

GARLAND

DEMOCRATIC VOICE

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR NORTH TEXAS DEMOCRATS

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Garland, Texas

Volume 5, Number 9

A True American Patriot

“My responsibility is to tell the truth.”

“

I am a fiercely independent person and I am no one’s pawn. My motivation in coming forward was to provide the facts about how Mr. Kavanaugh’s actions have damaged my life, so that you can take that into serious consideration as you make your decision about how to proceed. It is not my responsibility to determine whether Mr. Kavanaugh deserves to sit on the Supreme Court. My responsibility is to tell the truth.

”

-CHRISTINE BLASEY FORD

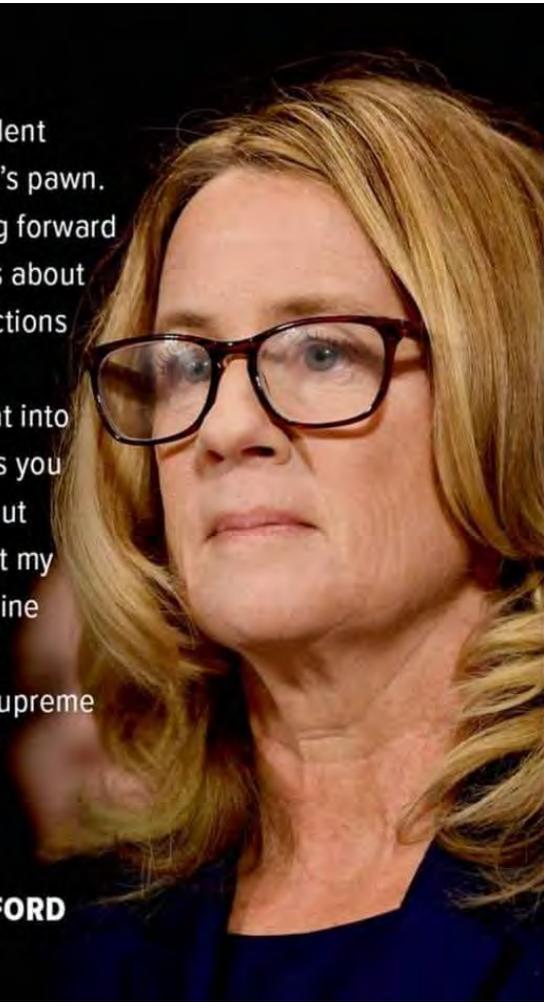


Photo originally published on Facebook by Frank Rodriguez 9/29/18

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GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE EDITORIAL

Due Process and the Rule of Law



“This little snail inspires me today. At 7:00 a.m., she was halfway across a slippery 16’ gate at the farm. Imagine what perseverance it took to just make the vertical climb. Now, far above the ground, she still has a long road in front of her to get to the other side. If she can tackle this challenge, I can take on mine.”

Julia Trigg Crawford Farm Manager Red’Arc Farm, Direct, Texas

With the conviction and sentencing of Bill Cosby, justice has been served. Cosby had due process and the rule of law has been served. Pennsylvania state sentencing guidelines were followed. It only took 14 years.

The Justice Committee of the U.S. Senate is working hard to prevent knowing individuals from providing information regarding Supreme Court Justice nominee, Brett Kavanaugh.

We have been told Thursday’s hearing is not a trial, yet an attorney has been hired to question Kavanaugh and Christine Blasey Ford separately. They have refused to allow any others including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to find and present information. Due process and the rule of law does not (according to the committee) apply.

A trial would have a charge, an investigation, presentation of the facts, testimony from witnesses, arguments by both sides, and determination by a jury, after weighing the evidence, to determine the guilt or innocence of those charged.

Okay, it’s not a trial. It’s a hearing. The purpose of a hearing in the Judiciary Committee is to gather information. Such information is supposed to allow the members to advise and consent the senate. Justice for all. Only hearing from the judge and the professor and disallowing input from others nor the FBI does not provide adequate information and permit learned advice and consent.

Where in law are hearings subjected to a time factor? Where in law does it state a U.S. Senator can proclaim guilt/innocence *err...* provide for intelligent, albeit lawful, advice and consent?

Joyce Vance, MSNBC Commentator and former U.S. Attorney, stated during the *Deadline: White House* 9/25, “On Thursday, we will see if the rule of law holds in this country. It’s bound to be a momentous day.”

