




**Richardson
Republican
Women**

*APRIL
2012*




*PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE:*

We must educate ourselves in order to arm ourselves for the storm ahead!

Remember, if our Election is not truly fair, then we are not truly free!

God Bless,
Diane Dees

Greetings Everyone,
I hope that everyone stayed safe from the storms this week. Now we need to prepare for the storm coming in November. The O'Bama storm! We need to educate ourselves and our friends and neighbors about why we must elect a Republican President come November!! At the DCCRW meeting this past Tuesday, we heard from a member of King Street Patriots about their efforts to educate people about voter fraud and train people as poll watchers to help in the coming elections. One of the things we can do from home is help clean up the voter rolls on our computers. There are many deceased people who are still on the voter rolls and they need to be removed. One volunteer opportunity is the True the Vote. True the Vote is a non-partisan initiative developed by citizens for citizens to inspire and equip volunteers for involvement at every stage of our electoral process and to actively protect the rights of legitimate voters. You can find out more on their 2 websites: www.kingstreetpatriots.org and www.truethevote.org
True the vote has a Nat'l Summit coming up April 27-28 in Houston that you can attend to get more involved. Also, for volunteering locally, you can Contact Jolene Tate who is in charge of Ballot Integrity. They also suggested a movie to watch named AGENDA to learn more about what O'Bama's agenda is and who he is connected to that is helping him. And a book with good information is INJUSTICE by Christian Adams. →

UPCOMING EVENTS:

RRW CLUB MEETING:

**APRIL 17, 2012 at Sonny Bryan's BBQ,
1251 Campbell Rd. 6:30 dinner, 7:00 meeting.**

Speaker: *Justice Mary Murphy

Bring a friend!!

APRIL 21, 2012 SD8 CONVENTION

9 am Richardson Civic Center

**APRIL 21, 2012 Cupcakes with the
Councilmen**

3 pm.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

MAY Flags Project date TBA

JUNE 2 Salute to Maureen Dickey

JUNE 7-9 State Convention in Ft. Worth

JUNE 8th State Convention Salute to Women

(RRWPac will be assisting with pictures. If you would like to volunteer for this privilege contact Susan Fischer.)

Campaign Hours: Please send your campaign volunteer hours for Jan.- Mar. to Catherine Tolliver. They are due in April!!! Email them to cathtoll@aol.com

Website: www.rrwpac.com



WHAT'S HAPPENING:

RRW Meeting:

Last month the Richardson Republican Women met at the Sonny Bryan's BBQ restaurant. Wade Emmert, Chairman of Dallas County Republican Party, spoke to the club. Mr. Emmert was raised in Midland TX and attended Abilene Christian University and Baylor School of Law. It was in Abilene that Wade Emmert first started his political journey by joining the College Republicans. He has volunteered and worked in many capacities in the Republican Party. Mr. Emmert coordinated ballot integrity training and organization throughout Dallas County and led the fight to expose the use of Wite-Out by an election judge to change provisional ballots. Mr. Wade Emmert gave the club an overview of the process for this year's conventions giving us dates and how the Senatorial Conventions will work.



Wade Emmert spoke on the Senatorial Conventions and how it will all work for the primary.



Left: Diane Dees with husband Eddie and Mike and Laurie Cantrell at the RRW Club meeting.



Right: Diane Dees with guest speaker Wade Emmert and Susan Fisher

PRETAINING TO OTHER CLUBS:

DCCRW

POWER Rally Kick-Off

Tuesday, May 1

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Northwood Country Club

\$35.00 per person

Celebrating the dedication and service of TX Senator Florence Shapiro and Dallas County Commissioner Maurine Dickey - two very POWERful Republican women! (pg. 4 for details)



Next month we will again meet at Sonny Bryan's restaurant to hear Justice Mary Murphy speak on judicial temperance and activist judges.

BIOGRAPHY:



Justice Mary Murphy was elected to the Fifth District Court of Appeals in November 2008 and she took the oath of office January 1, 2009. The Fifth District covers appeals from the counties of Collin, Dallas, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman, and Rockwall. From 2001 through 2008, she presided in the 14th Civil District Court in Dallas County, Texas, including Presiding Judge for the Civil District Courts in Dallas County (2006) and Presiding Judge for Civil Jury Services (2002-03).

