
Irving, Texas

**Special Election  
Constitutional Amendments**  
Nov 4th, 2023

## PRW Presidents Byline

Continued from Page 1

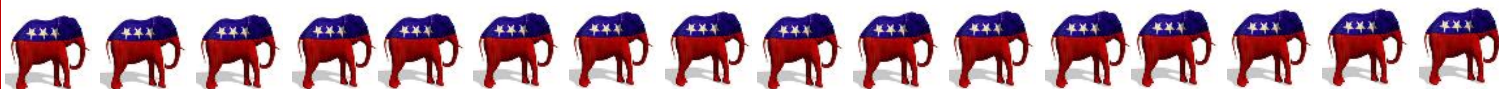
the state's math proficiency test this year.

Democrat run cities and states are starting to see a mass exodus of people especially young families. Progressive ideologies on issues like high taxes, healthcare, immigration, climate change, transgenderism and parents' rights have left cities in peril, turning them into unsafe spaces to live. Democrat mayors, particularly in major urban centers, have faced intense scrutiny for their handling of rising crime rates and civil unrest. Many have come to realize that a tough-on-crime approach, often associated with Republican principles, is necessary to ensure the safety and security of their constituents.

The trend of Democrat mayors switching to the Republican Party is a clear indicator of the changing political landscape in America. It underscores the growing appeal of conservative principles in areas traditionally dominated by liberal policies, it reflects a true desire for change. People are waking up and wanting more effective government and values that nurture freedoms, family, and economic prosperity. They are realizing what they have been longing and looking for are what define the Republican Party. Let's welcome this change.

*Cleo Marchese*

prw\_president@planorepublicanwomen.org



**Connections** was formed to help members get to know one another over a glass of tea and to complete a common goal.

Please join other PRW members for **Connections**, following our General Meeting.

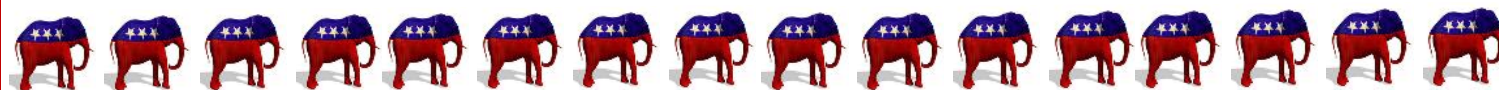
Let's plan to work together for an hour or so.  
Come and go as your schedule allows.

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

If you have Patriotic cards (blank or thank-you's) to donate, please bring them with you.

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

*"The tasks may change, but the **Connections** will last."*



# PRW October Meeting



**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:  
October 17, 2023**

**Grant Stinchfield, Podcast Stinchfield**

**"Current Events"**

Grant has made it his mission to expose liberal lunacy, the ills of socialism and radical left wing agenda. Grant is a four time Emmy Award winning investigator, a business owner and the host of "Stinchfield" on Real America's Voice as well as The Morning Answer on AM870 Los Angeles.

"Stinchfield" is now solely controlled by Grant, meaning we will never be censored again. These are the untold stories that American patriots need to hear — uncensored and unapologetic — because the truth matters.

It's the one podcast no conservative can afford to miss. It's Stinchfield.

Stinchfield earned a master's degree in Journalism from Quinnipiac University.

**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, beef entree with vegetable, and carrot cake.***

**RSVPs for lunch must be made by 5 pm Friday, October 13, 2023**

[RSVP here to pay with credit card](#)

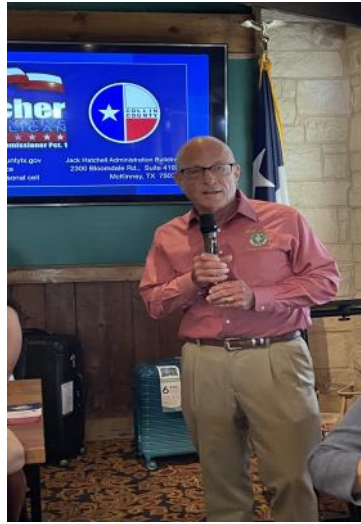
Please note: all Online Credit Card Payments include a processing fee.

**To RSVP send an email to: [rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org](mailto:rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org)**

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



# PRW September Meeting Photos



PRW Caring for American Fall 2023 Challenge

Donate your used or newly purchased luggage to a foster child.

Donations accepted - September, October and November meetings at Cathie's home (2117 Lane Dr. Plano 75074)

October

Grant Stinchfield






## Legislative Report

### Governor Abbott Announces Third Special Session Agenda

October 5, 2023 | Austin, Texas | [Press Release](#)

Governor Greg Abbott today announced Special Session #3 and [issued a proclamation](#) identifying agenda items for the special session that begins at 1:00 PM on Monday, October 9.

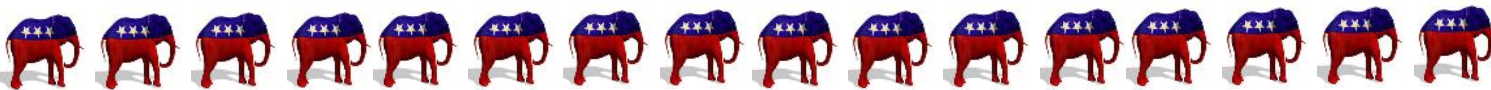


"I am bringing the Texas Legislature back for Special Session #3 to continue building on the achievements we accomplished during the 88th Regular Legislative Session and two special sessions this summer," said Governor Abbott. "Together, we will chart a brighter future for all Texas children by empowering parents to choose the best education option for their child. Texas will also pass laws to mirror the federal immigration laws President Joe Biden refuses to enforce that will reduce illegal immigration and enhance the safety of Texans. For the first time ever, Texas will subject people to arrest for illegal entry into our state from a foreign nation. All licensed law enforcement officers in Texas will be authorized to arrest or remove any person who illegally enters the State, with penalties up to 20 years in prison for refusing to comply with removal. To crack down on repeated attempts to enter Texas illegally, re-entry will be penalized with up to 20 years in prison. Additionally, we must protect the freedom of Texans from forced COVID-19 vaccinations. I look forward to working with my partners in the Legislature to address these critical issues."

Special Session #3 agenda items include:

- **EDUCATION FREEDOM:** Legislation providing education savings accounts for all Texas schoolchildren.
- **BORDER SECURITY:**
  - Legislation to do more to reduce illegal immigration by creating a criminal offense for illegal entry into this state from a foreign nation and authorizing all licensed peace officers to remove illegal immigrants from Texas.
  - Legislation to impede illegal entry into Texas by increasing the penalties for criminal conduct involving the smuggling of persons or the operation of a stash house.
  - Legislation to impede illegal entry into Texas by providing more funding for the construction, operation, and maintenance of border barrier infrastructure.
- **PUBLIC SAFETY:** Legislation concerning public safety, security, environmental quality, and property ownership in areas like the Colony Ridge development in Liberty County, Texas.
- **ENDING COVID RESTRICTIONS:** Legislation prohibiting COVID-19 vaccine mandates by private employers.