This edition will undoubtedly go to publication after Thursday and we will know the outcome. Justice or the Rule of Law will be preserved or denied. Either way, history will record the results. Voters will make their own decisions.

Disclaimer: I’m not an attorney! But, just like the persevering snail climbing the gate at the Red’Arc Farm, we will continue the journey to truth, justice and the rule of law for all.

Rachel Baker Ford, editor

12,800 Children

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

Do you ever wonder how hard it is for ISIS or the M-13 gang to recruit members? Pick up a newspaper or search the internet. Read a news story about 12,800 migrant children in U.S. Government detention centers or photos of migrant children in wire cages that look like kennels or tent cities baking in the summer heat in Arizona. If those aren't enough how about children being taken from their Mother's arms or press releases from the Government saying they don't know where some of those children are and they may never be returned to their parents. Could we make it easier for hostile criminal groups to recruit new members?

The Department of Health and Human Services is legally required to shelter and care for Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC). The children are usually referred to the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). ORR may place the children in a shelter, foster care, a group home, a staff-secure or security secure care facility, a residential treatment center, or a special needs care facility. HHS operates a network of over 100 shelters in 17 states. The program received 40,810 (UAC) in 2017.

Southwest Key, the largest operator of immigrant youth shelters is reported by the state of Arizona to have a "flippant attitude" toward sexual abuse reports. They have received more than \$1.3 billion in federal grants and contracts in five years. They are too big to fail because they presently "care for" over 5,000 children.

Children are also kidnaped by the Government. Sometimes by force, sometimes by trickery, and sometimes by deceit.

For the children to be released to foster parents, the foster parents must prove they are U.S. citizens. Sponsors must submit fingerprints of all people living in the household.

Birth certificates of U.S. citizens are questioned and denied if they were issued near our southern border.

The American Civil Liberty Union (ACLU) reports that two federal agencies have announced new regulations that will keep children and families locked up indefinitely by nullifying a federal consent decree that set standards for the detention, release, and treatment for minors.

Trump hopes to strip naturalized citizens of their citizenship based on old removal orders issued when the applicant did not appear, discrepancies in applications, and allegations of crimes they had not even been charged with at the time of their naturalization. From 1990 to 2017 there were only 11 denaturalizations per year, 95 cases in 2017, but in 2018 they expected 1600 cases. They must be so proud!

The Trump administration says it may cost \$100 million a month to operate the 3,800 bed tent city near El Paso, Texas. The Trump administration transferred \$446 million from various health and human services programs to cover the cost. This is in addition to the \$1.2 billion already budgeted to operate the facility till September 30, 2018. The \$446 million includes \$16.7 million from Head Start, \$13.3 million from the National Cancer Institute, 12.1 million from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and \$6.3 million from substance abuse treatment programs.

Immigrants have a lower criminal record than U.S. citizens that were born here. They can't find the immigrants Trump refers to as drug dealers, murderers, and rapists so they are attacking the innocent — children and immigrants going about their daily lives peacefully making a living and raising a family.

Apparently, Trump does not believe the following quote from the ACLU website (<https://www.aclu.org/>):

"The fundamental constitutional protections of due process and equal protection embodied in our Constitution and Bill of Rights apply to every person, regardless of immigration status."

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

ARTICLE

Our International Welfare Program

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

Every time we buy something made overseas we place money in a giant container. Most of the other counties on earth reach into the jar to help themselves to their share. There was a time we were the land of plenty and we didn't miss the money and it made a lot of friends. Things are changing rapidly.

Countries we used to help are now competitors and we have an aging population with fewer workers supporting retirees. Nixon opened the door to China and now they suck \$350 Billion a year from our economy along with millions of jobs. That means we import goods and services worth \$350 Billion a year more than we export to China.

