


# *Texans First Platform*

## *Mission*

Texans First puts Texan citizens first and holds every elected official, from the Capitol to the smallest city council, accountable to the people they serve.

Decades of failed policy and weak leadership have made Texas harder to afford and harder to recognize. Foreign interests, lobbyists and out-of-state money now reach every level of government. Young families are locked out of homeownership and stable careers. The next generation of Texans is done waiting and is taking action: recruiting, supporting and scoring true conservative candidates statewide through the Texans First Candidate Pledge.

## *Platform*

The platform has nine planks. Each states the problem, the commitment, and what officials can do at the state, county and city level.

### 1. No Foreign Influence

**Problem:** Foreign money and foreign-funded “economic development” reach Texas government at every level, often through trips and deals the public never sees.

**Commitment:** Refuse and oppose foreign influence and foreign donations. No taxpayer-funded or foreign-funded “economic development” trips abroad, especially by local officials. Trade travel stays minimal and is disclosed in full.

- State: ban foreign-funded travel and gifts for officials; require public reporting of every foreign trip.
- County and city: no foreign sister-city or investment junkets on public money; publish all foreign-origin gifts and contracts.

## 2. Protect Texas Land

**Problem:** Overdevelopment is paving over farms, ranches and open space, including inside suburbs and cities where residents have little say.

**Commitment:** Conserve Texas agricultural and natural land and halt overdevelopment, in rural, suburban and urban communities alike.

- State: protect agricultural land from forced sale to private developers; strengthen conservation of working land and water.
- County and city: require public hearings and an impact review before rezoning farm or natural land; protect parks and greenbelts in the master plan.

## 3. Texas Energy Independence

**Problem:** Federal mandates and unpredictable power supply threaten affordable, reliable energy in the state that powers the country.

**Commitment:** Support Texas energy independence: reliable, affordable, Texas-controlled power, with oil, gas and dispatchable generation protected from federal interference.

- State: keep the Texas grid independent of federal control; make large new power users (such as data centers) pay for the capacity they require.
- County and city: oppose local fuel bans and mandates; speed up permits for energy infrastructure.

## 4. Financial Transparency at Every Level

**Problem:** Residents cannot see where tax dollars go, who lobbies their officials, or who funds their campaigns.

**Commitment:** Complete financial transparency, from the Capitol to the smallest local board.

- All officials: publish campaign finance, personal financial statements, lobbyist meetings and public contracts online in searchable form.
- State: a public, line-item checkbook for every agency.
- County and city: itemized budgets posted online before every vote.

## 5. Homeownership for Texans

**Problem:** Young Texans are locked out of the market while property taxes keep rising and institutional buyers take homes off the market.

**Commitment:** Make homeownership affordable again.

- **Eliminate property taxes** on Texas homesteads, replaced by the revenue plan below and spending restraint.
- **Down payment assistance:** a one-time, zero-interest $10,000 loan for young married Texas couples. To qualify, at least one spouse must be a Texas high school graduate, at least one must work full-time, and neither may have relied on government welfare in the past year.
- **Ban private equity** and other institutional investors from owning residential property.
- State: pass these through the Legislature. County and city: cut rates to the lowest possible level and publicly back full elimination.

## 6. Champion Small Business

**Problem:** Startup fees, licenses and red tape protect big incumbents and discourage new owners, especially at the local level.

**Commitment:** Advocate for small business owners at every level.

- Eliminate startup fees and cut regulation that does not protect the public.
- City and community college partnerships: entrepreneurship and skilled-trade programs with local high schools and community colleges.
- State: review every startup fee and license requirement. City: fast-track permits and waive first-year fees for new local businesses.

## 7. Push Back on Federal Overreach

**Problem:** Washington keeps taking power the Constitution reserves to the states and the people.

**Commitment:** Defend the Tenth Amendment. Refuse unconstitutional federal mandates and fight to return authority to Texas.

- State: resist and, where needed, litigate federal mandates.
- County and city: review federal grants for strings that override local control before accepting them.

### 8. Texas Workers First

**Problem:** Some companies use work visas to replace Texans with cheaper foreign labor.

**Commitment:** Protect Texas workers with a dynamic annual fine on companies that use work visas this way, set to erase any savings they gain from hiring a foreign national over a Texan.

- State: write and enact the fine; require employers who receive state incentives to report their hiring.
- County and city: no tax breaks or incentives for companies that displace Texas workers.

### 9. Homes for Residents

**Problem:** Temporary visa holders can buy residential property in Texas to live in before they hold permanent status.

**Commitment:** Until a person obtains lawful permanent resident status, a person present in the United States under a temporary or nonimmigrant classification may not acquire residential real property in Texas for use as a residence.

- State: pass this standard as law. County and city: publicly back it and oppose local measures that work against it.

## *How We Pay for It*

Three new revenue sources and audits of public spending and foreign bond purchases are meant to fund homestead property tax elimination, toll relief and the down payment program without taking a dollar from Texas residents.

- **Tourism and Event Fund:** a $50 surcharge on hotel stays, car rentals, theme park tickets, airports and cruise ports. Paid by visitors; Texans who spend 51% or more of the year in Texas are exempt. Funds property tax relief and toll relief.
- **Corporate and AI Relocation Tax:** a one-time tax on companies and AI data firms moving to Texas, plus a vow to employ Texans at every level. Paid by relocating corporations and AI data companies. Funds property tax relief and the down payment fund. Why the relocation tax: companies that flee other states over the policies that forced them out should not take advantage of the Texas economy without giving Texans jobs in return.

- **The Newsom Tax:** a $50,000 property transaction tax on out-of-state buyers of vacation homes in Texas. Paid by out-of-state vacation buyers. Funds property tax relief.
- **Complete Transparency:** a line-item audit of state and local spending. Savings come from waste and duplication and fill the gap between new revenue and tax elimination.
- **Foreign Bond Audit:** a complete audit of foreign bond purchases by Texas public funds, with major reductions. No one pays; it reallocates public investment and keeps public investment money in Texas and the U.S.

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Texas was built by people who put their families, their land and their word first. Texans First is the next generation picking that work back up. We are not asking for permission, and we are not waiting for Austin or city hall to remember who they work for. Every candidate who signs the pledge is saying on the record that Texans come first, and every one who refuses is saying something too. We will publish both lists, score every vote and keep showing up until the people elected to serve Texans act like it. This is a Texas movement, and it starts with you. Join us.