[View the Governor's special session proclamation.](#)



### Kevin McCarthy's wild ride as US House speaker ends in historic fall

Story by By David Morgan , Reuters

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Kevin McCarthy began his wild ride as speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives in a chaotic January week and ended it nine months later in a historic fall, when he became the first speaker to be removed from the top post.

Two decisions by the California Republican contributed to his undoing.

The first came during the agonizing 15 votes he endured over four days early this year when he agreed to a change of House rules allowing any single member of the House to call for a motion to oust the speaker. Coupled with his narrow 221-212 majority, that made it relatively easy for a single hard-right member, Representative Matt Gaetz, to call for his ouster.



## Legislative Report

Continued from Page 5

The second came on Saturday, when McCarthy opted to avert triggering a partial government shutdown by introducing a stopgap funding bill that passed the House with more Democratic than Republican votes.

Gaetz had been threatening to move against McCarthy for days at that point, and a senior Republican told Reuters at the time that McCarthy had concluded he would face a challenge to his leadership no matter what he did.

"I want to keep government open while we finish our job," McCarthy told reporters when he emerged from a closed-door Saturday morning party meeting where he laid out that plan.

On Tuesday, eight members of his party joined 208 Democrats to oust McCarthy as speaker in a 216-210 vote. McCarthy will continue as a rank-and-file member of the House.

McCarthy, who had managed to smile through much of the Tuesday's ordeal, soon chose not to stand again for the position and struck a gracious tone at a press conference.

"I may have lost a vote today. But as I walk out of this chamber, I feel fortunate to have served the American people," McCarthy, 58, told reporters. "It was my greatest honor to be able to do it."

He had angered lawmakers of both parties during his time as speaker.

He steered a narrow majority, currently 221-212, through a long spring standoff that saw the U.S. come perilously close to defaulting on its \$31.4 trillion in debt. Just a few months later, shutdown loomed.

Republican hardliners, cheered on by former President Donald Trump, urged McCarthy to push harder against the Democratic-majority Senate and President Joe Biden, to demand cuts to federal spending on domestic social programs and other conservative priorities.

Members of his own party repeatedly rejected measures McCarthy brought to the floor.

Democrats, meanwhile, seethed after McCarthy backed out of a May deal he had reached with Biden on spending levels for the fiscal year that began Oct. 1, and grew angrier when he launched an impeachment inquiry into Biden.

That move, Democrats contend, was meant as a reprisal for Trump's historic two impeachments, both of which ended in acquittal on the votes of Senate Republicans.

### RUDDERLESS HOUSE

The House will now drift rudderless in the coming days, with a potential shutdown in mid-November.

The episode demonstrated the formidable challenge that has overshadowed the speaker's post for Republicans in recent years, with John Boehner resigning the post in 2015 after a struggle with rebellious conservatives.

Boehner's successor, Paul Ryan, a frequent target for conservatives, decided not to seek reelection in 2018 as Trump shifted the party focus from Ryan's fiscal priorities to immigration and culture-war issues.

"Frankly, one has to wonder whether or not the House is governable at all," Republican Representative Dusty Johnson told reporters after McCarthy's ouster.

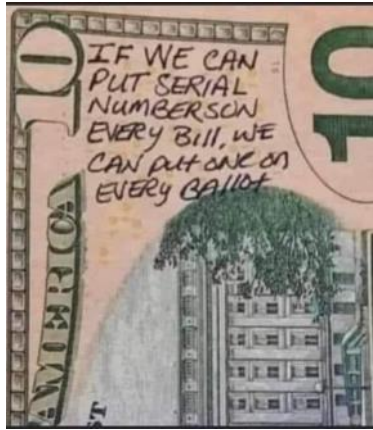
Lawmakers have pointed to several prominent Republicans as possible successors to McCarthy: Majority Leader Steve Scalise, Republican whip Tom Emmer, House Budget Chairman Jodey Arrington and Representative Kevin Hern, who leads the conservative Republican Study Committee.

The high point of McCarthy's tenure came in May when McCarthy enjoyed a rare moment of victory by forcing Biden to negotiate a deal on national debt that averted a default.

His masterstroke in getting Biden to the negotiating table had been his decision to bring a Republican debt ceiling bill to the floor and pass it in April with only the support of his own party members.

But hardliners soon used their leverage to shutter the House floor in protest over the spending level that McCarthy had agreed to Biden.

# Political Cartoons

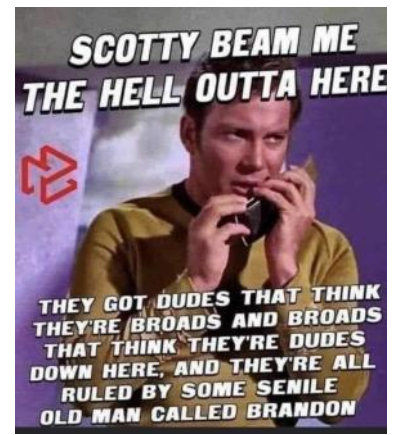


With all due respect, please read this, then read it again. Then teach it to your children and grandchildren.

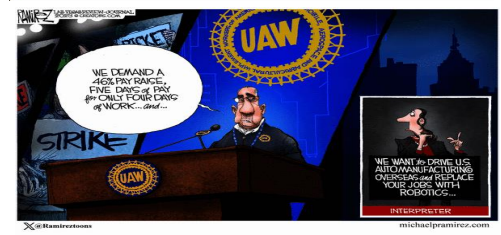
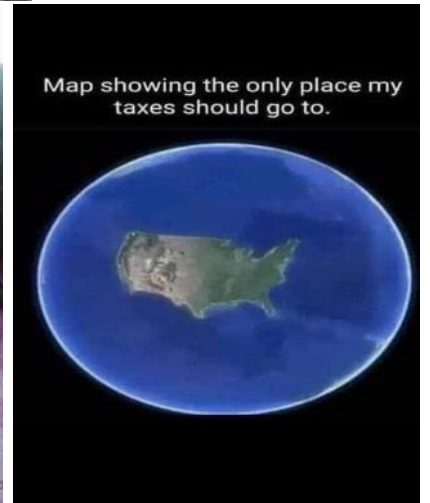


History is not there for you to like or dislike. It is there for you to learn from it. And if it offends you, even better. Because then you are less likely to repeat it. It's not yours to erase or destroy.

Norma Marshall



If they are exempt from liability  
We are exempt from mandates!