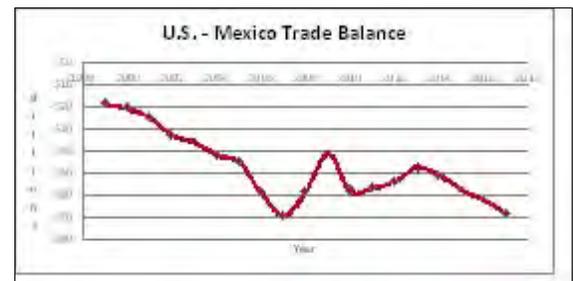
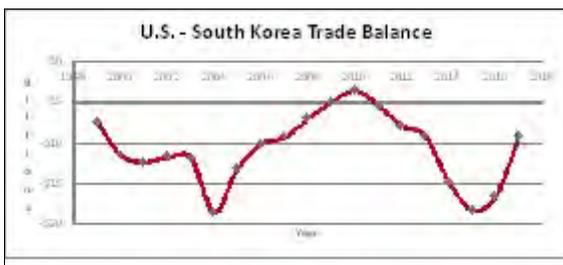
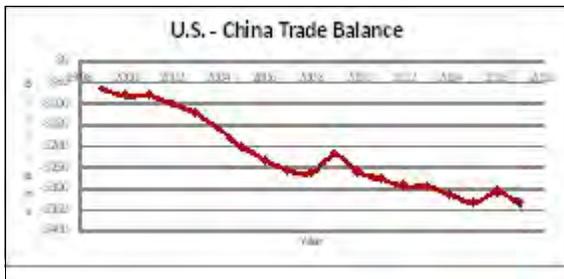
We have exported factories, jobs, intellectual property, and any reasonable hope of reducing our \$21 Trillion national debt with a \$295 Billion interest payment each year. The President identified the trade deficit problem correctly but tariffs are not a solution. Tariffs levied by our own government on imported products are a tax paid by the consumer in the United states. They call it a tariff but it is actually a tax. Republicans hate taxes but they don't mind fees, bonds, or tariffs.



The charts presented here show the trade balance with China, Canada, Mexico, and South Korea. China because it is by far our largest trading “partner.” Note the trade deficit with China was \$350 Billion in 2017. Mexico, Canada and the United States are the three countries included in the North American Trade Agreement, better known as NAFTA. Notice the change in the trade deficit with Canada that occurs in 2009.

South Korea is included because Trump is so proud of the agreement the administration has renegotiated with South Korea. We can now export 50,000 cars each year to South Korea even though they only buy 12,000 each year. Great negotiating.

A red line indicates the money left the United States. A blue line means we exported more than we imported from that country. (Charts found at: <https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/data/index.html>).





GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

ARTICLE

Let Justice Be Done!

“Some people are inspired to vote because they are afraid of what he’s going to do. And some are inspired because they’re so aghast at what he’s already done.” Carol Donovan 9/15/18

The Chair’s Corner

News and Updates from Chair Carol Donovan

This week, the Fifth Court of Appeals issued Orders in the case of Dallas County GOP *v.* Dallas County Democratic Party (DCDP) and in the case of Lee and Dallas County GOP *v.* Hon. Staci Williams, et al. Specifically, the appellate court dismissed all claims related to the November election finding that such claims were “moot. Thus, the case against Judge Williams was dismissed in its entirety, and all issues of the case against the DCDP have been dismissed, except for the single issue regarding attorney's fees. Chad Baruch of Johnston, Tobey Baruch Law Firm, one of the attorneys for the DCDP, explained that the orders “from the court of appeals effectively end what we have said from the start was an improper ballot challenge by the Republicans in an effort to subvert the will of the voters.”

During the 2018 Primary, the Dallas County Republican Party filed suit against the Democrats, asking the trial court to remove over 100 Democratic candidates from the ballot. The Republicans claimed the candidates’ applications were not valid because they had not been personally signed by the Dallas County Democratic Party Chair. Upon review of the pleadings, and after a hearing on the merits, the trial court found that “the Texas Election Code does not impose a manual signature requirement” as alleged by the Republicans. The Court held the Republicans claims were “moot,” that their party “lacks standing,” and that such claims were “lacking a basis of law.” The trial court also held that the Democrats were entitled to recover, from the Republicans, attorney’s fees in the amount of \$41,275.

In a separate suit, Judge Staci Williams’ opponent and the Republicans sought to strike her from the ballot, alleging defects in her application. In accordance with the Texas Election Code, her ballot application was reviewed by the DCDP Chair, together with DCDP counsel, who determined that her application was valid. It was.