Prior to being elected to the 14th District Court, she was in private practice for almost 18 years. She was a name partner in the firm of Rochelle, Hutchison & Murphy from 1998 to 2000. Until 1997, she was a partner in the Litigation and Intellectual Property Sections of the firm of Jenkins & Gilchrist, and Hiring Partner in 1995-96. In 1997, she took a year's leave from practice to serve as the first Dallas County Civil Court Master, and was recognized for Outstanding Service to the Citizens of Dallas County. From 1983 to 1986, she was a litigation associate with Gorsuch Kirgis in Denver , Colorado .

She is a Fellow of the American Bar, Texas Bar, Dallas Bar, and Dallas Association of Young Lawyers Foundations. She currently serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Dallas Bar Foundation, which administers grants, including the Sarah T. Hughes Diversity Scholarships to SMU Dedman School of Law. She has held numerous leadership positions with the American and Dallas Bar Associations, the State Bar of Texas, and currently serves as the President of The Patrick E. Higginbotham American Inn of Court, a mentoring group committed to legal excellence, civility, professionalism, and ethics.

In 2007, she received her Certification in Civil Jurisprudence from the Texas Center for the Judiciary and was recognized by the State Bar of Texas with a Presidential Commendation for individual leadership in improving justice in Texas. She is a 1983 graduate from SMU School of Law, where she has served as an Adjunct Professor in Trial Advocacy and as a visiting lecturer for various classes. She is a 1979 graduate from the University of Texas at Dallas, where she was recognized in 2006 as an Outstanding Alumna, and currently serves on the Pre-Law Council. Also in 2006, the Dallas Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates honored Judge Murphy as the 2006 Judge of the Year.

Justice Murphy is committed to volunteer projects and has been recognized by the Dallas Voluntary Attorney Program for pro bono services. Her volunteer activities include tutoring at Cesar Chavez Learning Center, mentoring through the Dallas Bar Association's E-Mentoring and Transition to Law programs, construction for Habitat for Humanity, and service projects through the Becomers Class at First United Methodist Church.

She has been married to Gregory Huffman, an antitrust attorney with Thompson & Knight, for over 23 years and they have two sons, Ted (finishing his junior year at Vanderbilt University) and Mark (a high school senior at Greenhill, who insists on going to college).

**Dallas County Council of Republican Women
Celebrates**

**The Honorable Florence Shapiro,
The Honorable Maurine Dickey &**

**2012 Power of Women to Elect Republicans "POWER"
Rally Kick-off**

**Recognize and honor the dedicated service of two POWERful women
Motivate women to engage their POWER
by participating in the 2012 POWER Rally!**

**Tuesday, May 1 - 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Northwood Country Club - 6524 Alpha Road
Heavy hors d'oeuvres and cash bar - Special music by Judy Moore**

\$35.00 per person

**Reservations: Make check payable to DCCRW
and send with the form available [here](#)
to Pat Bielefeld, DCCRW PAC Treasurer,
6821 Robin Willow Court, Dallas, TX 75248
or
pay online using PayPal**

Reservations must be received by April 24.

**Questions: Contact Nancy Natinsky at nancy@obgt.com
or 972-732-4000.**

SOMETHING OF INTEREST:

DALLAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

Countywide Walk Training Event

April 14th 10 am to 3 pm

Randy Dunning will be conducting a Walk Training from one location.

This is a must if you have never attended a walk training with Randy.

You will leave with confidence and be fully prepared to help us Walk the County as this is the only proven way to get people to the polls with certainty!

Place: Garland (TBA)

Please RSVP to Lisa at lisa@dallasgop.org



continued news from DCRP on next page →

Earth Day – April 21-22

Earth Day Dallas is the second largest Earth Day event in the nation and this year the DCRP is going to be involved. This is a two-day event and we need your help. If you can donate an hour or two of your time on Saturday after your Senatorial Convention or anytime on Sunday, please send me an email at wade@dallasgop.org.