# AMERICANISM REPORT

by Ellen Leyrer



## THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### A BRIEF HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION - OCTOBER 1, 2023

"EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER LAW"-These words, written above the main entrance to the Supreme Court Building, express the ultimate responsibility of the Supreme Court of the United States. The Court is the highest tribunal in the Nation for all cases and controversies arising under the Constitution or the laws of the United States. As the final arbiter of the law, the Court is charged with ensuring the American people the promise of equal justice under law and, thereby, also functions as guardian and interpreter of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court is "distinctly American in concept and function," as Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes observed. Few other courts in the world have the same authority of constitutional interpretation and none have exercised it for as long or with as much influence. In 1835, the French political observer Alexis de Tocqueville noted the unique position of the Supreme Court in the history of nations and of jurisprudence. "The representative system of government has been adopted in several states of Europe," he remarked, "but I am unaware that any nation of the globe has hitherto organized a judicial power in the same manner as the Americans... A more imposing judicial power was never constituted by any people."

*The republic endures and this is the symbol of its faith.*

- Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes

The unique position of the Supreme Court stems, in large part, from the deep commitment of the American people to the Rule of Law and to constitutional government. The United States has demonstrated an unprecedented determination to preserve and protect its written Constitution, thereby providing the American "experiment in democracy" with the oldest written Constitution still in force.

The Constitution of the United States is a carefully balanced document. It is designed to provide for a national government sufficiently strong and flexible to meet the needs of the republic, yet sufficiently limited and just to protect the guaranteed rights of citizens; it permits a balance between society's need for order and the individual's right to freedom.

That this Constitution has provided continuous democratic government through the periodic stresses of more than two centuries illustrates the genius of the American system of government.

The complex role of the Supreme Court in this system derives from its authority to invalidate legislation or executive actions which, in the Court's considered judgment, conflict with the Constitution. This power of "judicial review" has given the Court a crucial responsibility in assuring individual rights, as well as in maintaining a "living Constitution" whose broad provisions are continually applied to complicated new situations.

While the function of judicial review is not explicitly provided in the Constitution, it had been anticipated before the adoption of that document. Prior to 1789, state courts had already overturned legislative acts which conflicted with state constitutions. Moreover, many of the Founding Fathers expected the Supreme Court to assume this role in regard to the Constitution; Alexander Hamilton and James Madison, for example, had underlined the importance of judicial review in the Federalist Papers, which urged adoption of the Constitution.

Hamilton had written that through the practice of judicial review the Court ensured that the will of the whole people, as expressed in their Constitution, would be supreme over the will of a legislature, whose statutes might express only the temporary will of part of the people. And Madison had written that constitutional interpretation must be left to the reasoned judgment of independent judges, rather than to the tumult and conflict of the political process. If every constitutional question were to be decided by public political bargaining, Madison argued, the Constitution would be reduced to a battleground of competing factions, political passion and partisan spirit.

The Constitution limits the Court to dealing with "Cases" and "Controversies." The Supreme Court's function is limited only to deciding specific cases. 5,000-7,000 civil and criminal cases are filed in the Supreme Court each year, but they only consider around 150 important enough to review.

The first bill introduced in the United States Senate became the Judiciary Act of 1789. The act divided the country into 13 judicial districts, which were, in turn, organized into three circuits: the Eastern, Middle, and Southern. The Supreme Court, the country's highest judicial tribunal, was to sit in the Nation's Capital, and was initially composed of a Chief Justice and five Associate Justices. For the first 101 years of the Supreme Court's life - but for a brief period in the early 1800s - the Justices were also required to "ride circuit," and hold circuit court twice a year in each judicial district.

This appointment of John Marshall of Virginia as the fourth Chief Justice had a significant and lasting effect on the Court and the nation. Chief Justice Marshall's vigorous and able leadership in the formative years of the Court was central to the development of its prominent role in American government. Marshall remained on the Court for 34 years and five months.

A few law cases go straight to the Supreme Court, mainly disagreements between two states. When the Court hears a case, lawyers for both sides get a chance to speak. Justices often ask them questions, but there are no witnesses, and there is no jury. After hearing the case, the justices meet in private to make a decision.

The Supreme Court has the power to overturn a U.S. law or a state law that does not follow the U.S. Constitution. The Court declares such laws to be unconstitutional. This power, called judicial review, is not mentioned in the Constitution. One noteworthy decision of the Supreme Court was that President Nixon had no right to invoke his executive privilege in a criminal case.





# AMERICANISM REPORT

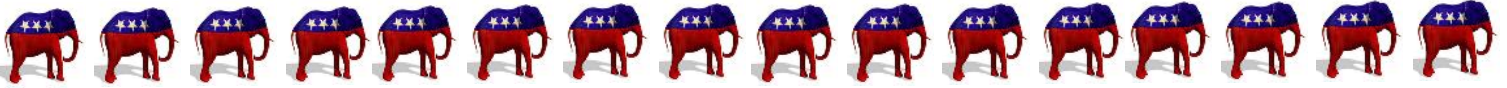
by Ellen Leyrer



*The Supreme Court is the last line of defense for the separation of powers and for the rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution.*

- Brett Kavanaugh

Sources: <https://www.lawyer-monthly.com/2022/08/3-of-the-most-influential-supreme-court-cases/>, <https://www.history.com/topics/us-government/supreme-court-facts>, <https://www.smokeball.com/blog/8-of-the-most-controversial-famous-supreme-court-cases>, <https://www.supremecourt.gov/about/institution.aspx>, <https://newsforkids.net/fastfacts/supreme-court/>, <https://www.supremecourt.gov/about/onstitutional.aspx>.



## 2023 Texas Constitutional Amendments on the November 7th Ballot

The Texas Constitutional Amendments on the November 7th ballot are listed below. The following link from the Texas Public Policy Foundation provides the amendments to be voted on as well as a discussion of those amendments - [2023-ConstitutionalAmendmentGuide.pdf \(texaspolicy.com\)](#). The analysis is much too long to print in the newsletter however I know you will find this information helpful in determining how you would like to cast your ballot in this very important election.

**Proposition 1 (HJR 12)** The constitutional amendment protecting the right to engage in farming, ranching, timber production, horticulture, and wildlife management.

**Proposition 2 (SJR 64)** The constitutional amendment authorizing a local option exemption from ad valorem taxation by a county or municipality of all or part of the appraised value of real property used to operate a child-care facility.

**Proposition 3 (HJR 132)** The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of an individual wealth or net worth tax, including a tax on the difference between the assets and liabilities of an individual or family.

**Proposition 4 (HJR 2)** The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to establish a temporary limit on the maximum appraised value of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem purposes; to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads from \$40,000 to \$100,000; to adjust the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect increase in certain exemption amounts; to except certain appropriations to pay for ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations; and to authorize the legislature to provide for a four-year term of office for a member of the board of directors of certain appraisal districts.

**Proposition 5 (HJR 3)** The constitutional amendment relating to the Texas University Fund, which provides funding to certain institutions of higher education to achieve national prominence as major research universities and drive the state economy.