Throughout this election season, the Republicans have filed frivolous lawsuits against Democrats to try to remove candidates from the ballot. These lawsuits have been filed on behalf of the Republicans by Elizabeth Alvarez-Bingham. If the name sounds familiar, she’s the attorney, and board member, of the conservative Equal Voting Rights Institute, which unsuccessfully sued Dallas County this past year, claiming that white voters were under-represented. The court did not agree. The stated goal of the Equal Voting Rights Institute is to protect the rights of all voters. Unfortunately, it appears that their goal was actually to protect white voters.

Evidently, the local Republican Party, represented by Ms. Alvarez-Bingham, does not seem to regard compliance with the Election Code as a two-way street. When a Dallas County Republican judicial candidate was removed from the ballot as a result of forged signatures on his ballot application, the Republicans simply placed him back on the ballot in another race. According to most election scholars, this move was not supported by the Texas Election Code. Perhaps, the local Republican Party is afraid that they won't win if they play by the rules. They are certainly afraid to let the voters decide. Thankfully, their efforts to thwart democracy have not been successful.

Please donate to the DCDP to help us defend the rights of Dallas County voters as Republicans continue to delay the trial court’s ruling, ordering them to reimburse the DCDP. You can also support the DCDP in any of the following ways

- 1) Volunteer
- 2) Join a Club
- 3) Become a Sustaining Member
- 4) Make a one-time donation
- 5) Become a precinct chair
- 6) Volunteer for the Coordinated Campaign

Yours Democratically,
Carol Donovan, DCDP Chair

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

BITS & PIECES

HB610 IS BAD!

Pay close attention when voting during the midterm elections!

The school voucher system proposed by Education secretary Betsy DeVos does not mean you can choose any school you want your kid to go to. It means the public education program will be dismantled.

If your child has an IEP (individual education plan for students with special needs), kiss it goodbye.

If you have a job in Special Education, if you're a special education teacher, physical therapist, occupational therapist, speech pathologist, a para-legal, a teacher's aid, or an ESL (English as a second language) teacher, you'll go first.

House Bill 610 makes some large changes. Inform yourselves. This bill will effectively start the school voucher system to be used by children ages 5-17 and starts the defunding process of public schools. The bill will eliminate the Elementary and Education Act of 1965, which is the nation's educational law that provides equal opportunity in education. ESSA is a big comprehensive program that covers programs for struggling learners, advanced and gifted kids in AP classes, ESL classes, classes for minorities such as Native Americans, Rural Education, Education for the Homeless, School Safety (Gun-Free schools), Monitoring and Compliance, and Federal Accountability Programs.

The Bill also abolishes the Nutritional Act of 2012 (No Hungry Kids Act) which provides nutritional standards in school breakfast and lunch.

The bill has no wording whatsoever protecting Special Needs kids, no mention of IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), and FAPE (Free Appropriate Public Education). Some things ESSA does for Children with Disabilities:

- Ensures access to the general education curriculum.
- Ensures access to accommodations on assessments.
- Ensures concepts of Universal Design for Learning.
- Includes provisions that require local education agencies to provide evidence-based interventions in schools with consistently underperforming subgroups.
- Requires states in Title I plans to address how they will improve conditions for learning including reducing incidents of bullying and harassment in schools, overuse of discipline practices and reduce the use of aversive behavioral interventions (such as restraints and seclusion).

Please call your representative and ask him/her to vote NO on House Bill 610 (HR 610).

Posted on FaceBook 09/22/18 Onie B Wright

Why do Republicans have such urgency to confirm Brett the Brat?

They have plans to take "Citizens United" to a new level. It's the schedule of what's on the docket of the Supreme Court...

Laura Irvin posted —

"if you check out SCOTUS blog, you will see that on next month's docket is: *Gamble v. U.S.*, No. 17-646.

Issue(s): Whether the Supreme Court should overrule the "separate sovereigns" exception to the double jeopardy clause. They are desperate. The plan was to appoint Kavanaugh early this week so that he would be seated in time for this ruling.

It was in the bag. Saves everyone involved from state charges. Not only Trump but all politicians who were knowingly enriched by the \$\$\$ funneled through the NRA into the coffers of McConnell, Graham, Rubio, Ryan, etc. So if Kavanaugh gets appointed he'd effectively vote to stop states from charging Trump with anything!

