

# Democrats urge Texans to give Bentsen 2 votes

AUSTIN (AP) — Texans cast ballots Tuesday in a race that has a Texan on each presidential ticket and Democrats urging people to vote twice — legally — for Sen. Lloyd Bentsen.

Vice President George Bush, who moved to Texas in 1948 and still calls Houston home, led in every opinion poll taken since mid-summer despite Bentsen's position as Democratic running mate to Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis.

Dukakis campaigners insisted in the final days that they were narrowing the gap. And polls showed Bentsen well ahead in his second race, for re-election to a fourth Senate term, which is allowed under a 1959 law passed so Lyndon Johnson could seek re-election to the Senate and run for the White House.

Down the ballot, heated campaigns are being waged for the unprecedented six openings on the Texas Supreme Court, and Texans also will be choosing 150 members of the state House and half the state Senate.

With 29 electoral votes, Texas is the nation's third-largest Election Day prize and serves as a power base for Bush. His campaign has been pushed by every leading Texas Republican, including Gov. Bill Clements, U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm and former Sen. John Tower.

Dukakis tried to revive the 1960 "Boston-Austin axis," when John F. Kennedy chose Johnson as his running mate, by selecting Bentsen to run with him. But several Democratic politicians said Dukakis' choice of Bentsen instead gave voters a chance to vote for both Bush and Bentsen and block straight-ticket Republican voting.

"I think Bentsen is having a very obvious effect on the coattails. If any Democrat survives a close race, it will be because of Lloyd Bentsen," said Democratic state Rep. Stan Schlueter.

In that Senate race, Amarillo Congressman Beau Boulter campaigned hard but was outspent by Bentsen. According to Sept. 30 campaign finance reports, Bentsen had raised about \$8.5 million to the Republican challenger's \$1.5 million.

Boulter began his campaign by criticizing Bentsen for "riding two horses at once" with his dual candidacy.

**"If any Democrat survives a close race, it will be because of Lloyd Bentsen"**  
**Democratic state Rep. Stan Schlueter**

As the campaign drew to a close, Boulter also accused Bentsen of turning his back on Dukakis and concentrating on his re-election bid. "He has no commitment to any philosophy under the sun as far as I can see. He is the most elitist, special-interest, backroom powerbroker politician this country has ever seen in its history," Boulter charged.

Throughout the campaign, Bentsen pointed to the state law that wouldn't allow him to withdraw from the Senate race without giving the office to the Republicans. And besides, he argued, Texans enjoy having him as chairman of the powerful Senate Finance Committee.

Jack Devore, a spokesman for Bentsen's Senate campaign, said Boulter's last-minute criticism was a desperation move. "He seems to be coming apart at the seams," Devore said.

U.S. House Speaker Jim Wright of Fort Worth faced no opposition, and Democratic officials said they hoped their candidates would pick up one or two seats in congressional races to expand their 17-10 lead.

Some of the closest races looked to be those in Boulter's Panhandle district, where Democratic state Sen. Bill Sarpalis faced Republican Larry Milner, and in the south-central district of Republican Rep. Mac Sweeney, who was challenged by Democrat Greg Laughlin.

Due in part to negative national publicity given the Texas Supreme Court after its refusal last year to even hear the \$11 billion judgment against Texaco Inc. in its battle with Penzoil, this year's court races have been unusually heated.

Resignations by Democrats allowed Republican Gov. Bill Clements to appoint three GOP justices this year, including Chief Justice Tom Phillips. The remainder of those terms, plus three other regular openings, are up for election.

The chief justice candidates —

Phillips and Democratic Justice Ted Z. Robertson — each raised more than \$1.8 million for their races and both flooded the airwaves with television commercials.

The big-money aspects of the Supreme Court races also were illustrated by a political committee organized by plaintiffs' lawyers, Fund for a Democratic Texas, to give \$1 million to help Democratic court candidates.

Republicans also are matched against Democratic incumbents in two of the three races for the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, and a Libertarian faces a Democratic incumbent in the other race.

In other races being decided Tuesday:

— Two seats on the Railroad Commission are at stake.

Kent Hance, first Republican to serve on the 100-year-old commission, was appointed last year by Clements to fill a seat vacated when Democrat Mack Wallace resigned. The two remaining years of the term are at stake in the upcoming election, in which Hance faces Democratic challenger Clint Hackney, a state representative.

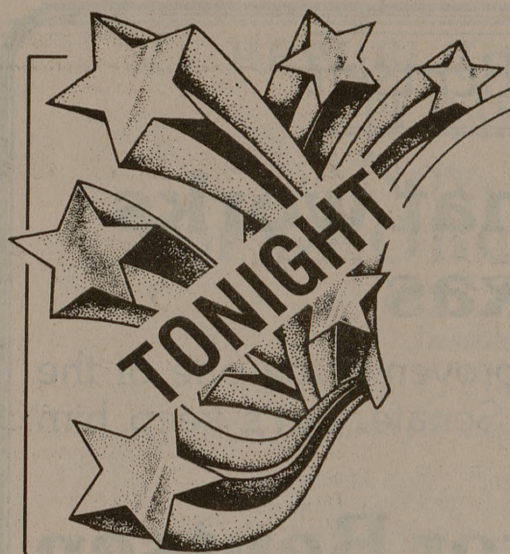
— All 15 seats on the State Board of Education are up for grabs. The old elected board was abolished in 1984, after passage of House Bill 72 and its school reforms. However, the legislation called for the board to revert to an elected panel in four years.

— Three proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution also must be decided.

Proposition 1 would require that all the money Texas gets from the federal government as reimbursement for highway projects be used to pay for those projects.

Proposition 2 would establish a so-called "Rainy Day Fund" where state revenue would be set aside and saved for appropriation in years when tax revenues fall short of meeting expenses.

Proposition 3 would set up a "Growth Fund" and allow trustees of the state's two education funds and two state-employee pension funds more investment flexibility, including investment in the growth fund.



# GEORGE BUSH

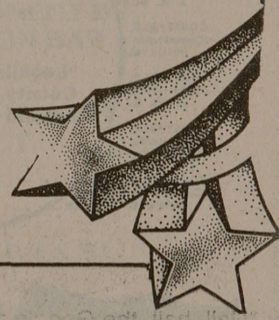
## VICTORY '88 RALLY

Join the Winning Team  
7:00 p.m. TONIGHT  
701 Rudder Tower

TODAY

## Please Join GEORGE BUSH, JR. AND SEN. PHIL GRAMM

at the  
TEXAS A&M HANGAR  
at EASTERWOOD AIRPORT  
TODAY 3:30 p.m.



Paid for by TAMU Victory '88

# The MSC MBA/Law Committee presents

## The MBA/Law Symposium "Destined for Success"

Nov. 9, Wednesday

Nov. 12, Saturday

**Representatives from:**  
**Harvard and Chicago Business & Law Schools**  
**Georgetown, Notre Dame & Cornell Law Schools**  
**Wharton Business School**  
**Business & Law schools in Texas**  
**10am-4pm, 1st floor hallway, MSC**

**Business and Law professionals speak on career development issues**  
**9:30am-5:30pm, 211 MSC**



Register in MSC Hallway, Blocker ad Student Programs Office  
10am 3pm October 31-November 11  
\$5 in advance/\$8 at the door  
Call 845-1515 for more information