



JULIE LUTON

DEMOCRAT

Email: julie@julielutonfortexas.com

Website: www.julielutonfortexas.com

Facebook: [imjulieluton](https://www.facebook.com/imjulieluton)

Residence: McKinney, Texas

Current Job/Profession: Former small business owner; now focused on local education issues and civic organizations

Education: Bachelor of Arts in English with a General Business Minor - Missouri Southern State University

Highlight of Current Civic Involvement/Accomplishments:

I currently serve as President of the PTO at Evans Middle School in McKinney. Although I have a busy campaign life, I continue working with our neighborhood schools because I don't want to lose sight of one of the main reasons I am running. We must save our schools, protect our children's bright futures, and strengthen our upcoming business workforce by advocating for fair school funding, strong teacher support, and reasonable testing and accountability standards.

I remain active with my church, serving on the Leadership Board as Chair of the Trustees. I serve on the Preschool Board of Directors because early childhood education is one of the key predictors of a successful education and has a positive effect on the future of our young people. I also serve on the Endowment Committee, which is dedicated to responsible planning and budgeting to ensure our place of worship maintains a healthy financial outlook so we can be a force for good in our community for many years in the future.

I realized shortly after we moved back to Texas in 2001 that our family would be making our home here for years to come. Becoming an involved part of the community seemed natural. Volunteering for the PTA was a huge part of that effort, and as my kids grew older, my activities in their schools grew, too. The PTA's mission is to improve educational communities one school at a time, and I've served on the Board of Directors, including President, at multiple schools in a variety of roles. I've worked hand-in-hand with administrators, teachers, parents, and students.

As I became more active in education, I become involved with multiple citizen bond and TRE committees. Despite attempts from outside organizations like Empower Texans to derail efforts, we advocated in the community and successfully helped district voters support our teachers, our facilities, and our students in order to offer brighter futures for our kids and stronger communities.

I also became very active in our church leadership. From staffing committees to financial decisions, I served our worship community and encouraged everyone to feel welcome in our place of worship.

I have supported many other wonderful organizations. One of my earliest experiences was with the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program, which advocates for children in the foster care system. Other favorites are Habitat for Humanity; Samaritan Inn, a homeless shelter; and Community Lifeline, which offers temporary assistance to those in need. I led the McKinney chapter of Young Men's Service League, a national organization that uses strong mother-son relationships to increase service opportunities, provide experience for our young men in business and social settings, and develop community leaders who will continue making an impact in their communities.



Why are you running for office?

My family chose to make this community our home, and I'm committed to ensuring that its unique character, welcoming nature, and economic prosperity are safeguarded from extremist agendas. . To be successful, we must learn how to work together on things that matter to ALL Texans ... good schools, good jobs, and a good quality of life.

Specifically, I'm running for this office to save our public education system from attacks on funding and teachers. Our children's futures and our state's economic prosperity and workforce depend upon quality education for ALL children. The state legislature's decreased funding, discussion of vouchers (or other programs with the same outcomes), and refusal to compensate teachers fairly risks our children's futures and our business community's growth and ability to encourage new businesses to relocate to our state.

In addition, state leadership's refusal to ensure that Texans have access to affordable healthcare means families, including seniors and children, risk losing their homes and their livelihoods when they are their most vulnerable due to health crises. And finally, state leaders failed to plan and invest in a strong infrastructure, and, here in Collin County, we are now 15-20 years behind where we should be in preparing for steadily increasing population growth.

Our district deserves a new, thoughtful leader who takes into consideration the needs of ALL Texans. Our district deserves transparency in legislation, an open-door policy for residents, and the hard work required to create positive change for Collin County.

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?

The bathroom bill has had a debilitating effect on the economies of states where it has been passed or been considered for passage. When I attended the House's Panel on Economic Competitiveness earlier this year, many industry leaders spoke out against the bill, warning of its negative impact on Texas' business climate and reducing our ability to attract conventions and major sporting events.

The Texas Association of Business, Chambers of Commerce, and other business leaders also opposed the bill, even taking out full-page ads in Texas newspapers that advocated against the proposed legislation. Their fears included loss of business, decreases in jobs, loss of tourism revenue, and a negative impact on Texas' business-friendly reputation.

The legislation is divisive and unnecessary. Research shows that states that already have anti-discrimination policies in place have NOT experienced increases in bathroom assaults. And individuals forced to use bathrooms that do not match the gender with which they identify routinely suffer mental anguish and frequently need protection from assault.

The state should stay out of the bathroom-monitoring business, realize it would be impossible to regulate, and continue running a state of 28 million people who, as Speaker of the House Joe Straus feels, don't want to "have the suicide of a single Texan on [our] conscience."



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.

No, I would not support such a bill. As Martin Luther King, Jr., famously said, “No one is free until we are all free.” Our entire society is based on the exchange of goods and services. If certain individuals are prohibited from participating in our common, commercially-based society, then they are not free to be full members of society. By entering into public sales, businesses (no matter their religious beliefs) must understand they are offering goods and services to everyone.

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?