**Proposition 6 (SJR 75)** The constitutional amendment creating the Texas water fund to assist in financing water projects in this state.

**Proposition 7 (SJR 93)** The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the Texas energy fund to support the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities.

**Proposition 8 (HJR 125)** The constitutional amendment creating the broadband infrastructure fund to expand high-speed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects.

**Proposition 9 (HJR 2)** The constitutional amendment to authorize the 88th Legislature to provide a cost-of living adjustment to certain annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.

**Proposition 10 (SJR 87)** The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation equipment or inventory held by a manufacturer of medical or biomedical products to protect the Texas healthcare network and strengthen our medical supply chain.

**Proposition 11 (SJR 32)** The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities.

**Proposition 12 (HJR 134)** The constitutional amendment providing for the abolition of the office of county treasurer in Galveston County.

**Proposition 13 (HJR 107)** The constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory age of retirement for state justices and judges.

**Proposition 14 (SJR 74)** The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the centennial parks conservation fund to be used for the creation and improvement of state parks.

# Holiday High Tea Invitation



## Holiday High Tea For Plano Republican Women



Tuesday, December 5th, 2022  
 Time: 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.  
 Chocolate Angel Café & Tearoom  
 @ High Street Antique Mall  
 800 N Central Expy, Plano, TX 75074



Make an advance reservation for our Annual Christmas and Hannukah Celebration at Chocolate Angel Café & Tearoom.

Shop, dine and enjoy the musical selections of pianist Carol Sage.

We will announce the Volunteer of the Year

New: Three High Tea Prizes will be given away

.....

Reservations are \$35, spouses and friends are welcome. *Payment must be made in advance by Nov 29th.* You can pay at the October or November meetings, online by credit card or by mailing your payment to : 5109 Coachman Court Plano, TX 75023



Scan to Pay



# DEATH TO AMERICAN ENERGY: Obama's Power Play

By Rush Limbaugh

For this month, I have chosen another great commentary by the late great Rush Limbaugh. This article is from the March 2012 issue and again as you read it, compare what Rush says then with what is happening now. Since Joe Biden can sometimes not even remember where he is, who is really running this country! Catherine Gibb, co-editor of [Elephant Talk](#).

"[I'd] put a cap-and-trade system in place that is as aggressive, if not more aggressive, than anybody's else's out there — every unit of carbon or greenhouse gasses emitted would be charges to the polluter ... So if somebody wants to build a coal-powered plant, they can. It's just that it will bankrupt them, because they're gonna be charged a huge bill for all that greenhouse gas that's being emitted. That will also generate billions of dollars that we can invest in solar, wind, biodiesel and other alternative energy approaches." — Barack Obama, then Presidential candidate, *San Francisco Chronicle* interview, 1/17/08

"Electricity rates would necessarily skyrocket ... coal powered plants, you know, natural gas, you name it, whatever the plants were, whatever the industry was, they would have to retrofit their operations. That will cost money. They will pass that money on to consumers." — Obama, *San Francisco Chronicle*, 1/17/08

We were warned — three years ago. And now, despite the catastrophe that is the Obama economy, his EPA is doubling down on the mission to kill coal-powered plants. He knows full well this will slash jobs, destabilize the grid, and jack up utility bills. In fact, those are actual *goals*. So it's full steam ahead — until the Regime gets rid of steam, too.

**Obama Edicts.** The President didn't miss a beat when cap-and-trade legislation failed. Who needs Congress, anyway? He's imposing his promised "Aggressive" anti-coal system via EPA regulations. It's all of a piece with rest of Obama's war on the American economy: central planning, cronyism, picking winners and losers. It's the Hugo Chavez philosophy of government.

CSARP. Last July, the EPA issued new regs mandating drastic emissions reductions for power plants in 27 states. The Cross-State Air Pollution Rule, originally due to take effect in January 2012, targets some 1,000 power plants. According to *the Wall Street Journal*, CSARP orders smokestack discharge of sulfur dioxide to be cut by 73 percent and nitrogen oxide by 534 percent from 2005 levels — by 2014. In late December, the D.C. Court of Appeals granted a temporary stay pending an April court review. But as we have seen before from this bunch, the Regime will no doubt enforce its emissions dictates regardless of any court ruling.

MATS. The Mercury and Air Toxics Standards are scheduled [to] go into effect January 2015. EPA head Lisa Jackson threw a gala ceremony in late December to celebrate, calling this newest rule — weighing in at 1,117 pages — a "great victory." MATS forces power plant to reduce mercury by 90 percent within three years at a supposed cost of \$9.6 billion annually, an amount *The Journal* calls a "gross, deliberate underestimate." A significant of coal-fired plants will actually exceed the standard — by closing. Permanently. They've purposely been given little time for compliance — and the Regime decrees that plants that don't fully comply by the cutoff will be shut down. In the face of a 36-months-away MATS deadline, Duke Energy argued to the EPA that it's "average lead time for retrofitting scrubbers was 52 months," reports *The Journal*, "including the design, purchase and installation of equipment, and the vagaries of the environmental permitting process. For Southern Co. ... it was 54 months, over 16 scrubber systems. Filter systems usually take anywhere from 34 to 48 months end to end." They're not going to make by January 2015. Could that be why Duke Energy, as *The Charlotte Observer* reports, decided to float the Dems a cool \$10 million loan guarantee for the Democratic National Convention, in its Charlotte backyard?

**Shutdowns.** The new regulations prompted AP to survey 55 power plant operators, revealing that more than 32 mostly coal-powered plants in 12 states — Texas, Massachusetts, Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia, Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, and New Mexico — will be shuttered. Another 36 — from additional states such as Missouri, California, and Pennsylvania may be forced to close due to the high cost of compliance.

According to AP, the EPA rules will shut down more than 8 percent of coal-fired power in the country, equal to the total power generation of Mississippi and Florida. The coal-fired plants targeted by the EPA currently produce [2012] enough electricity to power over 22 million households. These plants are, as *The Journal* puts it, "the U.S. power system work-horse." And Obama is firing up the glue factory.

The EPA acknowledges that, thanks to the new rules, 14.7 gigawatts — power for 11 million households — will be retired from the power grid by 2015, while we are many years away from building new natural gas or nuclear power plants to take over. End result: serious risks to the reliability of the electricity system, along with dramatically increased power costs.

**Grid Threatened.** The U.S. Chamber of Commerce warns the EPA rules "could threaten America's energy supply." In a letter to the White House, Rep. Darrell Issa (R, CA) noted that the EPA's mercury regulation alone could unintentionally jeopardize the reliability of our electric grid." Unintentionally? Hardly.