This alone makes the #StopKavanaugh movement that much more urgent. **CORRUPTION TO THE CORE!**"

Comments

Liz Nottingham: Hasn't this taken long enough? It is a horrible ordeal. Do judges get paid while going through the confirmation process? Didn't this start in June or something? If we are going back to to 15 years old, I am not sure how many people will want to run for or be appointed to anything. Anyone can say anything from that long ago.

Tom Blackwell from Laura's posting (an answer to my previous thread) — we can understand how Republican Senators who are asked to vote for Kavanaugh would be directly personally affected by their votes.

Yes — it's CORRUPTION. We won't see any of them recuse themselves. There were no recusals in the Committee vote.

Posted on FaceBook 09/29/18 Tom Blackwell

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

ARTICLE

How Does the Straight Ticket Work?

The Straight Ticket option will appear at the very top of electronic ballots and paper ballots during Early Voting and on Election Day. When you select Straight Democratic ticket, you are automatically voting for *every* Democrat on the ballot, from Beto O'Rourke for U.S. Senate all the way down your ballot.

Choose the Democratic option and cast your ballot. It's that easy. It's one and you're done!

When and Where is the Election? (Dallas Co. Check with the County Board of Elections for other counties)

Vote Early Daily from Monday, October 22, through Friday, November 2nd. You may use any Early Voting Location in Dallas County. Polls will be open Daily: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. every day;

EXCEPT: Sunday, October 28, Polls will be open 1:00 p.m. through 6:00 p.m.

Election Day Is Tuesday, November 6. Polls Will Be Open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. You must Vote in Your Precinct Polling Location on Election Day.

These Are the Democrats in Dallas County who have republican opponents.

Vote Straight Democratic to cast your ballot for all of them! (NOTE: Your ballot will have only the candidate for your assigned district. Unopposed Candidates without an will appear on the individual ballot)

US Senate: Beto O'Rourke

US Congress District 5: Dan Wood

US Congress District 24: Jan McDowell

US Congress District 26: Linsey Fagan

US Congress District 32: Colin Allred

US Congress District 33: Marc Veasey

Texas Governor: Lupe Valdez

Lieutenant Governor: Mike Collier

Attorney General: Justin Nelson

Comptroller of Accounts: Joi Chevalier

Land Commissioner: Miguel Suazo

Agriculture Commissioner: Kim Olson

Railroad Commissioner: Roman McAllen

Supreme Court Place 2: Steven Kirkland

Supreme Court Place 4: R.K. Sandill

Supreme Court Place 6: Kathy Cheng

Court of Crim. Appeals Presiding Judge: Terri Jackson

Court of Criminal Appeals Place 7: Ramona Franklin

State Board of Education District 11: Carla Morton

State Board of Education District 12: Suzanne Smith

State Board of Education District 13: Aicha Davis

State Senate District 2: Kendall Scudder

State Senate District 8: Mark Phariss

State Senate District 9: Gwenn Burud

State Senate District 16: Nathan Johnson

State Representative District 102: Ana-Maria Ramos

State Representative District 103: Rafael Anchia

State Representative District 105: Terry Meza

State Representative District 107: Victoria Neave

State Representative District 108: Joanna Cattnach

State Representative District 112: Brandy Chambers

State Rep District 113: Rhetta Andrews Bowers

State Representative District 114: John Turner

State Representative District 115: Julie Johnson

5th Dist Court of Appeals Chief Justice: Robert Burns

5th Dist Court of Appeals Pl 2: Robbie Partida-Kipness

5th District Court of Appeals Place 5: Erin Nowell

5th District Court of Appeals Place 9: Bill Pedersen

5th District Court of Appeals Place 10: Amanda Reichek

5th District Court of Appeals Place 11: Cory Carlyle

5th District Court of Appeals Place 12: Ken Molberg

5th District Court of Appeals Place 13:

Leslie Lester Osborne

101st Judicial District Court: Staci Williams

283rd Judicial District Court: Lela Mays

Criminal District Court 7: Chika Anyiam

District Attorney: John Creuzot

Dallas County Judge: Clay Jenkins

Sheriff: Marian Brown

County Commissioner Precinct 2: Wini Cannon

Justice of the Peace Pct 2 Pl1: Margaret O'Brien

Justice of the Peace Pct 2 Pl2: Katina Whitfield

Justice of the Peace Pct 3 Pl1: Shannon Bradford

Justice of the Peace Pct 3 Pl2: Mauri Long

Justice of the Peace Pct 4 Pl2: Sasha Moreno

Constable Precinct 2: Bill Gipson

Constable Precinct 3: Curtis "Traylor" Harris

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IS OCTOBER 6, 2018

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

THOSE WHO CLAIM TO REPRESENT US

Angie Chen Button TXHD112 : Your Time Is Up!

