

# **2008 TEXAS PRIMARY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES**

## **COMMENTS**

1. Replace the current tax code with a flat tax or a national sales tax.
2. Ban abortion except where it is necessary to prevent the death of the mother.
3. Bring U.S. troops safely home from Iraq immediately.
4. Pass a law protecting workers from sexual orientation discrimination. (Employment Non-Discrimination Act)
5. Healthcare plan by the government to cover every American in order to lower their cost.
6. School choice vouchers in inner-cities which allow parents of children in failing schools to choose a public or private school for their children.
7. Hate Crimes law that punishes criminals more severely if their assault is motivated against certain classes of victims (i.e. race, sexual orientation).
8. Allow use of embryonic stem cells for therapeutic purposes.
9. A waiting period for gun purchases.
10. Increase governmental financial assistance for childcare.
11. A Federal Marriage Amendment to the constitution, which limits marriage nationwide to a man and a woman.
12. A wall/security fence should be built on the border to enhance border security and stop illegal immigration.
13. The White House Faith-based Initiative, funded by federal monies, should be continued.
14. If border security is accomplished, a pathway to citizenship should be offered to illegal immigrants already in this country.

### **Mike Huckabee (R)**

7. **O-** Oppose for sexual orientation, but not for race

### **Ron Paul (R)**

1. **F-** While I believe a flat tax or a national sales tax would both be better than the system we have now, I would favor this only if the 16<sup>th</sup> amendment is repealed and the income tax is permanently done away with. Otherwise, we could end up with both an income tax and a national sales tax..
2. **F-** I would support legislation like this on a state level, but I do not believe that the federal government has the constitutional authority to pass legislation like this on abortion. I have introduced legislation to take jurisdiction away from the courts so that states can pass laws protecting the unborn without fear of a federal court overturning them.
5. **SO-** I have introduced legislation to make all medical expenses tax deductible.
6. **U-** I support abolishing the Dept. of Education and returning the control of education to parents and states. However, I would support federal vouchers as a step toward that as long as it didn't force states to accept them and was offset by reducing spending elsewhere.
8. **U-** I oppose federal legislation that would use taxpayers dollars to fund stem cell research, but I believe that states are better situated to regulate stem cell research than the federal government.
10. **SO-** The federal government lacks both the constitutional authority and the competence to effectively provide services to children. Instead of expanding the failed welfare state, I would seek to reduce federal spending and taxes so that individuals, private organizations, local communities, and churches could provide effective care to children needing a helping hand. I have no doubt that the American people can and will meet the needs of all American children if the federal government gets out of their way.

11. **O**- If I had been in Congress at the time, I would have supported the Defense of Marriage Act, and I believe that law is sufficient. Legislation either permitting or banning gay marriage should be left to the state level, and the federal government should not intervene if a state wishes to ban gay marriage.

12. **F**- While I do not believe a fence is the best solution, it is now the law, and I believe that the president should not disregard the orders of congress.

13. **O**- I believe that faith-based groups should follow their spiritual mission of ministering to the needs of others, and should not have to fulfill the agenda of federal bureaucrats. Most of these federal funds come with strings that prevent churches from freely ministering. I believe that people are willing to fund outreach efforts through their houses of worship, and I want to give them back more of their own money so they can do so.

### **Alan Keyes (R)**

1. **SF**- Replace the current tax code with a ~~flat tax~~ or a national sales tax.

2. **SF**- Ban abortion except ~~where the it is necessary to prevent the death of the mother.~~

11. **SF**- A Federal Marriage Amendment to the constitution, which (protects marriage by) ~~limits~~ (limiting) ~~marriage~~ (it) nationwide to a man and a woman.

14. **O**- (A pathway already exists for this.)