



# TEXAS WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS

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## Newsletter

### DELEGATE SELECTION PROCESS

**January 2--**Not later than this date, the state party chairperson must certify with the Secretary of State the following information: 1) Texas will elect 130 delegates and 70 alternates; 2) In the Democratic primary, 98 delegates will be elected by Senatorial District (every Senatorial District will elect 3 delegates, except for districts 7,11,14,20 and 26, which will elect 4), and the remaining delegates and all alternates will be elected at the June State Convention; 3) In the Republican primary, three delegates will be elected from each Congressional District, and the remaining delegates and all the alternates will be elected at large by the State Convention in June.

**Feb. 2--**Not later than 6 p.m. is the filing deadline for the May 1st primary. Presidential candidates must file signed, acknowledged applications accompanied by petitions for pledged delegates from every senate district where the candidate chooses to run a slate of delegates. Any 10 voters in a senate district can file their acknowledged application to run an uncommitted slate in a senate district. An individual voter can run as an uncommitted delegate without being on any slate. All candidates and uncommitted slates must file with the Secretary of State. Everyone filing in a particular senate district requires the same number of signatures. This is no less than 1% of the total votes cast in the senate district for all candidates for Governor in the 1974 primary.

**Feb. 9--**Presidential candidates and uncommitted must file with the Secretary of State on this day the names and addresses of the appointed delegate selection committee members in every senate district where they are filing delegate candidates. Each committee must have at least 10 members and designate, in a filed instrument, one member to serve as Chairperson of each committee. Each member of a delegate selection committee must be a registered voter in the senate district they represent.

**Feb. 14--**All delegate selection committees shall meet. The Chairperson of the senate district committees shall set the place in the senate district for the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to choose the slate of delegate nominees. It is a Class C misdemeanor for any individual to participate in more than one delegate selection meeting.

**Not later than March 1--**Each Chairperson of a senate district delegate selection committee must file with the Secretary of State a list of names and addresses of persons chosen as delegate nominees in their district. A certification by the Chairperson must be attached to the list stating that each person listed has consented to be a nominee for that Presidential or uncommitted slate.

**Not later than March 3--**The Secretary of State shall mail or deliver to the party chairperson the names and addresses of delegate nominees and what senate district they are to run in. They will be listed as delegate nominees for the presidential candidate or as uncommitted. The state party chairperson then sends this information to the party county chairperson in each county.

**March 15--**Each county executive committee will hold drawings for position on the primary ballot. National delegates will be at the top of the ballot. Presidential and uncommitted slates will be grouped together with names in the same order as they were filed by their delegate selection committee. These slates will draw for positions in each county in your senate district.

**March 31--**If a nominee for delegate withdraws or dies, then the chairperson of the delegate selection committee of the Presidential candidate or uncommitted group shall name the replacement by filing new nominees' names and addresses with the Secretary of State. Also, not later than this day, the presidential candidate can, by written notice, refuse to be represented by a nominee. They are then dropped and replaced by the delegate selection committee chairperson.

**April 1--**A nominee for delegate cannot withdraw after this date. If a nominee dies, his or her name will remain on the ballot. The votes are counted and, if they win, the delegate selection committee chairperson names a replacement. Deadline to register to vote in the primary.

**April 10--**Until this date, 21 days before election, a presidential candidate can withdraw. If the candidate withdraws, all of the candidate's nominees are not printed on the ballot. If a presidential candidate dies or withdraws before April 11, the nominees for delegate will not appear on the ballot. If a candidate dies after April 11, these delegate nominees will remain on the ballot and will be uncommitted or become pledged to another candidate.

**May 1--**Primary Election. Remember, you cannot vote for a slate by pulling one lever. You must vote for each individual delegate. Those delegate nominees in the number allotted to the District who get the most votes are the winners. It can be a majority or a mere plurality.

**Democrats:** You must vote in the Democratic primary to participate in the precinct convention. The precinct conventions in the urban areas will begin at 7:15 p.m. Rural areas can set their convention anytime between 2 and 9 p.m. Each person will sign in at the precinct convention on the temporary roll with their presidential or uncommitted preference. All presidential or uncommitted groups that have at least 15% sign up must be allowed to choose the number of delegates to the Senatorial/County Convention that they are entitled to in a caucus of that group. Each precinct gets one delegate for every 25 votes that the candidate for governor received in the general election. Your county executive committee will prepare these figures and will circulate it as soon as possible.

**Republicans:** You must vote in the Republican primary to participate in the precinct convention. The precinct conventions are held between 2 and 9 p.m. at a time and place set by the county chairman.

**May 8--**Senatorial or County Conventions. This is made up of all delegates and alternates elected at the precinct conventions. The time and place will be decided by the Senatorial or County committees. Each convention elects 1 delegate for each 300 to 600 votes cast in the county for the party's gubernatorial candidate in the previous general election, provided each is entitled to at least 1 delegate. The exact number to be elected will be set by the party executive committees.

**Democrats:** A written poll of delegates, either by ballot or sign-in sheet, shall be conducted for the purpose of determining their presidential preference or uncommitted status on official forms prescribed by the state. The results of the poll shall be used by the nominating committee and the convention as a whole as a basis for nominating and electing at large delegates. Any presidential or uncommitted caucuses that secure less than 15% of the straw poll will not be awarded any at large.

**Republicans:** A Nominations committee, composed of 5 to 15 members if the convention has more than 25 delegates and appointed by the convention chairman recommends a list of delegates and alternates. The convention then elects delegates and alternates and designates the order in which alternates replace absent delegates.

