



RAMONA THOMPSON

DEMOCRAT

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Residence: Frisco, Texas

Current Job/Profession: Retired

Education: B.S., Public Administration

Highlight of Current Civic Involvement/Accomplishments:

House District 106 Democratic Chair. Gave that up to run for State office.
Alliance of Progressive Voters, At-large Board Member
Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Mary Ann Lawhon Chapter
Alliance of Progressive Voters, Founder and President (2015)
Indivisible Frisco, Founder and first President (2016)
President or board member of numerous organizations over the past 30 years

Why are you running for office?

Because I Care. As a member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas (since 1991), I care deeply about Texas and its all of its citizens. I'm tired of "representatives" beholden to the wealthy donors who put them in office. And I'm outraged that they have spent two decades passing laws that artificially enrich corporations without investing enough in our quality of life or the skilled, healthy and productive workforce so vital to sustained economic growth. Political leadership should reflect the populace, but women, minorities and progressives are still vastly underrepresented in Austin. I want to represent the people and make their lives better by balancing their consumer interests and business interests; advocating for solutions that benefit both.

Why should voters choose you over your opponent?

Because I Care, my goal is to give each Texan a fighting chance to succeed in life, believing that we all benefit by helping others succeed. Divisive rhetoric and ideological legislation is unproductive, but my opponent was invited to move to this district by the current Representative, who is now running for Senate. Every indication suggests he will continue along the same path of exclusion and fear mongering. That's because he's largely funded by Empower Texans.

The 2017 legislative session was dominated by the "bathroom bill" debate. Do you believe the state should require people to use the bathroom designated for the biological sex listed on their birth certificate?

Absolutely not. The "bathroom bill" is a partisan and divisive issue that has almost no support from the public and business community. It has distracted the legislature from tackling the real problems and opportunities we face.



GALA CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

During the last legislative session, Texas passed the Freedom to Serve Children Act which allows foster homes and adoption agencies, including those that receive public funds, to choose to only place children in homes with a mother and father. This coming session we anticipate once again seeing “Religious Liberty” bills which offer protection to businesses that deny services such as counseling, wedding planning, etc. to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) Texans when based on “sincerely held religious beliefs.” Would you support such legislation? If so, please explain your justification of the expenditure of state funds defending such a law, as several similar laws are already actively involved in court cases and have been found to be discriminatory and unconstitutional? If you do not support such a proposal, please explain how you would justify your decision to a business that doesn’t wish to provide a specific service, such as baking a wedding cake, to an LGBT individual.

The Freedom to Serve Children is highly discriminatory and hurts children. To deny a needy child a loving parent (or parents) for such a biased reason is tragic. So called "Religious Liberty" bills are an attempt to codify discrimination and I will fight against them. Our AG continually uses our taxpayer monies to sue and counter sue as a weapon to fight laws that say discrimination is not legal. I believe we should accord every individual the same rights and freedoms regardless of race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, age, or any other difference.

A recent study by the National Center of Transgender Equality found that 82% of transgender youth feel unsafe at school and 44% report having been physically abused. This coming legislative session, we anticipate that we will once again see the introduction of a “Bathroom Bill” which requires transgender students use the bathroom that matches their sex assigned at birth. Would you support such legislation? If you support such legislation, what steps would you include to ensure that transgender children are not bullied or physically attacked when they enter a bathroom? If you oppose such legislation, how would you explain your stance to a constituent concerned about their child’s right to privacy in the school bathroom?

I vehemently oppose the bathroom bill. It was a tool of distraction used to stoke fear in parents over a non-issue. Transgender people are not known for harming people in bathrooms. And how much sense does it make to ask a transgender boy to use a girl's bathroom? That just makes everyone uncomfortable. Again, this is a way of using up time and taxpayer money to actually avoid legislating on the real and important issues facing Texans.

During the last legislative session, the State Legislature attempted to pass a record number of bills considered anti-LGBT. Several states that have passed similar anti-LGBT laws have faced business boycotts. Conversely, cities/municipalities wanting to be more attractive to business relocations, have passed Equal Rights Ordinances (EROs). These ordinances typically prohibit discrimination in city employment and city services, city contracts, public accommodations, private employment, and housing based on an individual’s sex, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, familial status, marital status, military status, religion, disability, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity/expression or pregnancy. Do you support the right of local governments to pass EROs? Please explain your position.

Absolutely. I believe in equal rights for everyone. I would not support a piece of legislation that was discriminatory and will work tirelessly to ensure equal rights and protections for all.

What would you like LGBT constituents and our families and friends to know about you as a candidate? Why should this large voting community support your candidacy?

