

# TEXAS EAGLE FORUM

February 2022

Dear Eagles,

We are certainly excited about the possibility of getting some fresh, energetic candidates on the ballot for our November election! I have met candidates who have proven they understand true conservative and biblical values, and the importance of working with other like-minded officials to effectively push legislation to support our highest priorities. If they've won their primary, we are excited to help them get across the finish line in November.

Speaking of the November election, one of the most crucial issues of the day is knowing our vote counts. After our right to life, there is nothing more sacred than our constitutional right to vote as American citizens. We want our vote to count. In the past, when the results didn't go our way, we graciously accepted the outcome and worked to help conservatives win in the next election. However, all that changed in the 2020 Presidential election, when it became evident to anyone who paid attention that votes were being manipulated in order to change the outcome of the election.

This month's *Torch* features the ongoing battle regarding election integrity. Our Election Integrity Chair Beth Biesel has meticulously researched election fraud and outlines her findings in her article, "Last Chance To Stay Free: Secure Our Elections Now!" Not only does she point out the ample evidence of election fraud in 2020, but gives ways to keep our vote legal and secure. This is information every American needs to read and share before the November election—our freedom literally depends on it!

Beth is working with America First candidates to put on an informative Election Integrity Seminar in Dallas on April 30. Speakers will include cyber- and election-security experts from across the country. Beth and I ventured into the frigid air of western Wisconsin last month to attend a similar program and realized we must offer the information to our Texas Eagles, elected officials, and others interested in real ballot security. Details TBA.

For many years, Texas Eagle Forum has produced a well-respected Legislative Conservative Scorecard, rating state legislators on how they voted on issues affecting Texas families. The 87th Legislative Session ended in May 2021 followed by three special sessions, with the grassroots imploring Governor Greg Abbott to call another special session to address federal government mandates, gender modification for minors, and election integrity. All that to say, I owe you all an explanation of why we are not producing a TEF Scorecard for the 87th Legislative Sessions.

During the last regular session and three special sessions, I have observed some of those in Republican leadership who actively prevent good bills from coming to the floor for a vote because they do not want their voters to know their position on the bill. Leadership "punishes" those who don't play the go-along and get-along game. When we try to "grade" legislators on their actual votes, we end up ranking some very bad actors higher than they deserve. How do we account for bad amendments they tack onto a bill? How do we take away credit when Eagles and other activists travel to Austin to testify, only to find the committee is discussing a substitute bill, and we have not been informed in advance?

(over, please)

It is hard to know the sordid details of how these “sudden” changes happen, but we can usually imagine that the bill author has caved to pressure from above. Republicans who voted for our House Speaker and then his Democrat Committee Chairs are the worst part of the problem, and a prime example of the go-along-to-get-along mentality in Austin.

There are a few stalwart legislators who are willing to stand firm, and we need to elect more like them. Please encourage our weaker members to understand they work for us, not the Speaker, not a committee chair, not a business, not the federal government, certainly NOT lobbyists, and not even their fellow members. They are to steward the ideals of our founders and the Texas Constitution. If they call themselves a Christian, we pray they will uphold their biblical values.

We know many of you depend on the Scorecard to rate your legislators and vote accordingly. While we are seeking a better method of evaluating and sharing the actual performance of the elected, we are happy to discuss your particular Senator or Representative’s actions in the last sessions. Please email your name and Texas House and Senate districts to [TEF@TexasEagleForum.com](mailto:TEF@TexasEagleForum.com) to schedule a quick discussion. If your candidate is not an incumbent, please do your homework before you vote. We will continue to vet primary candidates and are updating TEF PAC endorsements on our website.

In the end, God is the one who raises up men and women to run for office. He knows their hearts and the outcome. Let’s continue to pray God will heal our land and direct our steps to be obedient to His call. Thank you for your support, prayers, and financial gifts as together we strive to make a difference for Texas families.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cindi Castilla".

Cindi Castilla  
President of Texas Eagle Forum