The North American Electric Reliability Corporation [NERC], tasked by the feds to enforce rules on the power grid, recently sounded the alarm, as noted in the December *Wall Street Journal* editorial: "Environmental regulations are shown to be the No. 1 risk to reliability over the next one to five years." NERC goes on to say that the EPA is triggering "an unprecedented resource-mix change" in trying to switch utilities from coal to natural gas, meaning that "the nation's power grid will be stressed in ways never before experienced."

*The Journal* adds: "Replacing power is not like replacing a lost cell phone. There are bottle-necks in permitting, engineering, financing, and building a new plant, and then tying it to the electricity network." One large utility, Southern Power, says the EPA timeline can't be met "at any cost," and that "reliability cannot be maintained without load shedding" — which means rationing power to industrial consumers. "When the brownouts and cost-spikes occur," concludes the editorial, "don't blame the utilities. Blame their regulator." Regulator, thy name is Barack Hussein Obama.

# DEATH TO AMERICAN ENERGY: Obama's Power Play

By Rush Limbaugh

Continued from Page 11

According to *The New York Times*, NERC indicates that Texas and New England are the key crisis points. NERC predicts that the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the grid that covers most of the Lone Star State, could run short by 2013, while New England could run short by 2014. One step closer to being a Third World country — just where Obama wants us.

**Skyrocketing Costs.** Kentucky Utilities alone is spending \$800 million to replace units that must be retired, as well as \$1.1 billion for additional compliance. The power company estimates that customers will receive a 14 per-cent increase, according to AP. America's largest utility, Southern Co., has said that the new rules could cost the company up to \$18 billion, according to Heritage. Southern predicts a rate hike for their customers of up to 10 to 20 percent over the next decade.

AP reports that because of the new rules, Ohio- based FirstEnergy announced that it would close six coal-fired power plants. With fewer power plants to meet power needs, "electricity prices in parts of Ohio dominated by FirstEnergy are expected to nearly double at a power auction scheduled for March 2012." One Deutsche Bank analyst predicts that the current rate per megawatt could go from the current \$126 to \$500, which would mean an enormous windfall for FirstEnergy. Thanks to supply and demand — a foreign concept to the left — the EPA rules will mean huge profits for a dwindling number of plants. Which will, of course, then be pilloried, persecuted, and punished by the Regime.

**Community Devastation.** *The Atlantic* examined the impact on Eastlake, OH, a city of 20,000 that is home to one of the six plants FirstEnergy Corp. must close. The shutdown will translate to a \$600,000 tax hit for the town — a loss that will have to be offset by public safety layoffs. An additional \$1.8 million for the school district paid by the public utilities will also vanish.

An AP story details the closing of AEP's Kammer Plant near Mounsville, WV. In addition to the loss of 60 jobs at the plant, there will be a trickle-down effect in the community, according to City Manager Allen Hendershot, of lost trucking jobs, coal min jobs, maintenance jobs. Hope and change.

Even Regime-friendly AP estimates that thousands of people will be out of work as a result of the harsh EPA regs. When the upcoming EPA regulations on colling water intake structures and coal ash are factored in, Heritage counts the job losses into the tens of thousands, at a cost of up to \$110 billion.

Outgoing White House Chief of Staff Bill Daley seemed to connect the dots. As Heritage reports, when one environmentalist waxed on about the health risks of air pollution, Daley asked drily, "What are the health impacts of unemployment?" No wonder he's gone.

**Wacko Stats.** A common claim of the left is that the EPA regs will reduce asthma. According to *The New York Times*, the EPA estimates that the annual benefits of the cleaner air from CSAPR could "prevent 34,000 premature deaths, 15,000 nonfatal heart attacks, and hundreds of thousands of cases of asthma and other respiratory ailments each year." But inconveniently, as the air gets cleaner, asthma in the United States has been *increasing*. Cases of the chronic respiratory disease have risen 12.3 percent since 2001, affecting almost 25 million Americans.

The far-left Environmental Defense Fund website declares that the new rules will "yield hundreds of billions of dollars in economic benefits," which "include the value of avoided premature mortality, negative health impacts, lost worker productivity due to illness, and environmental improvements such as increased visibility and agricultural productivity." They claim their "studies" show the rules could yield over \$612 billion between 2002 and 2020 in reduced Medicare, Medicaid, out-of-pocket, and private insurance spending. "What studies"? No one knows.

Nicole Lederer, co-founder of Environmental Entrepreneurs, claims in a *Wall Street Journal* letter-to-the-editor that reducing mercury and acid-gas emissions from coal plants "is expected to save up to 11,000 lives and avoid 540,000 lost work and school days due to health problems. This will prevent an estimated \$90 billion in health care costs annually — a benefit that all businesses will carry to their bottom lines." She provides no source for those figures.

Senator Barbara Boxer, quoted in *the Wall Street Journal*, claimed a million jobs will be *created* through the new regs. "We are dealing with the health of the people, with the health of the children, with the ability of people to work, because if you can't breathe, you can't work ... and we are dealing with jobs, many, many, many jobs." Again, no source.

The wackos have clearly pulled all of the numbers out of their orifices. Which is where they should stick these new EPA rules.

*Fast forward to 2016, President Donald J. Trump, by executive order, overturned many regulations and slowed down the progress of some of this insanity, but Sleepy Joe has doubled-down on all of this. The Feds are mandating electric cars and Joby Aviation delivered the first electric air taxi to Edwards Air Force Base in California. The new vertical air taxi can carry 1,000 pounds of cargo or four passengers, and it can be flown remotely or by a single pilot in its cockpit. It is capable of flying up to 100 miles on a single charge at speeds of roughly 200 miles per hour. While I have no problem with new technology, we don't have the infrastructure to support any of this. But, in my opinion, that's their plan. The words of Abraham Lincoln, 16<sup>th</sup> president of the United States (1861-1866) ring true today: "America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."*

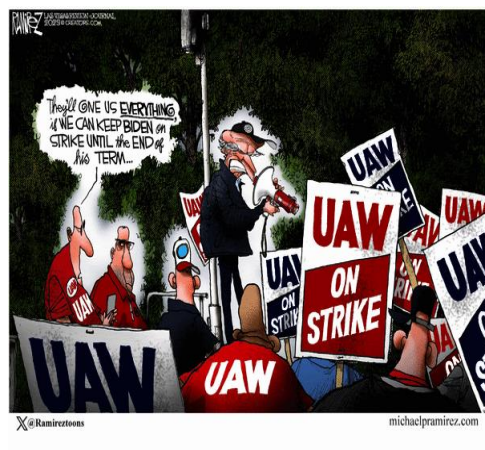
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# The Origins and Operations of the U. S. Administrative State

By Jeffrey A. Tucker, 6/14/22. Updated 6/22/22

## Commentary:

On July 2, 1881, only four months into the first term of President James A. Garfield, an angry attorney from Illinois named Charles J. Guiteau shot Garfield in the torso at a Baltimore train station.