**June 6-12--**5 days before the state convention, each presidential candidate and uncommitted group shall file with the party chairperson the names of committees to function at the state convention for the purpose of screening and rejecting proposed delegates and alternates to be chosen by the convention. Each committee must have at least 10 members and a chairperson shall be designated when filing the committee.

**Democrats:** The entire Texas delegation will meet sometime after the convention to choose a chairperson for the delegates, and 6 members on rules, credentials and platform committees. Those 6 will be decided among candidates or uncommitted groups who have at least 15% of the 130 delegates.

**June 18-19--**State Convention

**Democrats:** site to be selected

**Republicans:** meet on June 19, in Ft. Worth

**July 12--**Democratic National Convention in New York City.

**August 16-19--**Republican National Convention in Kansas City.

**September 7-21--**Second Democratic State Convention, date to be set by the SDEC. State policies and platform will be adopted and state party officials elected.

**September 11--**Second Republican State Convention in Austin.

**November 2--**General Election

LAREDO ORGANIZES

An organizing workshop was held in Laredo on Saturday, December 13th. The Chicana Caucus of the TWPC and Sara Cabello from Laredo were responsible for putting the meeting together. State officers Martha Smiley, Pat Cain and Pattie Magee went and gave presentations on Political Action, Fundraising and Membership. The Laredo women had already elected officers in preparation for the workshop. Thanks to the efforts of the Chicana Caucus and Sara Cabello, the day was a great success.

NEW CAUCUSES

Erath County Women's Political Caucus and Tarrant County Women's Political Caucus were officially welcomed into the Texas Women's Political Caucus at the December Policy Council meeting. The TWPC now has 18 local chapters throughout the state.

MEMBERSHIP

Pattie Magee, Vice-Chair for Membership of the TWPC, wants to remind all local membership chairs that the new state brochures are ready. Any local membership chair who did not pick them up at the Dec. 8th membership chairs meeting, can get them by contacting the state office.

The time to pay your dues is NOW! Pay your local membership NOW! Don't be shy, if she doesn't contact you, you contact her. If there is not a local caucus in your area, send your money directly to the state office, 603 W. 13th, Suite 203, Austin, Tx. 78701. 1976 dues are \$10 for TWPC and NWPC and your local has its own assessment.

WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE FUNDRAISER

We can account for 300 tickets sold. There were 385 people at the fundraiser. If anyone has not yet turned in ticket money, please send it to the state office.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR JEWELRY FOR SALE

The following items are for sale, please contact your local fundraiser to place orders for immediate shipment, or telephone the state office at 512-474-1798: IWY watch (Swiss with white band) -- \$30; IWY gold pin -- \$4; IWY gold pierced earrings-- \$6; IWY gold bracelet -- \$6; and IWY whistle on 24 inch gold chain --\$10.

ENFORCEMENT OF TITLE IX

Helen Martin, head of the TWPC Education Caucus, is asking that members and friends please write to Senators Tower and Bentsen and the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare about the bill Senator Jesse Helms has proposed. The Bill S.B. 2146, is now in Committee, and if passed, would "effectively gut Title IX by restricting Title IX coverage to educational programs that receive direct federal support and are 'integral' to the required curriculum." Thus, it would exempt athletics, employment practices, pregnancy rules, etc.

A resolution was passed at the December Policy Council meeting to send a delegation from the Caucus (and other interested groups) to talk to the Commissioner of Education of Texas. The purpose is to help move the TEA along in its implementation of Title IX. For more information, contact Helen Martin, 1205 Frey, Stephenville, Tx. 76401, 817-965-5293.

EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

Olga DeLeon encourages women throughout the state to request the services of The Center for Public School Ethnic Studies (CPSES). CPSES was established in 1968 under a grant from HEW and through various activities the center seeks to build insights and skills necessary to cope with administrative, instructional, personnel, and community problems related to school desegregation. The center plans, hosts, sponsors, and implements weekend workshops in different regions of Texas plus in-service programs within school districts upon request by the district's superintendent.

A workshop is planned for April 2-4 in Dallas, and CPSES is now looking for consultants to utilize in the workshops. Special expertise is sought in the area of Title IX, vocational training, counseling, community involvement, minority involvement, and textbooks. The consultants will be chosen by the end of January, so if you are interested in leading a workshop, please contact Olga DeLeon, CPSES, 201 Extension Bldg., The University of Texas, Austin, Tx. 78712, 512-471-3625. She will also be happy to give you more information about the center.

LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN JANUARY

The House Committee on State Affairs, Subcommittee on Status of Women is holding hearings in Lubbock on January 9-10, and in Austin on January 23-24. The time and place have not yet been established. The members of this subcommittee are: Chris Miller, Bob Vale, Felix McDonald, Mike Ezzell and Susan McBee. It is important that the TWPC get people to testify to this subcommittee, and push the idea of establishing a Texas Commission on the Status of Women. The state office will relay the information on this matter to the the local legislative chairs in the West Texas area as soon as it becomes available. Contact the state office if you have any questions.

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CAUCUS ORGANIZED

At the Liberal Democrat's meeting in San Antonio on Dec. 13th, approximately 60 women organized a Democratic Women's Caucus. This group was formed to work to ensure that women are equally represented at all levels of the Democratic Party-- particularly on the delegate selection committees, the delegate slates, and at the county, state and national conventions as delegates and alternates. Other resolutions were unanimously approved: 1) the U.S. National Women's Agenda should become a part of the Democratic Party Plank; 2) and that the Democratic Party should actively support the ERA effort. If you wish to become a member of this caucus, please contact the state office.

Texas Women's Political Caucus  
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