More than 48,000 people will attend this event, many of them are school-aged children wanting to learn about the environment. It's time to show that Republicans care about the environment too — that you can balance the interests of communities and businesses and still be environmentally responsible.

IMPORTANT DATES:

The Primary Date is Set for Tuesday, May 29th. Runoff date July 31st

IMPORTANT TO NOTE: Under the court order, precinct chair elections will occur on July 31 (the date of the runoff) rather than May 29.

Key Election Dates for April & May

Below is a list of Key Election Dates as provided by Michael Li at txredistricting.org.

- April 9, 2012 - Date by which candidates for state house or state senate must be residents of the district they seek to represent.
- April 14, 2012 - Deadline for mailing military and overseas mail ballots for primary.
- April 15, 2012 - Deadline for federal candidates to file their Q1 2012 campaign finance reports (date not extended because it is a Sunday).
- April 18, 2012 - Deadline for candidates for state office to file personal financial statements with the Texas Ethics Commission.
- April 21, 2012 - Democratic senate district and county conventions. Republican senate district and county conventions in some counties. SD 8 Convention 9 am at Richardson Civic Center.
- April 25, 2012 - Date by which county election officials must issue new voter registration certificates to voters.
- April 30, 2012 - Deadline for opposed state, county, and local candidates to file their '30-day before election' reports (covering contributions and expenses through April). Also date by which, voter registration or change of address cards must be postmarked in order to be effective for the primary.
- April 30 - May 8, 2012 - Early voting for May municipal and school board elections.
- May 12, 2012 - Municipal and school board elections.
- May 14-25, 2012 - Early voting for Texas primary.
- May 17, 2012 - Deadline for congressional candidates to file their pre-primary reports (covering contributions and expenses through May 9).
- May 21, 2012 - Deadline for opposed state, county, and local candidates to file their '8-day before election' reports (covering contributions and expenses through May 19).
- May 29, 2012 - Texas primary day.

For more information go to dallasgop.org

LEGISLATORS' NEWS

Texas AG Greg Abbott Is Working to Defeat ObamaCare

Issues a Special Update for Texas Republicans On Monday's SCOTUS Proceedings

Texas Attorney General **Greg Abbott** has recorded a special audio update for Texas Republicans with the latest on the ObamaCare challenge currently being heard by the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C.

Click below to listen to General Abbott's message



"Hi, this is Greg Abbott talking to you from Washington, D.C., just outside of the United States Supreme Court where I'm here fighting for your liberty and your freedom in the ObamaCare lawsuit. I just left the Supreme Court building after we had a day of oral argument where the issue before the court is going to be whether or not they infringe on your liberty and over-reach into your lives unlike ever before. You can tell this is history in the making for two reasons. One reason is because of the massive crowds outside of the court where people across the country are coming here to protest against this over-reaching law. You can also see the history in the court hearings themselves. I've argued a case before the U.S. Supreme Court defending the Ten Commandments monument. I've been here about second amendment cases as well as other cases that Texas has had before the High Court. Every Supreme Court argument lasts one hour. This case is not lasting one hour or even one day. This case is lasting three days in an historic moment before the U.S. Supreme Court as we work so hard to defend you, your lives, your pocketbooks, your taxpayer dollars and your liberty. I'll continue to report back every day to let you know what's going on."

– Greg Abbott, Texas Attorney General

UPDATE FROM REPRESENTATIVE STEFANI CARTER (R-Richardson)



Texas Secretary of State Hope Andrade has launched a voter education program aimed to increase turnout in the upcoming primary on May 29. As some of you know, I am unopposed in the Republican primary, and I support Secretary Andrade's program.



Pushing for Turnout in Texas Primary

April 4, 2012 4:26 pm by: Matt Largey

Photo/KUT News

Texas' primary election day is [less than two months away](#) and Secretary of State Hope Andrade has launched a voter education program aimed to increase turnout. Along with a very late primary date, voters have possible confusion over new district lines to contend with.