Guiteau had a motive. He was furious because he believed, because of his work for the campaign, that Garfield would give him a job in the new administration. But none was forthcoming. It was revenge. Garfield died of the wounds months later.

It was a shocking thing. Congress immediately got to work figuring out how to prevent the next assassination. They had the theory that they needed to end the system of patronage in government, so that way people wouldn't get mad and shoot the president. Not a very good theory, but this is how politics works. The result was the Pendleton Act that created a permanent civil service. The new president, Chester Arthur signed the bill in 1883. It was done: The administrative state was born.

What Congress did not understand at the time was that they had fundamentally altered the American system of government. The Constitution nowhere provides for a permanent class of administrative overlords to whom Congress could outsource its authority. It nowhere said that there would exist a machine technically under the executive branch that the president could not control. The Pendleton Act created a new layer of statist imposition that was no longer subject to democratic control.

It wasn't so bad at first, but then came the Federal Reserve, the income tax, and the Great War. The bureaucracy expanded in scope and power. Each decade, things got worse. The Cold War entrenched the military-industrial complex, and the Great Society built a massive civilian-controlling welfare state. So on it went until today, when it's not even clear that elected politicians matter much at all.

As just one example, once Donald Trump figured out that he had been tricked by Anthony Fauci, Trump considered firing him. Then came the message: He cannot. The law doesn't allow that. Trump was surely amazed to hear this. He must have wondered: How is this possible? It is very much possible. That same status pertains to millions of federal employees, between 2 million and 9 million, depending on whom one wants to include as part of the administrative state.

## Is Change Even Possible?

The conventional wisdom is that November will bring dramatic change to the political landscape in Washington. Two years after that, the presidency will change from one party to the next. It's becoming very apparent that this administration and the party it represents are probably toast. It's just a matter of waiting for the next election.

Thank goodness for democracy, right? The right question to ask is whether it will change anything. You are not cynical if you doubt that much will change. The problem is baked into the structure of government today, which is not like what the Constitution's framers imagined it to be.

The idea of democracy is that the people are in charge through their elected representatives. The opposite would be, for example, a vast and permanent class of administrative bureaucrats who pay no attention at all to public opinion, elections, or elected leaders and their appointments.

Sad to say, but that is exactly the system we have in place today.

## Your Real Rulers

The past two years have given us a chilling lesson in who really runs the country. It's executive-level agencies that are utterly unresponsive to anything or anyone, except perhaps the private-sector forces of power that have revolving doors back and forth. The political appointees tapped to head agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or Health and Human Services or whatever are basically irrelevant marionettes about whom the career bureaucrats laugh, if they pay any attention to them at all.

Years ago, I lived in some condominiums near the Beltway, and all my neighbors were career workers for federal agencies. You name it: Transportation, Labor, Agriculture, Housing, whatever. They were lifers, and they knew it. Their salaries depended on paper credentials and longevity. There was no way they could ever be fired, short of something impossibly egregious.

Naively, I early on tried to talk about issues of politics. They would stare at me with blank faces. I thought at the time that they must have had strong opinions, but were somehow prevented from talking about it.

# The Origins and Operations of the U. S. Administrative State

By Jeffrey A. Tucker, 6/14/22. Updated 6/22/22

Continued from Page 14

Later, I came to realize something more chilling: They didn't care in the slightest bit. Talking to them about politics was like talking to me about hockey teams in Finland. It's not a subject that affects my life. That's how it is with these people: They are utterly and completely unaffected by any political shifts. They know it. They take pride in it.

## Pictures on the Wall

About the same time, for odd reasons, I found myself spending several weeks in the offices of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). I was doing research and had full access to all records, back when something like that was actually possible for a regular citizen. It was a time when the old politically appointed director of HUD was on his way out and a new one was on his way in.

I was quietly working when I heard a series of loud crashes of glass in the hallway. I stuck my head out and watched. A guy was walking along, flicking pictures of the old guy off the wall and letting them crash down to the ground. About an hour later, a guy came along with a broom and swept up the mess. An hour after that, a guy came along and hung new pictures of the new guy on the wall.

During the entire noisy ordeal, not one other employee of the agency showed the slightest curiosity about what was happening. They had seen this dozens of times and just didn't care. Looking back, it's pretty obvious that this scene sums it up. The permanent bureaucracy is completely unaffected by any of the cosmetic changes in politics.

Let's say that 2 million people occupy the permanent administrative state, excluding things such as military and postal employees. The political appointments granted to the new president are about 4,000, and they come and go. Politics is mortal; the bureaucracy is immortal.

To be sure, the Republicans could do something about this problem, but will they? Nearly every elected leader has something to hide. If they don't, the media can always make something up. This is how the administrative state keeps the political class in line, as we saw during the Trump years.

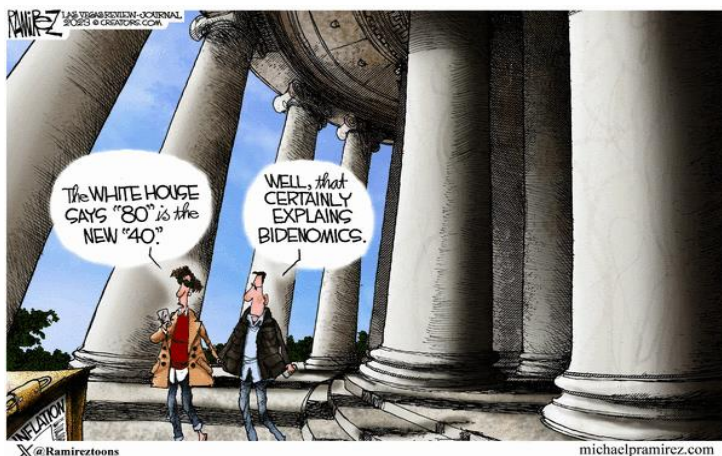
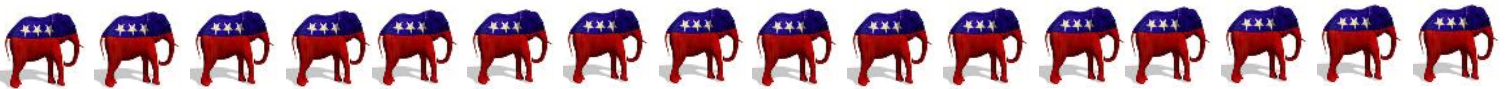
Let's not be naive about the prospects for change. It's going to require far more than merely electing a new class of supposed rulers via the democratic process. The real rulers are too smart to subject themselves to the business of elections. Those are designed to keep our minds busy with the belief that democracy still survives and that therefore it is the voters, not the government, that is responsible for outcomes.

Until the public figures this game out, genuine change will still be a very long time away. Meanwhile, the emerging economic crisis is going to unleash the administrative state as never before.

