

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

February 26, 2009

Dear

In Texas, our hearts are big. Our ambitions for our children and our way of thinking about our state and our country are big. That's why I'm taking this early part of the campaign to talk with fellow Texans like you from across our state about your priorities, concerns and ideas on how we can make Texas and the Central Texas Region better.

From town to town, there's one thing that's constant – Texans want principle to stand above expediency.

...if your hope for our Party and our state is a new direction, with principle and integrity guiding our state, then I want to tell you why I've started preparing to run for Governor, and ask you to join my early team.

If you say yes, you'll be serving with the people listed here who want a strong, confident leader and bold ideas about what is best for Texas. I'm incredibly excited about the momentum and enthusiasm we're seeing right now, and I would be honored to put your name on my early leadership list.

Will you join my Central Texas Regional Leadership Team and help me build a strong statewide team that will lead our principled Party and make Texas better? And will you help me build a strong statewide team with your generous gift of \$1,000, \$500, \$250, \$100, \$50 or \$25 today?

Texans need relief from the broken promise of property tax relief and a state budget that has doubled in ten years, far faster than inflation and the population growth.

I believe we must compete to keep our kids here in Texas. If you raise your children in Texas schools, they shouldn't have to look outside of Texas to find the world's most prestigious centers of higher learning.

To give our young people the best chance to compete, we need to grow the number of Tier 1 Universities in Texas from three to a number that's more competitive with California's nine and New York's seven. And from these universities we will produce the next generation of top scientific, academic and corporate minds ready to compete on the global level.

Texans from all walks of life agree: It's time for leaders who put our state first, help reach our great potential, and keep government focused and limited.

(over, please)

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In ten years our state budget has doubled. Are our schools twice as good? Is management of state government good, or do we have twice as many scandals? With the big increase in state spending, are your property taxes lower?

I know expectations are high. There's a growing sense of what could be, but is not.

Seniors are struggling to keep their homes; they've worked hard for decades and paid off their mortgages, but now can't afford the taxes.

Too many students are shuffled through school, filling a seat in a classroom until they drop out. Last year, close to 50,000 kids dropped out of school. These are not 50,000 statistics, but 50,000 children who'll never reach their full potential or become the highly skilled and educated workers that will attract business and jobs to Texas.

Texans are tough, rugged, pull-up-by-our-boot-straps people who are entrepreneurial and independent. We are also a state populated by good people who get personally involved in our communities and churches, and who seek out the chance to take responsibility, not ignore it or pass off the hard work.

Texans understand that taking care of poorer children with low-cost health insurance rather than high-cost emergency room hospital bills is not only the right thing to do, it's the fiscally responsible, personally responsible, Republican thing to do.

Our private property rights were trampled by an overreaching plan to put a massive toll road through our state. Recently the Sunset Commission, referring to the Texas Department of Transportation, said, "we should close it down and start over."

We can do better for our citizens, and they deserve more. We will lead Texas as good stewards who respect our Party's principles of less government interference, lower taxes and a true understanding that elected office is about public trust.

I am beginning my run for Governor and I need your early support. I am emboldened by strong statewide support and momentum for new leadership. I hope to take the next step with you.

Will you accept my invitation to join my Regional Leadership Team and help me get our campaign off to a strong start with your most generous gift possible? If you can say "yes", please let me hear from you today.

With your help I will provide Texas with the new leadership our state needs to meet the challenges ahead. Thank you for your friendship.

Sincerely,



Kay Bailey Hutchison

P.S. If you know one thing about me, it's that I work tirelessly for Texas and I never give up when Texas interests are at stake. As your Governor, I will hold government accountable, I will turn big ideas into efficient solutions and I will restore your trust in our Government.