"We want to make sure that all our Texans start thinking about voting and hopefully will understand that it will be the day after Memorial Day," Andrade said. "We do have early voting May 14 through the 25 and we're hoping they'll start thinking about maybe including this in their plan for Memorial Day."

The state passed a law last year requiring most voters to show photo identification before casting their ballots, but it was [blocked by the Justice Department last month](#) and will not be enforced for next month's primaries.

<http://kut.org/2012/04/pushing-for-turnout-in-texas-primary/>

I look forward to seeing you around Richardson!

Sincerely,

Stefani Carter

ANGIE CHEN BUTTON



The State of Texas
House of Representatives



April 4, 2012

Friends,

It is officially spring in North Texas! I hope everyone is staying safe as the changing weather can bring dangerous conditions. In Austin, we are gearing up for the next legislative session. If you have an issue or concern you feel could be addressed with legislation, now is the time to begin working on it so please contact me with your ideas. Additionally, we are currently accepting applications for interns in my capitol office. If you have a child or know of someone in Austin that would like to work in my office, please e-mail my chief of staff at Amanda.Jeffers@house.state.tx.us. I am sending out this newsletter a few days early because of the Easter holiday. Our offices will be closed on Friday, April 6th and Monday the 9th so my staff may spend time with their families.

Technology Committee Interim Hearing

On Friday, I traveled to Austin to attend a Technology Committee hearing. It was a very productive hearing. We heard a great deal of testimony on the feasibility of public-private partnerships within the industry. Dr. Bruce Gnade, Vice President for Research at UT Dallas gave informative testimony. He updated the committee on the progress of UTD's Venture Development Center. It currently houses 11 companies that are based on technology developed at the University. Go Comets!

We heard testimony from Karen Robinson, Executive Director, Department of Information Resources and Jonathan Taylor, Director, Office of Governor Perry - Emerging Technology Fund. Jonathan testified that only 2% of early stage investment is spent in Texas. He went on to state, "If we don't compete, we will fail. Companies compete with companies, states compete with states and Texas competes with the world."

I couldn't agree more with Jonathan. During the hearing I commented that I believe strongly in the free-market. I do not think the government should pick winners and losers. I also realize that we do not live in an ivory tower. Other countries and states are providing incentives and if we do not compete, we will lose.

Thanks to our pro-business environment and past investments in research and innovation, Texas is the number-two US state in hi-tech. We already have a good foot in the door. There are definitely questions about the optimal blend of public and private sector research, but I am glad we are having the conversation and I would love to hear your thoughts on the issue.

Supreme Court Hears Arguments on Constitutionality of Affordable Care Act

Last week, the United States Supreme Court heard arguments in the *Florida v. Health and Human Services* case that is challenging the constitutionality of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Affordable Care Act, signed into law in March of 2010, was challenged due to the mandate requiring individuals to purchase health insurance or face penalties.

Last session, Texas legislators took action by passing the Interstate Health Care Compact. This compact, if approved by Congress, will give Texas and other member states the ability to develop health care policies, free of federal regulations and tax penalties, to allow the state to manage our own budget and health care needs. Medicaid as we now know it is unsustainable and will quickly consume an even larger percentage of the state budget.

If the U.S. Supreme Court rules the Affordable Care Act unconstitutional, we can reset the debate on health care and insurance policies. Developing a market driven system that focuses on quality health care outcomes and encourages competition among health care and insurance providers are key reforms to empowering individual consumers to make their own health care decisions without unnecessary government intrusion.

Around the District

March has been a busy month around the district. The 58th Annual Meeting of the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce was very informative. I enjoyed attending the RISD Excellence in Education Foundation Stars & Spurs Reception this month. Mayor Todd Gottel gave an excellent speech at this month's Rowlett Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

It was wonderful catching up with old friends and meeting many new ones at the Richardson Chamber of Commerce's Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony. Richardson City Manager Bill Keffler was selected as Citizen of the Year. Congratulations to all the fantastic individuals and businesses that were nominated for or won awards. The keynote speaker was Andrew Card, Dean of the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University. He delivered a moving speech including giving his personal insights serving as President George Bush's Chief of Staff during and after 9-11. Dean Card's first-hand account of those events was so touching to hear. He spoke of the courage of everyone involved from the first responders to that of our President.