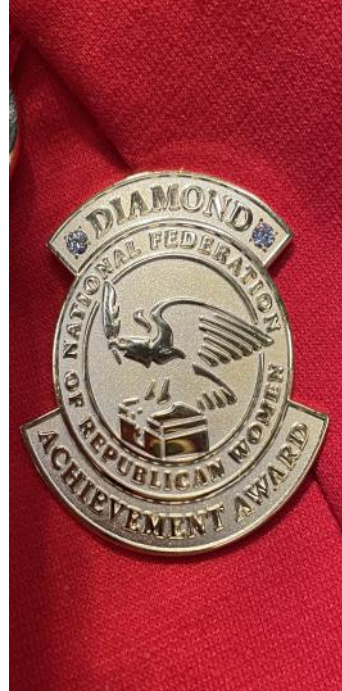
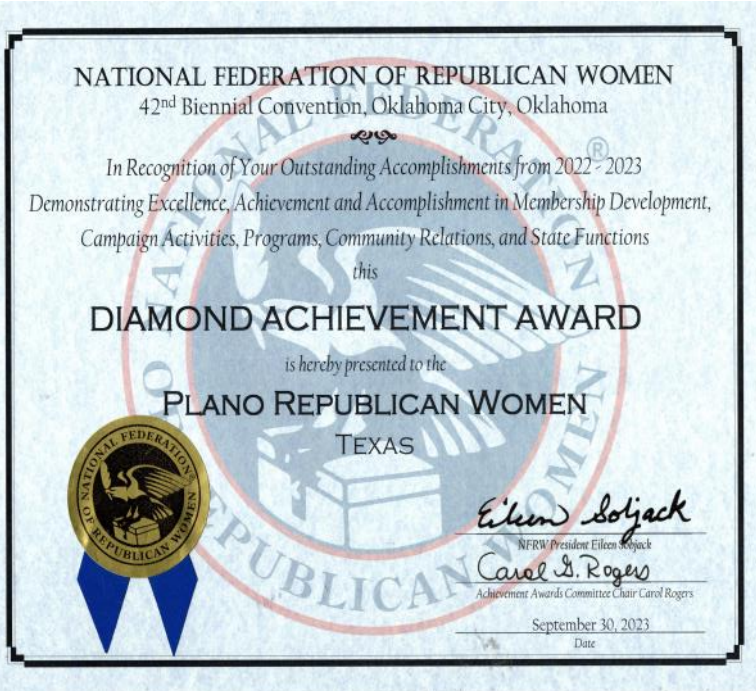
*From the Brownstone Institute*

*Views expressed in this article are opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.*

*Jeffrey A. Tucker is the founder and president of the Brownstone Institute, and the author of many thousands of articles in the scholarly and popular press, as well as 10 books in five languages, most recently "Liberty or Lockdown." He is also the editor of The Best of Mises. He writes a daily column on economics for The Epoch Times and speaks widely on the topics of economics, technology, social philosophy, and culture.*



# NFRW National Convention OKC 2023





## Guest GOP Elected Official Article



John Cornyn  
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM TEXAS

### U.S. Sen. John Cornyn throws support behind Biden impeachment inquiry

BY [MATTHEW CHOI](#), Texas Tribune

*Texas' senior senator said there's "more than enough smoke" to warrant a deeper look at the president's ties to his son, who was indicted Thursday.*

WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. [John Cornyn](#), R-Texas, said Thursday he supports House Republicans' impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden, though he expressed a less enthusiastic attitude earlier this summer.

"President Biden has committed the sorts of acts that warrant an impeachment inquiry, so I don't have any trouble with an impeachment inquiry," Cornyn said during a call with reporters. "I think there's been more than enough smoke to warrant a continued investigation into the president's activities, particularly with regard to his son's actions."

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-California, [launched an impeachment inquiry](#) into Biden on Tuesday amid growing pressure from his party's right flank. An inquiry does not necessarily mean that the House will eventually vote on whether to impeach the president, but is a major step in that process.

The inquiry focuses on Hunter Biden, the president's son who has been the subject of House Republican probes for months. House investigators uncovered Hunter Biden repeatedly using his relationship with his father to benefit his business dealings. None of the numerous investigations, including under former President Donald Trump's Justice Department, have yet proven that Joe Biden ever abused his office to benefit his son.

Separately from the congressional probes, [Hunter Biden was indicted Thursday](#) and is accused of making false statements and illegal gun possession. He'd previously planned to plead guilty to misdemeanor tax violations, but that plea deal fell apart.

Many Senate Republicans, meanwhile, had been tepid to an impeachment, questioning if there is sufficient evidence. If President Biden were impeached in the House, a trial on whether to convict him would take place in the Senate. Several Republicans in both chambers have also questioned if an impeachment effort would derail their most pressing priority — [staving off a government shutdown](#) when funding runs out at the end of the month.

Cornyn has previously questioned how effective an impeachment effort would be when Democrats control the Senate. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-New York, has made it clear he has no interest in entertaining impeachment.

"It really comes to how do you prioritize your time?" Cornyn [told The Hill](#) before McCarthy launched his impeachment inquiry. "Rather than doing something they know is unlikely to end the way they would like, maybe they want to emphasize other things."

Cornyn also suggested at the time that House Republicans can use their majority to continue investigating Biden without the need to launch a formal impeachment. Unlike the Texas Legislature, the majority party controls the chairmanships of all committees in the U.S. House, giving them subpoena power.

U.S. Sen. [Ted Cruz](#), R-Cruz, has long been a vocal supporter of an impeachment inquiry into Biden.

Democrats denounced the impeachment inquiry as a political attack and retaliation for the two Trump impeachments.

"This stuff with Hunter Biden is not comparable," Rep. [Joaquin Castro](#), D-San Antonio, said in a statement after McCarthy launched the inquiry. Castro was a manager of Trump's second impeachment in 2021.

McCarthy faces pressure from both his centrist and far-right members. While some ultraconservative Republicans have threatened to derail McCarthy if he fails to move forward with an impeachment, centrists and battle ground members feared an impeachment could alienate them from their voters.

An impeachment inquiry strikes a middle ground between the two camps by moving the ball on impeachment while allowing centrist members to say they are simply trying to learn more before making a decision on impeachment. An overwhelming majority of Texas Republicans in the House supported the impeachment inquiry.

An "impeachment inquiry is justified and necessary to provide the House with the additional investigative tools to uncover all the facts to make a final decision," U.S. Rep. [Jodey Arrington](#), R-Lubbock, said in a statement.

The House Oversight and Accountability Committee will lead the impeachment inquiry, working in tandem with the Judiciary and Ways and Means committees.

Cornyn has emphasized in the past that House Republicans don't often welcome Senators weighing in on their business and telling them what to do. But he added Thursday that he hopes House Republicans "do their homework and do their due diligence as they prepare the case and follow the facts wherever they may lead."

