



## **Contract with Texas**

### *To Reform the House of Representatives and Select a Real Republican Speaker*

Texas voters have repeatedly elected Republicans to serve as Governor, Lieutenant Governor, in every state-wide office, and given Republicans huge majorities in both the Texas House and the Texas Senate.

However, for far too long, Republican Speakers of the Texas House have centralized power to themselves, which renders individual Texans without effective representation, and colluded with Democrats to advance progressive policies and stop Republican priorities.

The House's most recent session was marked by obstruction, dysfunction, and a lack of fundamental fairness in application of the House's Rules, and this cannot continue. The message of last month's primaries was self-evident and sent a clear message that business as usual is not acceptable.

The future of our state is on the line, and, with an out of control federal government that seeks to undermine our borders, the Constitution, and our freedoms, Texas must lead by example. As conservative Republican members and prospective members of the Texas House, we are committed to reforming it from a body of liberal dysfunction to a body that more faithfully serves Texas voters, and it is time for new leadership in the Texas House.

**To keep the promises we've made to Texas voters we, the undersigned, expect the next Speaker of the House to advance the cause of liberty and adhere, at a minimum, to the following reforms to improve the integrity, transparency, and efficiency of the House:**

1. Only solicit support for Speakership from Republican members
2. End the practice of awarding Democrats with committee chairmanships
3. Ensure all GOP legislative priorities receive a floor vote before any Democrat bills
4. Replace the current liberal Parliamentarians with staff committed to only offering advice on adherence to House rules, not to advancing their personal ideology
5. Limit the Speaker to two terms to reduce their power over individual members
6. Ensure there are no longer any Democrat-majority committees
7. Stop parliamentary abuse by requiring only substantial adherence to House rules to keep hyper-technical points of order from killing good legislation
8. Allow audio/video recording of all House proceedings, including point of order debates
9. Start substantive work as soon as Session begins to end delays that kill priority legislation
10. Reform the Calendars Committee to increase transparency and accountability
11. Select a Republican as Speaker Pro Tempore
12. Decentralize power by prohibiting the distribution of political funds from the Speaker