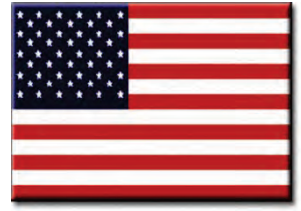




Village Republican Women

February 2011

Newsletter



www.VillageRepublicanWomen.org

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PROGRAM

Houston Racquet Club

10709 Memorial Drive

Wednesday, February 23, 2011

9:30 Check-in and Coffee

10:00 Meeting

- ◆ Lunch is \$20.00 (Cash required) ◆
- ◆ RSVP required by Noon Friday, Feb. 18 ◆
- No-shows will be billed*

[Click Here to RSVP on the website](#)

Nolia Rohde: hospitality@villagerepublicanwomen.org
281-496-1195



The Honorable Bill King

Former Mayor of Kemah TX

Village Republican Women welcomes Bill King as our speaker for February. As the former mayor of Kemah, Bill has extensive experience in city government. We have all seen his thought-provoking editorials in the Houston Chronicle, and we are excited to learn the facts about the fiscal situation at city hall.

President's Message.....

As we move through February, the Texas Legislature has already begun work on one of our most pressing issues—Voter ID. Governor Perry listed this as an emergency matter that would be addressed even before committees were assigned and regular bills were put forward. We feel confident that there will be much more stringent control of the voting process by the next time Texas voters go to the polls. We cannot allow the distrust of our election outcomes to continue.

A group within the Legislature, The Texas Conservative Coalition, <http://txcc.org/>, has made a pledge with Texas to accomplish the following objectives:

- Balance the Budget without Raising Taxes
- Limit Federal Intrusion into Texas Affairs
- Improve Election Integrity
- Cut Taxes on Property and Businesses
- Secure the Texas Border

Leaders within TFRW and Village RW will be watching what happens to ensure that these measures are implemented to keep Texas strong and secure. A group of us will be going to Austin in March to see for ourselves what is happening and we will continue to lobby our legislators on matters of importance to us. Stay alert and informed by attending our meetings and reading the announcements that we send to you. Together we can make a big difference in our beloved state.

Best regards, Beverly Roberts

Important dates:

March 2	Belles N Boots Gala, Austin
March 3	Legislative Day, Austin
March 15	GHC Meeting, SOSA Community Center
March 23	VRW General Meeting, Houston Racquet Club
April 11	VRW Fundraiser, Junior League Ballroom

Board Meeting

**Wednesday, March 7, 9:30 a.m.
Home of Beverly Roberts
818 Silvergate Drive, Houston
832-443-8109**

**For more information about our Club, please call 832-443-8109 or visit
www.villagerepublicanwomen.org**

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY VILLAGE REPUBLICAN WOMEN PAC FUND



The Director of Elections of the Texas Secretary of State tells us there were 3,975,567 new voters registered between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2010, of whom only 1% (34,506) failed to provide a Texas Driver's license number or Social Security number at registration. Now we must figure out who they are.

Current election law requires that a voter be accepted to vote upon presentation of a voter registration certificate. SB 14 passed the Senate on a party-line vote on January 26 and was received in the Texas House January 27. Once approved in the House, Texas will have a voter ID modeled on Indiana's. Dems don't seem too happy about that.

SB 14 requires Texas voters under age 70 show their registration AND a driver's license, state ID card, military ID, concealed handgun license, passport or citizenship ID when they vote.

Every new and renewal voter registration certificate will contain a notice (wording to be provided by Secretary of State) of what kind of ID will be required in order to vote. The usual voter identification education boondoggles (web sites! secretary of state classroom efforts! big cards on display in the county clerks' offices!) to educate the voters on what they can take to the polls with their pictures on them so they can vote (these efforts obviously are for Democrats). Sen. Kirk Watson (D-Austin) offered a floor amendment that makes SB 14 effective ONLY IF a "specific appropriation for the implementation of the Act is provided in a general appropriation act of the 82nd Legislature." Expect a LOT of filibustering on the appropriation.

Testimony in favor of SB 14 came from a representative of the Indiana Secretary of State, Catherine Engelbrecht of King Street Patriots, and Carol Kitson of True the Vote. Testimony against came from representatives of: the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, Texas State Conference of NAACP Branches, ACLU, LULAC, MALDEF, Advocacy, Inc. & Disabilities Policy Consortium, Texas AFL-CIO, American GI Forum, Texas League of Women Voters, and National Alliance for Education and Equity.

SB 14 is now before the House and will be taken up by the Select Committee on Voter Identification and Voter Fraud. Members of that Committee are: Rep. Dennis Bonnan, Chair (R- Angleton), Vice-Chair Rep. Marc Veasey (D- Fort Worth), Rep. Jose Aliseda (R- Beeville), Rep. Roland Gutierrez (D - San Antonio), Rep. Patricia Harless (R - Spring), Rep. Harvey Hilderbran (R - Kerrville) , Rep. Scott Hochberg (D- Houston), Rep. Aaron Pena (R- Edinburg) and Rep. Larry Taylor (R- League City). Rep Taylor is also Chair of the Elections Committee, which may also take up SB 14, leaving the Democrats with two additional filibuster opportunities in the House.

When SB 14 (or something like it) passes the House, there will still be that requirement that it be "funded," so expect yet another fight on appropriations in order to make the bill actually take effect.

S.O.S

SEND ONE SUIT WEEK



Remember to Bring Your Donations to
Village Republican Women
Meeting on February 23rd
Large Sizes and Accessories Requested
Checks or Cash Donations Accepted

Donate
your professional attire and
empower
a disadvantaged woman
in our community.

To many women, this is a **life jacket.**



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