— Rachel Baker Ford



Keep'em Poor

• No to Minimum Wage • Break the Unions • Cut Welfare Programs •
Cut Social Security • Deregulation • Gut the Dodd-Frank Act

Keep'em Sick

• Cut Food Aid • Repeal Obamacare • Cut Disability Benefits • Privatize
Veterans Health Care • Cut HIV Prevention Funding

Keep'em Stupid

• Deny Science • Revise History • Categorize, Demonize, Terrify •
Cut Pre-school Programs • Cuts to Higher Education • Cut Sex
Education • NO to Net Neutrality

Control the Women

• Implement all of the above PLUS > Vote NO to Equal Pay • Cut Wages
for Tipped Workers • NO to Affordable Childcare • Pro-Life = NO Choice
NO Exceptions • Close down Planned Parenthood • Anti-Contraception •
Redefine Rape • Personhood Amendments • Feticide Laws • Criminalize
Miscarriages • Doctor Mandated Reporting of Miscarriages and Abortions
to the State • Mandatory Transvaginal Ultrasounds • Rollback Maternity
Coverage • Omit protections in the Violence Against Women Act • Blame
Single Moms for Poverty, Welfare Fraud, Breeding Criminals and
Destroying the Fabric of America

Bill Number	Description	Rep Button's Vote
HB2403	Requires Internet Sales Tax	— Voted Yes
SB14	Voter ID Requirements	— Voted Yes
SB11	Authorizes Concealed Handguns on College Campuses	— Voted Yes
HB972	Authorizes Concealed Handguns on Higher Education Campuses	— Voted Yes
HB910	Authorizes Open Carry of Handguns	— Voted Yes
SB864	Reduces Required Hours for Concealed Handgun License Training	— Voted Yes
HB12	Prohibits Adopting any Rule or Policy Enforcement of Any State or Federal immigration Law	— Voted Yes
HB928	Prohibits State Funds from being used for the Enforcement of Federal Firearm Regulations	— Voted Yes
HB1076	Prohibits the Enforcement of Federal Firearm Regulations	— Voted Yes
HB3994	Amends Requirements for Minors Seeking Abortions	— Voted Yes
HB2 & SB5	Increases Abortion Facility Requirements and Prohibits Abortions After 20 Weeks	— Voted Yes
HB15	Requires Ultrasound Prior to Abortion	— Voted Yes
HB1340	Authorizes Certain Children to consent to Immunizations	— Voted No
HB772	Requires Individuals to Opt-Out of Immunization Registry	— Voted No
SB2065	Authorizes Religious Organizations to Decline to Perform Marriage Services	— Voted Yes
HB1690	Requires Texas Rangers to Investigate Public Corruption	— Voted Yes
HB40	Specifies That the State Will Regulate Oil and Gas Operations (cosponsored)	— Voted Yes
SB3	State House Redistricting	— Voted Yes
SB2	State Senate Redistricting	— Voted Yes
SB4	Congressional Redistricting	— Voted Yes
SB1	2013 to 2015 Biennium Budget	— Voted Yes
HB950	Requires Equal Pay for Women	— Voted No
SB21	Requires Drug Testing for Unemployment Benefits	— Voted Yes
SJR13	Establishes Term Limits for Certain Elected Officials	— Voted No
SB376	Establishes Free Breakfast Program for Students	— Voted No
HB500	Expands Franchise Tax Exemption for certain Businesses	— Voted Yes
HB800	Tax Credit for Certain R&D Activities	— Voted Yes
SB19	Related to the Ethics of Public Officials (makes it illegal and specifies punishment for secretly recording conversations of lawmakers)	— Voted Yes
HB63	Prohibits Texting While Driving (Vetoed by the Governor)	— Voted Yes
HB359	Authorizes Schools to Use Corporal Punishment in Public Schools	— Voted No

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