

## Texas tries to return to normal

HOUSTON (AP)—A tearful Continental Airlines pilot who joined hundreds of donors giving blood in downtown Houston Wednesday could not imagine how he would get back on a plane but said he had no choice.

"Aviation and our lives as Americans are never going to be the same. The flying experience is never going to be the same," said Eric Hochberg, a pilot with 31 years of experience.

He and other Texans tried to regain some sense of normalcy the day after four hijacked airplanes left the World Trade Center, the Pentagon in a shambles and a deep, burned gouge in a southwestern Pennsylvania field. A complete death toll could take weeks to establish, but none of the 266 occupants of the four aircraft survived.

Thousands of Texas workers statewide who went home by midday Tuesday returned to work, though on alert.

"For more than 200 years, we've sustained attacks," said Gov. Rick Perry in Austin. "We've suffered tremendous loss. But we have never yielded to the cause of evil, and we never will."

Enron Corp. in Houston was among energy and oil companies reassuring consumers fearful that Tuesday's attacks could affect supply.

"The markets are stable for gas and power," spokesman Mark Palmer said. "Our pipeline operations never missed a beat. Our critical operations employees stayed here throughout the day yesterday."

**"For more than 200 years, we've sustained attacks. We've suffered tremendous loss. But we have never yielded to the cause of evil, and we never will."**

— Rick Perry  
Texas governor

day, and our pipeline infrastructure is stable and secure."

Classes resumed at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, but students and professors remained focused on the attacks.

"If affects your whole way of life, no matter where you are," said Walker Wood, a 20-year-old sophomore. "Almost instantly, you realize how fragile life is."

Jury selection in the burglary trial of boxer Tony Ayala Jr. resumed in San Antonio. The Port of Houston continued to operate with heightened security and fighter jets patrolled the Gulf of Mexico.

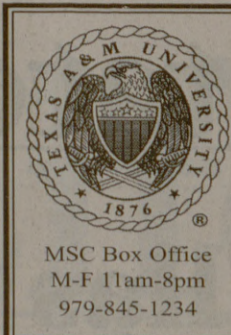
But skies would remain mostly empty of commercial aircraft. The Federal Aviation Administration lifted Tuesday's groundstop only to allow passengers stranded in airports across the country to reach their original destinations.

Some airlines, including Dallas-based Southwest, announced they would not fly until Thursday.

Houston-based Continental Airlines planned to start moving its stranded passengers as much as possible Wednesday, said spokesman Rashaan Johnson.

He said he did not know how many of the thousands marooned in 2,000 grounded Continental planes would get in the air because any movement depended on whether their destination airports also were operating.

Travelers, however, would face a routine starkly different from what they experienced before Tuesday's tragedies, said Ernie DeSoto, spokesman for the Houston Aviation Department.



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS  
Special Election  
NOVEMBER 6, 2001

### PROPOSITION 1 (HJR 52)

Proposition 1 would amend the constitution to relinquish the state's claim to certain disputed land in Bastrop County. The amendment would confirm legal title to that land, excluding any mineral interests, to the individuals who hold a disputed title to the land. The amendment would prevent a loss of title by people who bought and paid for property that was never transferred by the state because of faulty surveys.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the clearing of land titles by the release of a state claim of its interest to the owners of certain land in Bastrop County."

### PROPOSITION 2 (SJR 37)

Proposition 2 would amend the constitution to establish the process for issuing up to \$175 million of state general obligation bonds and notes to provide aid to counties for access road projects to serve border colonies. Generally, a colony is an economically distressed geographic area with inadequate public services (such as water supplies, sewer services, or paved roads) in a county without adequate resources to provide such services. These projects could include the construction of access roads, the acquisition of materials used in maintaining those roads, and projects related to the construction of those roads, such as road drainage. The Texas Transportation Commission, in consultation with the Governor, would be authorized to determine what constitutes a border colony for purposes of selecting the counties and projects that would receive assistance.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of state general obligation bonds and notes to provide financial assistance to counties for roadway projects to serve border colonies."

### PROPOSITION 3 (SJR 47)

Proposition 3 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to exempt green coffee and raw cocoa held in Harris County from property taxes in order to qualify Harris County as an exchange port for coffee by the New York Board of Trade. The authorization of exemption would not apply to any other county.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation raw cocoa and green coffee that is held in Harris County."