At the March 20th Garland City Council meeting, I was honored to present resolutions to many amazing Garland residents and city employees. I am always looking for opportunities to recognize the outstanding citizens of HD 112. If you are such a person or know of one please contact my office. Below is a photo from the resolution presentations and other events I participated in.



I was pleased to attend a tour of the Kraft plant in Garland organized by the Garland Chamber of Commerce. Garland is truly an outstanding hub of manufacturing in our state. To my left: Garland City Councilman Jim Cahill and Garland City Councilwoman Laura Perkins Cox. To my right: Garland Mayor Ronald Jones and Garland City Councilwoman Lori Dodson.



Left) I also presented The City of Garland Environmental Waste Services Department for winning a 2011 Environmental Leadership Award from the State of Texas Alliance for Recycling at the Garland City Council meeting.

Right) Here I am meeting with some of the fine members of the Garland Chamber of Commerce's Legislative Affairs Committee this month to discuss HD 112's future needs. To my right: Garland Chamber President Karina Olivares and Kevin Slay. And to my left: Liz Beauchamp, Paul Mayer, and Harold Gold.

It is an honor to serve as your State Representative. Please let me know if I can ever be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Angie Chen Button

If you would like to be added or removed from this mailing, please e-mail

Angie.Button@house.state.tx.us.

PETE SESSIONS

U.S. CONGRESSMAN
32ND DISTRICT OF TEXAS



March 23, 2012

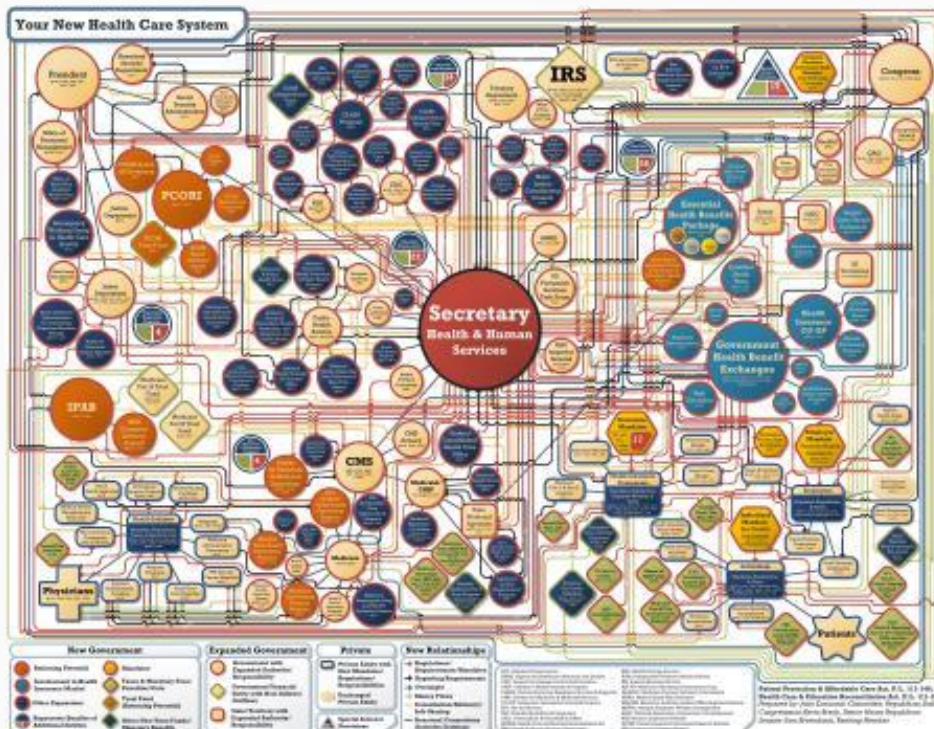
The Hill Report

Week of March 19 – 23, 2012

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Pete Sessions

Today marks the second anniversary of President Obama signing the government takeover of health care into law. Drafted behind closed doors and forced through Congress without revealing its full contents, ObamaCare leaves the American people with a long list of broken promises.

