

## Guide to 2011 Texas Constitutional Amendments

*Propositions passed by the Texas Legislature and on the Nov. 8 ballot.*

### **Proposition 1**

This proposition would allow 100% property tax exemptions for 100% disabled veterans to be passed on to their surviving spouses. So, for a homesteaded property already being granted the exemption to the veteran, a surviving spouse would continue to receive the benefit of that tax break after the veteran passes away.

### **Proposition 2**

This proposition would allow the Texas Water Development Board to issue general obligation bonds, not to exceed \$6 billion for state and local infrastructure improvements that will improve Texas' water supply. Together with Proposition 8 (see below), this amendment will help provide tools to meet our state's future water needs.

### **Proposition 3**

This proposition would allow the state to issue general obligation bonds to help finance student loans, subject to some constitutional restrictions on the amount of outstanding bonds allowed.

### **Proposition 4**

This proposition would allow counties to issue tax-supported bonds to develop or redevelop unproductive or blighted areas and could help leverage funding for transportation projects in unincorporated areas.

### **Proposition 5**

This proposition would give the Legislature the authority to allow cities and counties to enter into certain contracts (interlocal agreements) with greater flexibility.

### **Proposition 6**

Following a legislative session that slashed more than \$5 billion in public education funding, this proposition would allow the state to distribute up to \$300 million more per year from what's known as the Available School Fund – which would mean more money for our teachers and schoolchildren.

### **Proposition 7**

This proposition would add El Paso County to other Texas counties that are allowed to create conservation and reclamation districts to develop recreational facilities and parks.

### **Proposition 8**

This proposition would be Texas' first statewide water conservation tool, providing agricultural exemptions to Texas property owners who manage their land in a manner that improves water quality and quantity.

### **Proposition 9**

This proposition would allow the governor the ability to grant a pardon to Texans who successfully complete deferred adjudication community supervision.

### **Proposition 10**

This proposition would revise the "resign to run" provision in Texas law, extending the time frame by one month (from one year to one year and one month) in which an elected official may announce intentions to run for office while holding another office.