### PROPOSITION 4 (HJR 1)

Proposition 4 would amend the constitution by setting the term of the fire fighters' pension commissioner at four years. The constitution currently provides that the duration of all offices not otherwise fixed by the constitution may not exceed two years.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for a four-year term of office for the fire fighters' pension commissioner."

### PROPOSITION 5 (SJR 32)

Proposition 5 would amend the constitution to allow a municipality to donate outdated or surplus equipment, supplies, or other materials used in fighting fires to an underdeveloped county. Current state law does not allow anything of value belonging to the state or its political subdivisions to be donated to another nation.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing municipalities to donate outdated or surplus firefighting equipment or supplies to underdeveloped counties."

### PROPOSITION 6 (HJR 45)

Proposition 6 would amend the constitution to require the governor to call a special session of the legislature so that the legislature can appoint presidential electors when the governor determines that it is reasonably likely that the outcome of the election for a presidential candidate's electors will not be clearly determined in time for the appropriate electors to meet before the federal deadline to cast their votes. Under current law, when the people vote for a particular candidate for president, in reality they are voting for that candidate's electors who will meet to cast their votes for president. If the electors are not determined by the certification date, no electoral votes may be cast for the state. The proposed amendment ensures that the state's electoral votes will be cast.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment requiring the governor to call a special session for the appointment of presidential electors under certain circumstances."

### PROPOSITION 7 (HJR 82)

Proposition 7 would amend the constitution to authorize the Veterans' Land Board to issue and sell up to \$500 million of additional general obligation bonds to finance additional home mortgage loans to veterans. Additionally, the proposed amendment would authorize the Veterans' Land Board to use assets from the land and housing assistance funds to create, operate, and improve veterans' cemeteries.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the Veterans' Land Board to issue up to \$500 million in general obligation bonds payable from the general revenues of the state for veterans' housing assistance and to use assets in certain veterans' land and veterans' housing assistance funds to provide for veterans cemeteries."

### PROPOSITION 8 (HJR 97)

Proposition 8 would amend the constitution to allow the legislature to authorize the Texas Public Finance Authority to issue and sell up to \$850 million of general obligation bonds. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds would pay for construction and repair projects or for the purchase of needed equipment by the General Services Commission, the Texas Youth Commission, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the

Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Parks and Wildlife Department, the adjutant general's department, the Texas School for the Deaf, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Public Safety, the State Preservation Board, the Texas Department of Health, the Texas Historical Commission, or the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of up to \$850 million in bonds payable from the general revenues of the state for construction and repair projects and for the purchase of needed equipment."

### PROPOSITION 9 (HJR 47)

Proposition 9 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to provide for filling vacancies in the legislature without an election if only one person is a qualified candidate in the election to fill the vacancy. Under current law, a special election must be held to fill a vacancy in the legislature even if there is only one qualified candidate.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the filling of a vacancy in the legislature without an election if a candidate is running unopposed in an election to fill a vacancy."

### PROPOSITION 10 (SJR 6)

Proposition 10 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to exempt certain items of personal property from property taxation by political subdivisions of the state if the property is warehoused temporarily in a location in Texas to be assembled, stored, manufactured, processed, fabricated, or repaired and then forwarded to another location inside or outside Texas. The proposed amendment would authorize a political subdivision that imposes ad valorem taxes, at its option, to tax this type of property after a local public hearing on the matter.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to promote equal tax treatment for products produced, acquired, and distributed in the State of Texas by authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation tangible personal property held at certain locations only temporarily for assembling, manufacturing, processing, or other commercial purposes."

### PROPOSITION 11 (HJR 85)

Proposition 11 would amend the constitution to allow a schoolteacher, a retired schoolteacher, or a retired school administrator who serves as a member of a governing body of a school district, city, town, or other local governmental district, including a water district, to receive compensation for serving on such a governing body. Currently, state employees or other individuals who are compensated directly or indirectly from state funds are barred from receiving a salary for such service.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to allow current and retired public school teachers and retired public school administrators to receive compensation for serving on the governing bodies of school districts, cities, towns, or other local governmental districts, including water districts."

