

14 Proposed State Constitutional Amendments On November Ballot

AUSTIN (AP)—Those backing Amendment No. 12 claim that 350,000 Texans are disenfranchised by our much-patched state constitution.

No. 12 is one of 14 proposed state constitution amendments to be decided Nov. 7 when voters mark their lengthy general election ballots.

The provision would allow state employees or others paid from state funds, who are not state officers, to serve as members of the governing bodies of school districts, cities, towns or other governmental units while still drawing a state salary, but receiving no pay from the local governing body.

Still another proposition to be voted on Nov. 7, Amendment No. 9, would apply specifically to directors of soil and water conservation districts. If passed it would permit such directors to hold more than one public office and still draw state pay.

But Amendment No. 12 is the big one because it affects one-third of a million Texans.

D. A. Anderson, College Station, head of a statewide committee urging adoption of No. 12, says there are now 22,504 elective positions in city and local government in Texas where according to recent court rulings, no one paid by the state can run for them. That includes school teachers, highway department personnel, conservation district workers, police, firemen, medical technicians, state hospital employees, secretaries and clerks, university and college faculty and many others.

As the state constitution, written in 1875, reads now it prohibits payment of state money to "agents, officers or appointees" who hold "any other office or position of honor, trust, or profit under state."

"This just knocks out any state employee from fulfilling his civic duty and running for city council or the school board," says Anderson, who also is head of the information and education department of the Texas Forest Service.

Anderson should know. He was mayor of College Station until an adverse court ruling in 1971 cut off his state pay check and he had to resign his unpaid city job.

"This is not any little thing," he said. "Five other councilmen of College Station, who worked for Texas A&M, had to resign and so did every member of the school board except one."

"I've got a list of more than 50 Texas cities where the same thing happened."

The state constitution from the beginning prohibited dual office holding and dual compensation. In 1926 and 1932 it was amended to let National Guard, reserve officers and retired military personnel hold civic jobs. In 1967 the legislature passed, and voters approved, an amendment that would let state-paid employees hold local civic jobs that were appointive, but not elective.

The 1971 test suit was filed by a group of tax payers in College

Station. State courts, from an Austin district court to the Texas Supreme Court, rejected the employees contention that the state constitution provision on dual employment violated the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution.

An appellate court opinion said that "it is a reasonable conclusion that campaigning for and holding an elective state office would interfere with the employees' time, energy and devotion to his official duties."

The argument for the two amendments is that in some cities and towns state employees make up a large percentage of the population. As it is now they cannot personally represent their interests on city councils, school boards and other elective positions without sacrificing their state salaries. In turn, there are some communities that would like to utilize the abilities of highly trained state employees at no additional cost to local government.

Common Cause, the nonpartisan national citizens' lobby, announced today that it has established in Texas the first full-time, self-contained state affiliate of the national reform organization.

Common Cause of Texas has opened offices in Austin at 409 West 14th Street. The Texas office will be staffed by a Texas Common Cause coordinator, a legislative advocate, and one full-time research associate.

Randall B. Wood, former Director of Elections for the Office of the Secretary of State, has been named the Common Cause legislative advocate in Texas. The Common Cause coordinator for Texas is former Dallas businessman Milton Tobian, who is relocating in Austin to devote full time to Common Cause's effort.

Common Cause is here to stay in Texas. Presently there are 5,000 active members in Texas and membership drives are just getting underway. The Texas membership is very broad based, including conservatives and liberals, Democrats and Republicans. Common Cause and its activities

are entirely nonpartisan. It is expected the Texas membership will exceed 15,000 by early next year.

"In the past two years we have seen Common Cause make tremendous headway in Washington. The Common Cause campaigns to reform the congressional seniority system, secure ratification of the 18-year-old vote amendment, compel public disclosure of campaign contributions, and open party caucuses to public scrutiny have had a dramatic impact on the national scene," Wood said.

"However, from the beginning, Common Cause has emphasized the urgent necessity for the reform of state legislatures, and few state legislatures are in greater need of reform than that in Texas. The Citizens' Conference on State Legislatures has rated the Texas Legislature 38th among the states in its ability to function effectively and responsibly."

During the 63rd Legislature, Common Cause will be working to achieve some basic reforms that will open up the Texas legislative

process and make it more responsive to the people. Passage of legislation supported by Common Cause in the next session will make it possible for future improvements to be made in legislative process. Common Cause will advocate the passage of reform legislation concerning campaign finance, conflict of interest, anti-secrecy acts, special interest lobbying and public access to information.

