



## Questions for Candidates for State Legislative Office from the Conservative Coalition of Harris County

*This questionnaire will be posted onto the Conservative Coalition of Harris County website for public voter viewing.*

Candidate Name	Position for which Candidate is Running
Justin Ray	State Legislature HD 135

*Please give your answer to each of the following questions and please include your rationale with each answer. Please be concise and clear.*

1. Please describe the qualifications and experience that make you the best candidate for position for which you are running.

**Answer:** I was in local office and as Mayor for 7 years. I engaged with the community and understand the opportunities, needs and challenges in the community and how best achieve legislative goals.
  
2. Please explain what you believe are the most significant issues in this race, why you are running for this position and what differentiates you from the other candidate(s).

**Answer:** Three most significant issues: (1) Schools (2) Taxes/Business (3) Infrastructure. I am running because I have a heart for public service and I am the best candidate to further the goals of the community. Key differentiators between myself and my primary opponent is I have been entrusted with elected office and have significant accomplishments within the community. I also have young children in the public schools so my actions involving Public Education directly affects me and my family.
  
3. What will be your top 3 priorities during your upcoming term?

**Answer:** (1) Funding Public Schools (2) Flood Mitigation (3) Support Pro-Business Initiatives
  
4. The 2020-21 budget for state of Texas is approximately \$250 billion, up about 16% from the 2018-2019 budget. What budget items need to be addressed by state house representatives; what budget areas need to be cut and what taxes and fees need to be increased in the next legislative session?

**Answer:** Key budget issues include the school funding formula for fast growing school districts and grants for flood mitigation

5. What are your ideas toward public education funding within Texas? Are there areas where waste can be reduced, areas of revenue enhancement, or ideas to increase efficiencies, since the recent school finance package was approved in the last legislative session?
- Answer:** We must educate the next generation of Texans to continue the Texas Economic miracle. There are areas of efficiency that need to be evaluated including the sufficiency of the STAAR test.
6. Please describe what you believe is the proper role for the state government in job creation and intervention in the economy.
- Answer:** State government should provide a low tax and regulatory environment to encourage and incentive business growth and job creation
7. What changes can be made to state agencies to improve productivity, reduce waste and increase efficiencies? Are there are agencies that can be combined or eliminated?
- Answer:** I have not identified any state agencies that should be eliminated or combined at this time. I intend to monitor agency budgets and identify areas of waste or mismanagement.
8. What initiatives will you propose to help the voters in your district?
- Answer:** I will propose amended funding formulas for fast growing school districts such as Cy-Fair as well as proposals to streamline and fast track flood mitigation infrastructure programs.
9. In the last legislative session, Lt. Governor Patrick set a [30-bill priority system](#) for the Texas Senate for the 2019-20 session. Is such a list a good idea for setting priorities in the House? If so, what items would you add to such a list?
- Answer:** A list is a good idea for setting direction and identifying goals. Of the 30-bill priority, I support the broad overall goals protecting Constitutional freedoms, Taxpayer Protection and building for the future.
10. If elected, what qualifications will you look for in choosing a new Speaker of the House? Should minority parties be allowed to hold committee chairmanships as done in the past?
- Answer:** I will support the most electable and effective conservative candidate. Committee Chairmanships should be evaluated independently with the most effective and qualified member receiving the position.
11. Assuming you have read the [2018 Texas GOP Platform](#), what recent issues were not covered by the 2018-19 state legislative session and should be addressed in the future?
- Answer:** It may be small in the grand scheme of things, but as a History buff, I would like to see funds appropriated to preserve the USS Texas

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| 12 | Should the city of Houston continue to enjoy extra-territorial jurisdiction, including levying taxes on persons and transactions not in the actual city limits?                        |
|    | <b>Answer:</b> ETJ's should be limited and serve an important civic purpose. The scope of ETJ's and citizen participation needs to be reevaluated as Texas becomes increasingly urban. |

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. THE ANSWERS ON THE FOREGOING REFLECT THE CANDIDATE'S BEST EFFORTS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HONESTLY AND DIRECTLY.

PLEASE SAVE YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO YOUR LOCAL MACHINE IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHEN YOU ATTEMPT TO EMAIL IT BACK.

Once this questionnaire has been completed, please email it to:

[alex@cchc-pac.org](mailto:alex@cchc-pac.org)

\* **Please note:** You **must** return your questionnaire from the email address to which it was sent. Questionnaires returned from any other email address will be considered fraudulent and will **not** be recorded and no answers will be published in the voter's guide. CCHC-PAC deems a return from the proper email address as authentication of the correct respondent.