



# Preston Poulter Libertarian

for State Representative  
District 115



My name is Preston Poulter and I hope you will vote for me to be your representative in the Texas Legislature.

Like other Libertarian candidates, I believe in free markets, civil liberties, and peace.

I'm unhappy with the results the Democrats and Republicans have delivered, and that's why I have decided to run for office myself as a Libertarian.

- Cut taxes and spending
- End the War on Drugs
- Relief for small businesses
- Liberty for Latinos

## What is a Libertarian?

The Libertarian philosophy is simple. Libertarians are people who support liberty.

Sometimes Republicans sound libertarian when they talk about cutting taxes and spending. Sometimes Democrats sound libertarian when they talk about civil liberties like free speech. Libertarians support freedom on every issue.

Although Republicans and Democrats often talk about freedom, they usually violate our freedoms and give us more rules and taxation instead.

I will support liberty on every issue, but here are four of my priorities:

- Cut taxes and spending
- End the War on Drugs
- Relief for small businesses
- Liberty for Latinos

## Why vote Libertarian?

Win or lose, every vote for a Libertarian sends a clear message for liberty. Don't waste your vote encouraging the Republicans and Democrats who keep making our lives worse. Don't let them scare you into voting for more government. Vote Libertarian.

We are America's third-largest political party. Many Libertarians serve in elected office throughout the U.S. We have affiliates in all 50 states. We run hundreds of candidates for all political offices from President down to U.S. Congress and city councils.

I hope you will help me change Texas for the better. I hope you will vote for me, Preston Poulter, for State Representative.

Thank you,  
*Preston Poulter*

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**Preston Poulter for  
State Representative  
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Pol. adv. authorized by Preston Poulter.

## **Cut Taxes and Spending**

Taxes are too high. That's because government spending is too high. I want to reduce both. Today our state government spends money on almost everything: education, health care, cancer research, business incentives (i.e. corporate welfare), and poverty programs. These may be worthy goals, but they are not proper functions of government.

Steps I would take:

- I would vote to repeal the business margins tax that was proposed and signed in 2006 by Republican Governor Rick Perry, and filed by Rep. Jim Keffer (Republican from Eastland).
- I would file a bill to cut the state sales tax from 6.25% to 4%.
- Those two tax reductions would reduce state revenue by about \$25 billion over the next two years\*. I propose cutting expenditures to match. (The current total budget is about \$172 billion.) I support across-the-board cuts, and I note that most of the cuts will need to come from the two largest areas of state spending: education and health and human services.

*\*Estimate based on Comptroller's 2012-2013 revenue estimate.*

## **End the War on Drugs**

Selling and using drugs may be personally unwise, but those activities don't violate anyone's rights. By establishing drug prohibition, our government has taken a modest problem and turned it into a huge problem. Now we have to deal with drug gangs and black markets, and taxpayers have to pay to keep thousands of people in jail. We need to end this nonsense.

Steps I would take:

- I would vote for a bill to allow medical marijuana like HB 1491, filed last year by Rep. Naishtat (Democrat from Austin).
- I would vote for a bill to reduce marijuana penalties like HB 548, filed last year by Rep. Dutton (Democrat from Houston).
- I would file a bill to end prohibition of marijuana.

## **Relief for Small Businesses**

State and local governments make it much harder than it should be to start your own business. Both native citizens and immigrants often wish they could start a business, but get frightened away by the mountain of red tape, fees, and regulations.

Politicians do this partly to protect well-connected businesses by shielding them from new, lower-priced competition. Government should not pick winners and losers. I want to make it easier to start a business in Texas by reducing the power of government to get in the way.

Steps I would take:

- I would file legislation to reduce the power of cities to use permitting ordinances to limit and block businesses.
- I would file legislation to repeal many anti-competitive occupational licensing laws.
- I would file a bill to prohibit local governments from using tax subsidies to pick winners and losers.

## **Liberty for Latinos**

Texas has a fast-growing Latin American population. I want Texas Latinos to leave behind the big-government welfare liberalism of the Democrats and the big-government bigotry of the Republicans, and join the Libertarian Party instead. We don't want the government to prop people up, and we don't want the government to hold people down. I think that's consistent with the desire of most Latinos to have a level playing field where hard work pays off.

Steps I am taking:

- I'm encouraging Latinos to volunteer for Libertarian campaigns.
- I'm encouraging Latinos to run for office as Libertarians.

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