Over the past two years, much more has become known about the law's devastating effects. These have unfortunately left Americans with increased health care costs, fewer choices, government interference in the physician-patient relationship, and unsustainable cuts to Medicare. To make matters worse, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) recently reported that the law will cost more than originally anticipated and force millions off of their preferred, employer-provided insurance.



ObamaCare Flow Chart, courtesy of Congressman Kevin Brady:

<http://kevinbrady.house.gov/uploads/Obamacare%20Chart.jpg>

This week, the House passed the Protecting Access to Healthcare Act, which, among other things, will repeal the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB) created under the health care law. IPAB is a board of 15 unelected bureaucrats that will be empowered to make cuts to Medicare with no oversight or transparency to those it will impact or any branch of government. This unaccountable board will not only jeopardize access, choice and coverage of quality health care for our nation's seniors, but will also increase health costs and shift the burden onto the private sector.

House Republicans have now voted 26 times to defund, dismantle, or repeal the new health care law, and we will not give up the fight until it is repealed in full. I will continue to stand up for our nation's seniors, families and small businesses to address the challenges facing our health care system with solutions that empower patients – not Washington bureaucrats – and ensure access to affordable and quality health care.

Dent-Sessions Amendment to PATH Act

On Thursday, the House passed my amendment with Congressman Charlie Dent (R-PA) to the PATH Act, which addresses the ongoing crisis facing our emergency room departments and offers liability protection to physicians who perform the mandated crucial care to patients in the greatest need.

By law, emergency rooms must treat anyone who needs care regardless of if they have insurance or can afford it. During these increasingly tough economic times, emergency rooms have seen an increase in patients due to the number of unemployed and/or uninsured people needing care. Additionally, since patients are often sicker, have more serious complications and have no pre-existing relationship with the treating physician, hospitals have found it to be increasingly difficult to secure emergency physicians and on-call specialists due to the increased likelihood of litigation.

High quality health care in our nation's emergency rooms is currently being threatened by high costs, overcrowding, and the inherently risky nature of on-call and emergency physician care. Our amendment would deem hospitals, emergency rooms, physicians and physicians groups that provide emergency care to individuals to be employees of the Public Health Service for purposes of any civil action that may arise due to health care items and services provided under the Public Health Service Act.

I am pleased that the House voted to include this common-sense idea in the PATH Act to ensure that the American people receive the high quality care they deserve. The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) released a

statement yesterday applauding the amendment that you can view here: <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/acep-hails-house-actions-on-liability-reform-and-repeal-of-ipab-2012-03-22>.

Congressional Art Competition

Each spring, students from the 32nd District submit their original artwork for consideration in the Congressional High School Art Competition. Known as "An Artistic Discovery," the contest is an annual, nationwide art competition initiated by Members of Congress as students from across the country compete in local art competitions held in their respective districts. More than 200 Congressional offices have participated in the program.

The competition is open to all high school students who live or attend school in the 32nd Congressional District. The Grand Prize Winner will receive airline tickets for two to Washington, D.C. to see the unveiling of the artwork, a \$200 Savings Bond, and a tour of the Capitol. Additionally, the artwork will be showcased in the corridor leading to the U. S. Capitol building for the next year. Savings Bond awards worth \$100 will be awarded to the two Runners Up and the People's Choice Award selections and these works will hand in one of my Congressional offices.

I am pleased to once again host the Congressional High School Art Competition this year to provide an opportunity for our students to showcase their individual talents and receive national recognition. Artwork guidelines, entry forms, and artwork release notices may be accessed on [my website](#), and interested applicants should note that all entry forms from the students' art teachers must be received in my Dallas District Office by Friday, March 30th. For additional information, please contact Sandy Pappas of my Dallas District Office at 972.392.0505.

Have a good weekend.

Sincerely,



Pete Sessions

Washington, DC Office
2233 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4332
(202) 225-2231 (202) 225-2231
(202) 225-5878 fax

Dallas, TX Office
Park Central VII
12750 Merit Drive, Suite 1434
Dallas, Texas 75251-1229
(972) 392-0505 (972) 392-0505
(972) 392-0615 fax



Dear Texas Republican,

The Grassroots Club is truly unique to the Republican Party of Texas. The Club has been created to keep our fundraising costs to a minimum and to further engage the biggest engine of our Party, the grassroots. We cannot have a true grassroots party if we have to primarily rely on the donations of major donors.