Passage of this legislation advocated by Common Cause will lay the groundwork for other reforms. It is the belief of the Common Cause membership that meaningful improvements in state legislatures cannot be achieved without reforms that open up the legislative process, the activities of public officials, and the operation of the entire system of state government to public scrutiny.

A&M Awarded \$366,859 Grant

The Federal Highway Administration has awarded A&M \$366,859 for expanded operation of field test and evaluation center specializing in standardized and evaluation of skid measurement systems and skid measurement processes.

Announcement of the award was made by Cong. Olin Teague.

TAMU's Texas Transportation Institute established the center last year as an FHWA pilot project to serve 16 central and southern states. Two other centers are now being formed to serve eastern and western states.

Bulletin Board

TUESDAY

Ag Eco Club will meet in Rooms 112-113 at 7:30 p.m. in the Plant Science Building.

A&M Collegiate Future Farmers of America Chapter will meet in Room 145 of the Physics Building at 7:30 p.m. There will be a slide presentation of the National FFA Convention. Refreshments will be served.

Lake of the Pines will meet in Room 2A of the Memorial Student Center at 7:30 p.m.

Go Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the MSC. Bring your go sets.

American Society of Agricultural Engineers will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Lecture Room of the Agricultural Engineering Building. A film on duck hunting will be shown.

Organizational Bonfire Meeting of all girls in the Student "Y" will be held in the Assembly Room of the MSC at 6:30 p.m.

Students International Meditation Society will meet in Room 146 of the Physics Building at 8 p.m. This meeting is the first lecture seminar on the technique of Transcendental Meditation. A follow-up lecture will be Thursday.

WEDNESDAY

Student "Y" Association's Drug Abuse program will be presented in the MSC Ballroom at 7:30 p.m. Ray Martinez, a narcotics officer for the Department of Public Safety out of Houston, will speak.

DeWitt-Lavaca County Home-town Club will meet in Room 203 of the Academic Building at 7:30 p.m.

Sports Car Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the old College Station City Hall, 110 Church St., to discuss future events.

U.S. Senate Hopefuls State Positions

(Continued from page 1)
national priorities for the next congress?

In my opinion, our highest priority must be given to busing in our school systems. Until forced busing is stopped, the chaos it has brought to our schools cannot be eliminated. Quality education for all students will continue to suffer as a consequence. Congress has passed legislation designed to curb housing, but the federal courts have negated its implementation through constitutional interpretations. I feel, then, that Congress must approve a constitutional

amendment to clearly prohibit forced busing to create a racial balance. Congress must continue to improve the economy by limiting inflation and increasing employment. As the economy grows, Congress must insure that our environment is protected. Recognizing that there is a relation between environmental protection and jobs, Congress has the duty to work for responsible legislation which preserves the ecological balance and improves the environment.

Finally, Congress cannot forget its duty to provide for the national defense necessary to pre-

serve peace. We must provide funds necessary for defense, but we must see that they are effectively and efficiently utilized.

What programs would you support to improve the administration of criminal justice and the penal system in the United States?

Two areas of criminal law requiring immediate attention are speedy trials and penal reform. The lack of swift judicial action causes unnecessary hardships to both the guilty and the innocent: I have sponsored legislation, S. 895, requiring, wherever possible, trials within sixty days of the indictment. Convicted criminals must not be forgotten. The present penal system is not doing enough to help in prisoner reform. I have sponsored a bill, S. 2939, for a study on minimum prison conditions designed to facilitate prisoner rehabilitation.

Richard Garcia, Socialist Workers
What do you consider the national priorities for the next congress?

1) Total and immediate withdrawal of all U.S. troops and material from Southeast Asia. Abolish the draft. Unconditional amnesty for those accused of draft evasion or desertion.

2) Fight for the government's assault on rights and wages of working people. Vote to end all wage controls; end the war and war on spending; shorten the

work week, with no loss in pay to combat unemployment; guarantee unemployment compensation at union wages for all unemployed; equal rights in unions and on jobs for Black, Raza and women workers.

3) Enact Abzug's bill to repeal all anti-abortion laws. Ratify the Equal Rights Amendment and act to enforce Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination on basis of sex; provide free, quality 24-hour child care facilities.