## Political Action Hours

By Political Action Chair Jennifer Groysman



I am happy to report that our parent organization, The Texas Federation of Republican Women, got the award for the most political action hours for a state federation of our size at the National Federation of Republican Women's Convention. We also got the award for the most political phone calls.

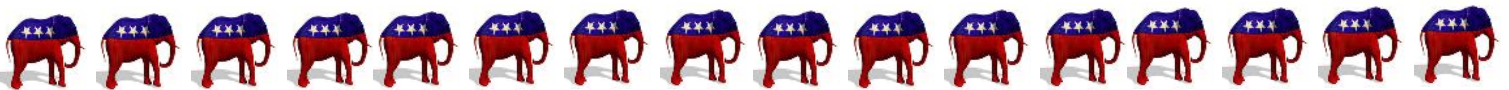
Our club received the NFRW Diamond Club Achievement Award from the National Federation of Republican Women. Excellent work, ladies! We hope to get more awards at the Texas Federation of Republican Women's Convention in October.

Remember to submit your political action hours to me. You can submit them through our website - [www.planorepublicanwomen.org](http://www.planorepublicanwomen.org)

You can go to our website and submit your hours at anytime.

The website is <https://planorepublicanwomen.org/political-action-hours-1>

**Keep the challenge going! 10 hours per month!**



## Caring for America Challenge

**Donate your used or newly purchased**

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Imagine the impression it must give to children when everything they own is put into a trash bag when they move from one location to another. Donate your used or newly purchased luggage to a foster child.

Your luggage donations will be accepted at the October and November General Membership Meetings **or at Cathie's home (2117 Leon Dr. Plano 75074)**

For questions, please contact Cathie Alexander.



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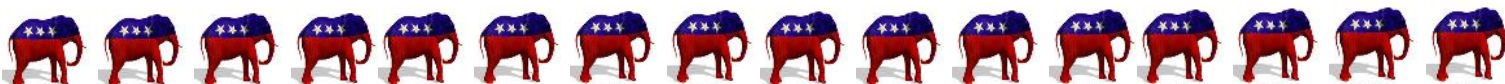
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## Membership Update



**Our 2024 Membership Drive Begins in October**  
*Encourage your friends to become PRW Members!*

Membership dues can now be paid by credit card. on our website,  
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- \$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


The Membership form is included in the newsletter, printed copies are available at the meetings  
and is available online here: [Become a Member](#)

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**PRW OFFICERS for 2023**

- Cleo Marchese, President**  
[President@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org](mailto:President@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org)
- Jessica Bartnick, 1st. VP Programs**
- Lisa Babb, 2nd. VP Membership**  
[RSVP@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org](mailto:RSVP@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org)
- Debby Arrant, 3rd VP Awards**
- Catherine Gibb, 4th VP, Ways and Means - 214-929-0857**
- Semida Voicu, Recording Secretary**
- Sheila Patterson, Corresponding Secretary**
- Lynn McCoy, Treasurer**

**October Birthdays**

- Member Birthdays:**
- Teresa Sperandeo 10/2**
  - Ann Vold 10/17**
  - Denise Voss 10/17**
  - Teri Ann Rogers 10/21**
  - Betsy Liberto 10/26**
- Associates & Sponsors Birthdays:**
- Randy Johnson 10/8**
  - Piper McCraw 10/8**
  - Kay Baird 10/9**
  - Candy Noble 10/10**
  - Joe Cordina 10/12**
  - Scott Grigg 10/14**
  - Derek Baker 10/19**
  - Abraham George 10/19**
  - Mark McCraw 10/21**



**PLANO REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEMBERSHIP FORM 2024**

Please mail this form with your check made payable to PRW  
CORPORATE CHECKS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

Plano Republican Women, P. O. Box 940461, Plano, Texas 75094

**Membership Categories:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$140 Patron Member (includes Full Active Single Membership)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$145 Patron Member with Spouse (includes Full Active Membership with Spouse)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$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)

**Additional (Optional):**

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Magnetic PRW Name Tag      \_\_\_\_\_ \$4 Mail Delivery of the annual PRW Membership

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note - when paying by credit card, a credit card processing fee is included in your purchase.*

**PRW Membership Directory**

Please provide the information to be included in the PRW Membership Directory

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Zip code + 4

Phone numbers: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Office) \_\_\_\_\_ ( Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email\* \_\_\_\_\_ Precinct# \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (month & day) \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member Spouse Email\* \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (month & day) \_\_\_\_\_

\* Email is used for newsletters and other PRW announcements

The information requested below is required by the Texas Ethics Commission\*

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Full Membership



Scan to Pay

Associate/Affiliate



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Additional Purchase



Scan to Pay



Plano Republican Women  
P.O. Box 940461  
Plano, TX 75094



## Plano Republican Women

meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month  
(except June, July & December)

Saltgrass Steakhouse Plano East

3320 North Central Expressway

Plano, TX 75074

11:15 am check-in

11:30 am meeting, lunch and program

Lunch is \$25 payable to PRW (Cash or Check) at the door.

You do not have to have lunch to attend,

But please RSVP to

[rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org](mailto:rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org)



*I would like to submit this in honor of our country on this Fourth of July.*

### I Will Fly the Flag

I will fly the flag  
Because it is a symbol that all  
are created equal.  
That all may express their opin-  
ions without fear,  
That each one may pursue their  
chosen occupation.

I will fly the flag  
Because of all who fought for  
this flag that I may worship as I  
please—  
Or choose not to worship if I  
please.

I will fly the flag  
Because I love this beautiful  
country—all of it!  
Hot, dry dessert, high mountain  
ranges,  
Verdant valleys, meadows of  
wildflowers,  
Rich fertile plains that feed our  
nation,  
The cooling rivers and lakes.

I will fly the flag  
For all those who have come  
from all over the world to call  
this country home.  
The rich mix of this melting pot  
blending into a beautiful nation.  
The various ethnicities of our  
people, each one bringing spe-  
cial gifts.

I will fly the flag  
For all who offer their lives to  
make the world a better place.  
Our leaders, our military, our  
priests and pastors, our healers,  
Our teachers, the men and  
women who serve as firemen  
and policemen to keep us safe.

I will fly the flag  
For families who love each other  
and find a safe place to raise  
their children, and a comfort-  
able place to grow old.

I will fly the flag  
Because it reminds me that I  
have a responsibility to serve  
others and to make this country  
a better place to live and work,  
And in so doing, make this  
world a better place.

I will fly the flag  
In honor of this country.  
Not because we are perfect,  
But because we are still striving  
to be better.  
Not because we are better than  
other countries,  
But because this country has so  
much to share.

I will fly the flag  
And give thanks to God and ask  
His blessing on all it stands for.  
This beautiful part of the world,  
The wonderful people who live  
here,  
The freedom to work and speak  
as we please,  
The opportunities open to all.

I will fly the flag!

SUSAN JONES  
INDIANA