The most popular benefits of membership are being free from junk mail and phone calls. That's right - as long as you are a current Grassroots Club member, the RPT will not send you any letters to clutter your mail box or call you during dinner. Thank you for considering joining. For further information, please call our office at 512.477.9821.

Personal Information:

Prefix: _____
 *First Name: _____
 *Last Name: _____
 *Street address: _____

 *City: _____
 *State: _____
 *Zip: _____
 *Home Phone: _____
 *Email: _____

Credit Card:

Amount: \$8.25
 Reoccurance: Monthly Other: _____
 Duration: Forever Other: _____
 Card number: _____
 Card expiration date:
 Month _____ Year _____
 Employer: _____

 Occupation: _____

Print and fill out page
 Mail to:
 Richardson Republican Women
 PO Box 831626
 Richardson, TX 75083



Look for this symbol on all solicitations – it is the Republican Party of Texas' guarantee that all funds that are raised in Texas stay in Texas!

Paid for by Richardson Republican Women PAC

Daily Policy Digest

Health Issues

April 6, 2012

Health Reform in the Supreme Court: A Guide to the Issues

The U.S. Supreme Court has concluded oral arguments on the legal challenges to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), and will spend several months establishing majority positions and writing concurring and dissenting opinions. The allocation of time for oral arguments is instructive in understanding the interplay of issues at hand, say Mario Loyola, Josiah Neeley and Spencer Harris of the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

- A historically large total of six hours of oral arguments were allocated to the PPACA challenge.
- Ninety minutes were dedicated to arguments as to whether the Anti-Injunction Act (AIA) bars any challenge to the individual insurance mandate until 2014.
- One hundred and twenty minutes were assigned to discussion of the constitutionality of the individual mandate -- the most controversial portion of the law.
- Ninety minutes were allowed for the issue of "severability," namely what to do with the rest of the PPACA if the individual mandate is struck down.
- Sixty minutes were given to discussion as to whether or not the expansion of Medicaid amounted to effective federal coercion of the states.

The first issue, regarding the AIA, is essentially a question of timing. The AIA requires that taxation laws cannot be legally challenged until they are levied. Therefore, because the PPACA will not be fully implemented until 2014, a court decision to uphold the applicability of the AIA would delay making a decision for two years. Interestingly, neither the federal government on one side nor the state governments on the other are arguing that AIA should apply.

The second issue of the individual mandate will become the quintessential constitutional challenge to the true breadth of power afforded to Congress by its power over interstate commerce. State challengers argue rightly that if this power extends so far as to be able to regulate a lack of activity (not buying insurance), then very little is not within the scope of federal power.

Thirdly, the Court will assess whether the other provisions of the PPACA can continue as law if the mandate is found unconstitutional. Crucial here is the fact that the PPACA would likely never have been approved by Congress in the absence of the mandate. Therefore, upholding the rest of the law would essentially be a judicial line-item veto.

Fourth and finally, the expansion of Medicaid will be scrutinized as being excessively coercive of states to the point that it violates the principles of federalism. The expansion would require greater budgetary outlays by the states to cover their share of the program, but opting out of the program is largely politically impossible.

Source: Mario Loyola, Josiah Neeley and Spencer Harris, "ObamaCare in the Supreme Court: A Guide to the Issues," Texas Public Policy Foundation, March 2012.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

I would like to note that the pictures in Angie Chen Button's letter were not included and the picture in Pete Session's news was reduced due to space. I would like to extend my request again for photos to place in the newsletter or the Historical Book. Please let me know if you have any you would like to contribute. Our Historian, Elaine Ashburn, would like to have some pictures also. Feel free to call on me at 972-454-0153(work) or 972-743-6118(cell) any time or you may email me at kpjohnson@sbcglobal.net.

Paid for by Richardson Republican Women PAC