### PROPOSITION 12 (HJR 75)

Proposition 12 would amend, repeal, or relocate several sections of the current

constitution to improve the clarity, organization, and consistency of the constitution.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to eliminate obsolete, archaic, redundant, and unnecessary provisions and to clarify, update, and harmonize certain provisions of the Texas Constitution."

### PROPOSITION 13 (SJR 2)

Proposition 13 would amend the constitution to allow the legislature to authorize a board of trustees of an independent school district to donate real property and improvements formerly used as a school campus in order to preserve that property. The board may make the donation if the board determines that the property has historical significance, that the donation will help to preserve the property, and that the school district no longer needs the property for educational purposes.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to authorize the board of trustees of an independent school district to donate certain surplus district property of historical significance in order to preserve the property."

### PROPOSITION 14 (HJR 44)

Proposition 14 would amend the constitution to allow the legislature to authorize a taxing unit, other than a school district, to exempt travel trailers from property taxation as long as the travel trailers are lawfully registered with the state and are not held or used for the production of income.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to authorize taxing units other than school districts to exempt from ad valorem taxation travel trailers that are not held or used for the production of income."

### PROPOSITION 15 (SJR 16)

Proposition 15 would amend the constitution to create the Texas Mobility Fund, which would be administered by the Texas Transportation Commission. The Fund would finance the construction, acquisition, and expansion of state highways and would pay a portion of the costs of public toll roads and other public transportation projects. The legislature may reserve specific sources of state revenue for the Fund and may authorize the Commission to guarantee the payment of any obligations or credit agreements with the full faith and credit of the state. The attorney general shall determine the legality of any such obligations or credit agreements.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment creating the Texas Mobility Fund and authorizing grants and loans of money and issuance of obligations for financing the construction, reconstruction, acquisition, operation, and expansion of state highways, turnpikes, toll roads, toll bridges, and other mobility projects."

### PROPOSITION 16 (HJR 5)

Proposition 16 would amend the constitution to reduce the waiting period required for a valid home improvement lien on a homestead from 12 days to 5 days. Currently, a lien may not attach to a homestead for a home improvement loan if the homeowner executed a contract for the improvements less than 12 days after applying for the loan. In addition, the proposed amendment would

authorize the conversion and refinancing of a personal property lien secured by a manufactured home to a lien on a homestead.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment prescribing requirements for imposing a lien for work and material used in the construction, repair, or renovation of improvements on residential homestead property and including the conversion and refinancing of a personal property lien secured by a manufactured home to a lien on real property as a debt on homestead property protected from a forced sale."

### PROPOSITION 17 (HJR 53)

Proposition 17 would amend the constitution to allow the state to relinquish claim to certain state land and to clear title defects for persons who claim title to those lands. The proposed amendment would apply to land whose owners have disputed title to the land, but for which no patent from the state, giving clear title to the land, was ever issued. Among other requirements, all of the taxes due on the land must have been paid. Under current law, there is no procedure allowing the state to settle title disputes without a constitutional amendment for each piece of land in dispute.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to settle land title disputes between the state and a private party."

### PROPOSITION 18 (SJR 49)

Proposition 18 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to create a program to consolidate and standardize the collection, deposit, reporting, and payment of criminal and civil court fees. If the legislature creates such a program, any new fees imposed by the legislature may not take effect before January 1 of the following year, unless an earlier effective date is approved by a vote of two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to promote uniformity in the collection, deposit, reporting, and remitting of civil and criminal fees."

### PROPOSITION 19 (HJR 81)

Proposition 19 would amend the constitution to allow the Texas Water Development Board to issue up to \$2 billion of additional general obligation bonds. The Board issues bonds to pay for water supply projects, water quality enhancement projects, flood control projects, state participation in water and wastewater facilities, and projects for economically distressed areas. Current law limits the amount of bonds that the Board can issue.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of additional general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board in an amount not to exceed \$2 billion."

Estos son los informes explicatorios sobre las enmiendas propuestas a la constitución que aparecerán en la boleta el 6 de noviembre de 2001. Si usted no ha recibido una copia de los informes en español, podrá obtener una gratis por llamada al 1/800/252/8683 or por escribir al Secretario de Estado, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, TX 78711.

PUBLISHED BY SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY CUELLAR, Ph.D.