

# Corbin's Contract with Texas

## FOR THE 2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### 1 **Combat illegal immigration**

The 2007 state budget bill puts \$100+ million into border security—including boats, helicopters, and additional DPS troopers. Another new law imposes sanctions on employers who apply for grants/subsidies and use illegal immigrants. But we can't afford to wait on the federal government. We need to:

- put more troopers, resources, and technology to seal the border
- require citizenship and photo ID to vote
- require proof of citizenship for government benefits
- end sanctuary cities
- prohibit illegal immigrants from getting in-state tuition
- deport illegal immigrants from our prisons and jails



*Corbin leading a battle on the House Floor*

### 2 **Bigger, bolder ideas on property tax relief**

This past session, the Legislature sent home \$14+ billion in property tax buy down through the school tax rates, unfroze property tax relief for seniors and disabled, required annual application of the appraisal cap, and forced better appraisal notification requirements to voters.

On appraisal caps, in the Senate there are roughly 8-10 votes FOR, and we need 21 (for constitutional reasons, not because of the “2/3rds Rule”). In the House we probably have 84-85 votes FOR, and we need 100. We need to keep pushing to lower the 10% appraisal cap. But we also need to come up with better property tax relief ideas that: (1) only require a majority vote (i.e., easier to pass) or (2) that do more than just slow down automatic tax increases. For example...

- abolish the school property tax altogether by replacing it with local spending accountability, dedicated surplus, and consumption tax
- require automatic voter approval for total property tax increases of 5% or more
- revenue cap for counties and cities

### 3 **Cut wasteful government spending by using brand new internet database**

This past legislative session, I, Senator Glenn Hegar, and four other legislators helped State Comptroller Susan Combs create a new searchable Internet database for all state spending, grants, and contracts. This will empower all Texans to identify wasteful spending for legislators to cut. We need to...

- pass a true constitutional spending limit tied to inflation plus population growth, not the gimmick “spending cap” we have now that limits returning surpluses to taxpayers
- provide a simpler mechanism for returning surpluses to the taxpayers as an actual rebate

### 4 **Additional cuts to the business margins tax for small businesses**

In the 2007 Session, we cut the business tax by raising the small business exemption from \$300,000 indexed up to \$1 million. We need build on these tax cuts by using surplus, reduced spending, and consumption tax shifts – to keep Texas as one of the best business climates in the US.

### 5 **Stop the Trans Texas Corridor and abuse of eminent domain**

We need to protect our national sovereignty that our Founders gave us, and stop efforts to form a North American Union and take peoples' land unjustly.



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