4) End harassment and deportation of Chicano and Mexican workers by immigration agents. End U.S. government buying of non-U.F.W.O.C. lettuce; institute use of Spanish in schools, courtrooms, prisons, jobs, and on ballot where Spanish speakers predominate; end of racist stereotypes in textbooks and advertising. Support to the formation of a mass, independent Chicano political organization such as the Raza Unida Party in Texas.

What programs would you support to improve the administration of criminal justice and the penal system in the United States?

Free all political prisoners. End censorship and restrictions on mail; immediate trials by juries of peers; all prison labor paid at union wages; humane treatment and conditions for all prisoners.

Forest Product Demand Increase Anticipated

A great increase in demand for forest products is anticipated by the year 2000, said Dr. Frederick Wangaard.

Wangaard, professor and head of the Department of Forest and Wood Science at Colorado State University, spoke to a small crowd in the University Library Monday night on the subject of "Wood: A Neglected Resource."

Wangaard pointed out that the current consumption of wood is 13 billion cubic feet, in the form of lumber, plywood, paper and thousands of other products. This

is expected to more than double by the year 2000.

"With reasonable estimates of what our forests will be able to supply, we have a projection of producing only 60 billion cubic feet by 2000," said Dr. Wangaard. He went on to say that the equi-

librium price index that has been studied by the Cabinet Task Force will be 173 instead of 100 and the quantity available will be 64 billion.

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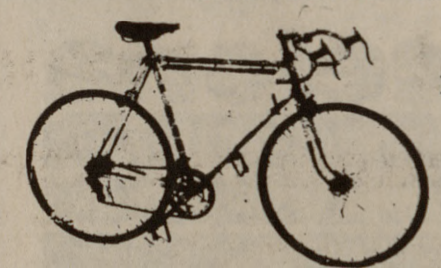
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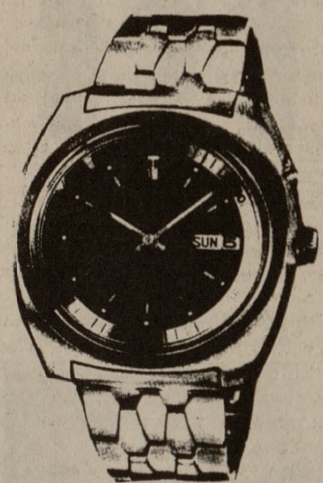
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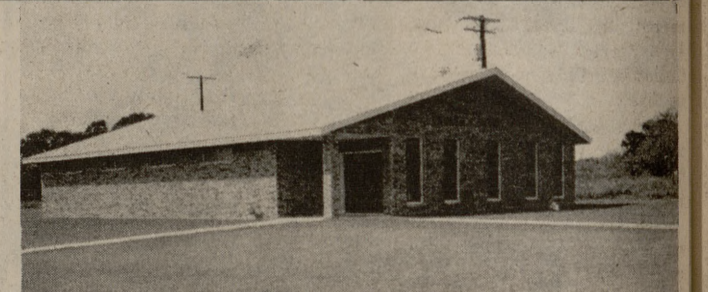


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Kent Ellis, Evangelist

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?

In three previous articles we have presented evidence showing that baptism in the New Testament was and is immersion. Your reaction may be: what difference does it make? Such an attitude could have been learned easily from religious teachers of note.

Thomas Aquinas wrote: "And, therefore, although it is safer to baptize by immersion, because this is the more ordinary fashion, yet baptism can be conferred by sprinkling or also by pouring..." (Summa Theologica, Of the Sacrament of Baptism, Q. 66, A. 7). While Martin Luther preferred immersion, he did not "deem this necessary," although he declared it "was also doubtless instituted by Christ" Work of Martin Luther, The Philadelphia Edition, Vol. 2, pp. 226, 230, 231). John Calvin taught: "Whether the person who is baptized be wholly immersed, and whether thrice or once, or whether water be only poured or sprinkled upon him, is of no importance;... The very word baptize, however, signifies to immerse; and it is certain that immersion was the practice of the ancient Church" (Institutes of the Christian Religion, IV, ch. XV, 19).

Does it not seem strange that religious leaders would say it is not necessary to and of no importance whether people do what was doubtless instituted by Christ and is certain was the practice of the ancient church? It is sensible to tell men they need not follow the "safer" course in a matter of such great significance!

What difference does it make? It makes the difference between doing what Christ commanded and not doing it. It means relying either on what the word of God says or on men's opinion. On one occasion Christ posed a question we would do well to ponder: "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46; cf. Heb. 5:9).

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