No, I would not support such a bill. Transgender individuals are already a vulnerable population that deserves and needs our protection, not our discrimination. I would point to national research that shows when anti-discrimination policies regarding gender identity are in place, there have been NO spikes in attacks in public facilities. These proposed policies are based on fear, rather than facts.

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.

Yes, as a proponent of local control, I support the rights of cities to pass Equal Rights Ordinances. I would, however, prefer for Texas (and our country) to prohibit discrimination on a statewide and countrywide basis, rather than wait for individual cities to pass EROs.



**VOTER GUIDE
STATE REP. - DISTRICT 70
FALL, 2018**

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?

I believe education is the single most important issue that impacts our state (and the world) today because better education leads us not only to economic security, but also to better understanding of others' issues, beliefs, causes, and experiences. We must work together to ensure we educate others on the importance of anti-discrimination laws that protect, support, and empower the LGBTQ community.

The very first speech I gave when I announced my candidacy included this: "I will work for ALL Texans, no matter their race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, country of origin, or ethnicity." Because of my own recent education on important issues, I've added: "and physical ability." I will continue to grow and learn how to legislate for the beautiful, diverse communities that live in our great state.

The daughter of a minister and a teacher, I have long been an activist and advocate for serving others. In the 17 years I've lived in this community, I've volunteered hundreds of hours for various organizations and causes. I'm ready to take my passion for service to the next level so I may work for ALL Texans in the Texas House of Representatives.



VOTER GUIDE
STATE REP. - DISTRICT 70
FALL, 2018



SCOTT SANFORD

REPUBLICAN

Email: Scott.Sanford@house.state.tx.us

Website: www.scottsanford.us

Facebook: [scottsanford.us](https://www.facebook.com/scottsanford.us)

Residence: McKinney, Texas

Current Job/Profession: State Representative; Executive Pastor, Cottonwood Creek Baptist Church (Allen)

Education: BBA and MTax degrees – Baylor University

Meet Scott (www.scottsanford.us):

Scott is a life-long Texan, and a Baylor Bear for about half of that time. He earned BBA and MTax degrees, and maintains a CPA license in the State of Texas. His career path includes positions at Ernst & Young, and ownership in two franchise endeavors. Scott has served Cottonwood Creek Baptist Church in Allen, TX, since 1997 and is currently the Executive Pastor. Scott was elected in 2012 to the Texas House of Representatives. He proudly serves District 70, which includes the cities of Anna, Celina, McKinney, Melissa, Princeton, and Prosper. In Austin, Scott serves in multiple committees, including the Juvenile Justice & Family Issues Committee, and the Land & Resource Management Committee.

Scott married Shelly Parks in 1987. They live in McKinney, the heart of the 70th House District. Their son, Ryan, is a Baylor graduate. Their daughter, Lauren will graduate from Baylor this year. Scott enjoys fishing, but likes catching even better. He is a water and snow skiing enthusiast, but not at the same time.

The Issues (www.scottsanford.us):

DEFENDING OUR CONSERVATIVE VALUES OF FAITH AND FAMILY

Scott will provide leadership in supporting religious freedoms, protecting the unborn, and defending traditional marriage. He will always champion the sanctity of human life which begins at conception and will fight to preserve traditional marriage between one man and one woman.

Why are you running for re-election?

The experience and knowledge gained over the last three legislative sessions will allow me to be even more effective in representing the citizens of north central Collin County. This area is a joy to serve as it is filled with fantastic people who have a history of being solutions-oriented within a conservative context.

My experience as a CPA, small-business owner, operational leader of a large nonprofit and relationships throughout the community allow me to match state policies with the priorities of the district.



**VOTER GUIDE
STATE REP. - DISTRICT 70
FALL, 2018**

Legislative History on LGBT Issues:

Sanford authored HB 1805 which would allow taxpayer-funded adoption and foster care agencies with religious objections to decline to place children with same-sex couples. Sanford said the bill is needed in part because it would preserve the right of religiously affiliated agencies to reject parents from different faiths.

Sanford sponsored HB 3864 which would allow child welfare providers that contract with the state to discriminate based on sincerely held religious beliefs.

Sanford sponsored HB 2876 which would allow wedding industry professionals and employees the right to refuse service to clients if doing so conflicts with sincerely held religious beliefs.

Sanford sponsored HB 2878 which would allow health care professionals the right to refuse to treat patients if doing so conflicts with sincerely held religious beliefs.

Statement on CBS DFW – July 13, 2017

Asserting that transgender people are mentally ill, a Texas lawmaker claimed that allowing kids to explore their gender identities amounts to child abuse.

Representative Scott Sanford, R-McKinney, made the comments Tuesday, July 11, during a panel discussion on anti-transgender “bathroom bills,” hosted by the CBS affiliate in Dallas-Fort Worth.

Sanford alleged there is a “movement” in Texas schools to encourage children to explore their gender identities, which he called a “travesty” given high suicide rates among trans people.

“So now, to lead a kid—a child—down the road of exploring an identity other than their biology,” Sanford said. “If you just simply lead them down that path, I believe that’s child abuse, because you’re leading them toward a 40 percent chance of taking their own lives.”

GALA CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Candidate did not respond.