The LGBTQ+ community can be assured that I will have their interests in mind in Austin. I have attended a GALA Training and would welcome other opportunities to be even more educated on the issues affecting this community. I believe in equality, opportunity and justice for all.



VOTER GUIDE
STATE REP. - DISTRICT 106
FALL, 2018



JARED PATTERSON

REPUBLICAN

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Residence: Frisco, Texas

Current Job/Profession: Employed by an energy management firm in the Dallas area

Education: B.S. in Political Science – Texas A&M University

Highlight of Current Civic Involvement/Accomplishments:

In 2008, I was appointed to the Planning & Zoning Commission in Sachse, Texas. During my first term on P&Z, I was asked by several community leaders to run for city council. In the summer of 2009, I won a runoff election for Sachse City Council, Place 2 and served on both the council and the Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors from 2009-2013, elected to two terms. During my final year on the council, I served as Mayor Pro Tem and on the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

During my time on council I fought to cut wasteful spending, implement zero-based budgeting, increase transparency, implement E-Verify and add a prayer and pledges to open all city board meetings. I also helped develop the largest economic expansion in the history of the city and founded the Great American Cleanup, a citywide day of service. Further, we implemented a citizen-approved bond package to build a new City Hall, Public Safety Headquarters and Senior Center, refurbished the Public Library, build a park - under budget - and completed more than a dozen road projects.

From 2010 -2014, I served as a Republican Precinct Chair in Dallas County. I was also selected to serve as a delegate to the State Convention of the Republican Party of Texas three times where the other delegates and I helped to craft the Republican Party Platform. Over the years, I have volunteered on countless campaigns for conservative candidates and served on the board for local Republican clubs.

Due to our expanding family, we moved to Frisco in 2015 and immediately got involved in our community. I served on the Board of Directors for my Homeowners Association from 2016-2017 and completed the Frisco City Hall 101 course in the Spring of 2017.

In 2018, I was selected for the fourth time to serve as a delegate to the GOP State Convention. I am currently the Republican Nominee for State Representative in House District 106.

From 2009-2014, I served on Place 2 of the Sachse City Council.

In 2014, I unsuccessfully challenged an incumbent for State Representative.

In 2018, I sought and won the Republican Nominee for State Representative in House District 106.



**VOTER GUIDE
STATE REP. - DISTRICT 106
FALL, 2018**

Why are you running for office?

If Rep. Pat Fallon were running for re-election I would not be running for this position. When we learned that he would be seeking a seat in the Texas Senate, I met with many local leaders in an attempt to find a replacement. I was humbled when they continued to ask if I would seek the position.

The Texas miracle must continue, both for Texans and for the future success of our nation. This is bigger than any one of us, this is about preserving America for generations to come. We need liberty-minded legislators who will fight for a brighter future for Texans and I believe I have the experience, dedication and worldview to represent the residents of eastern Denton County in the Texas legislature.

My primary focus in the legislature will be to reduce the overall cost of government for Texans. This means reigning-in out of control property taxes, reforming the tollway authority and eliminating needless hidden taxes like vehicle inspection permits and occupational licenses. There is a lot we can do to further ease the burden of government. If we do these things and continue to support conservative legislation allowing the private sector to flourish, Texas will remain the envy of the greatest nation on the face of the earth.

The 2017 legislative session was dominated by the “bathroom bill” debate. Do you believe the state should require people to use the bathroom designated for the biological sex listed on their birth certificate?

I agree that it's ridiculous that the legislature would have to take up such a measure, but welcome to the aftermath of the Obama Administration. Whether it's bathrooms or smoking policies, businesses should be able to operate in the manner they see fit. If consumers or workers disagree with the way the business is run, they'll have a hard time staying in business. Let the free market decide.

It's unfortunate businesses need legal protection from far left activists who aim to shut down anyone who disagrees with their radical ideology. It's a travesty that in today's society, a baker or wedding photographer can be forced out of business for conducting their business in accordance with their faith. I would be proud to support religious liberty legislation so that Texas businesses are free to determine their own policies without fear of legal persecution.

Position on LGBT Issues:

[Family Values \(www.jaredpatterson.net\)](http://www.jaredpatterson.net)

Strong family values lead to strong communities, better educated children, and a stable economy. Bathroom privacy, as one example, is common-sense legislation which gives Texas businesses immunity from left-wing lawyers, the right to decide their own policies, and fully protects our children in all state buildings. I will always vote to protect the unborn, to protect family values, and protect families from the government.

GALA CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Candidate did not respond.