



Heritage Alliance

"Supporting Conservative Values in Government"

P.O. Box 741777 • DALLAS, TEXAS 75374 • 214-348-2801

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DISTRICT-BY-DISTRICT POLL: GOP VOTERS WANT A CONSERVATIVE HOUSE SPEAKER

DALLAS, Dec. 20, 2010 – In the opening round of a telephone poll of 28,980 Republican primary voters in 77 GOP-held Texas House districts, nearly 9 in 10 responding indicated they want the State House led by a Speaker more conservative than the previous Legislature's choice, Joe Straus III.

"No matter which GOP district we poll, we find none where the Representative can credibly claim that his supporters want a moderate Speaker," Michael Smith, Executive Vice President of Heritage Alliance, said.

Heritage Alliance polled an average of 376 1R households per State House district. Of those, an average of 336 per district responded in favor of a more-conservative House Speaker.

"Contrary to the 'no labels' idea floated at a New York press conference last week, Texas Republicans seem to think 'conservative' is a winning brand," Smith added. "That may explain why Joe Straus calls himself a conservative at every opportunity, despite his decidedly non-conservative voting record."

In no GOP district can the Representative credibly claim his supporters want a moderate Speaker

In the last session in which Straus was a full voting member, his score in the [Heritage Alliance Conservative Report](#) ranked lowest among currently serving House Republicans—52 percent. The other two declared candidates for Speaker, Rep. Warren Chisum (R.-Pampa) and Rep. Ken Paxton (R.-McKinney), scored 89 and 91 percent, respectively, in the same session.

A similar gap in scores between the incumbent Speaker and challengers was documented by two other Texas conservative groups, [Eagle Forum](#) and [Young Conservatives of Texas](#).

In the Heritage Alliance telephone poll, voters who responded affirmatively to the question, "If you want a true conservative Republican as Speaker of the Texas House, press 1," were offered an opportunity to contact their State Representative (or Representative-Elect) via the [Heritage Alliance web site](#).

This concludes Heritage Alliance's initial round of polling on the Speaker's contest. Twenty-two calendar days remain until the Speaker's election, the opening day of the 82nd Legislature.

See the attached pages for a district-by-district breakdown of poll results.



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District	Representative	% affirming more conservative Speaker
1	George Lavender	88.7%
8	Byron Cook	93.5%
9	Wayne Christian	88.9%
10	Jim Pitts	90.1%
11	Chuck Hopson	92.2%
12	James White	90.2%
13	Lois Kolkhorst	91.5%
14	Fred Brown	81.9%
15	Rob Eissler	92.6%
16	Brandon Creighton	93.9%
17	Tim Kleinschmidt	86.1%
18	John Otto	92.3%
19	Mike Hamilton	94.1%
20	Charles Schwertner	87.9%
24	Larry Taylor	90.8%
25	Dennis Bonnen	87.1%
26	Charlie Howard	82.9%
28	John Zerwas	91.0%
32	Todd Hunter	89.9%
33	Raul Torres	92.8%
34	Connie Scott	88.3%
35	Jose Aliseda	90.5%
45	Jason A. Isaac	91.7%
47	Paul Workman	91.5%
48	Dan Neil	83.3%
52	Larry Gonzales	85.2%
54	Jimmie Don Aycock	87.5%
55	Ralph Sheffield	92.1%
56	Doc Anderson	91.2%
57	Marva Beck	87.2%
58	Rob Orr	90.6%
59	Sid Miller	93.2%
60	Jim Keffer	90.0%
62	Larry Phillips	88.7%
64	Myra Crownover	89.2%
65	Burt Solomons	91.7%
67	Jerry Madden	93.1%
68	Richard L. (Rick) Hardcastle	92.1%
69	Lanham Lyne	91.7%
71	Susan L. King	88.6%
72	Drew Darby	87.3%
73	Doug Miller	87.5%
78	Dee Margo	90.9%
81	Tryon Lewis	93.5%
84	John Frullo	89.9%
86	John Smithee	86.4%
87	Four Price	84.6%
91	Kelly Hancock	92.6%



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92	Todd Smith	90.7%
93	Barbara Nash	89.9%
94	Diane Patrick	85.1%
97	Mark Shelton	90.8%
98	Vicki Truitt	88.2%
102	Stefani Carter	85.3%
105	Linda Harper-Brown	92.1%
106	Rodney Anderson	94.7%
108	Dan Branch	80.2%
112	Angie Chen Button	89.5%
113	Joe Driver	92.0%
114	Will Hartnett	85.2%
115	Jim Jackson	88.4%
117	John V. Garza	86.2%
122	Lyle Larson	85.4%
126	Patricia Harless	87.7%
127	Dan Huberty	91.4%
128	Wayne Smith	92.9%
129	John Davis	87.0%
130	Allen Fletcher	91.7%
133	Jim Murphy	81.5%
134	Sarah Davis	81.7%
136	Beverly Woolley	89.7%
137	Sylvia Spivey	83.3%
138	Dwayne Bohac	87.6%
144	Ken Legler	92.5%
149	Jack O'Connor	89.8%
	Average	89.1%

Included in the telephone poll were those registered voters who had voted in at least one recent GOP primary. Polling was not initiated or was discontinued in districts where the State Representative (or Representative-Elect) declared his intent to support a more-conservative candidate for Texas House Speaker.