

The Honorable Dan Branch
P.O. Box 191149
Dallas, Texas 75219

Dear Representative Branch:

As your colleagues in the Texas Legislature, today we call on you to respectfully consider withdrawing from the race for Texas Attorney General. Rather than moving forward with a campaign that will divide Texas Republicans, we hope upon careful reflection you will agree with us that moving forward with this continued campaign is not in the best interests of you, our party, or the state we know you dearly love.

With Democrats mobilizing and Battleground Texas deploying resources here in Texas, it is of utmost importance that Republicans unite as quickly as possible behind Greg Abbott and ensure that Wendy Davis is soundly defeated. The millions of dollars that would be spent by your continued campaign characterized by negative ads aimed at Senator Paxton serves no legitimate or helpful purpose, especially when considering Senator Paxton's strong support reflected in the Republican Primary Election last week. For instance, Senator Paxton won 19 of the top 20 counties in Texas, including strong first-place margins in 9 of the top 10 GOP counties including Bexar, Collin, your home county, Dallas, Denton, Fort Bend, Harris, Montgomery, Tarrant and Williamson. Furthermore, Senator Paxton prevailed in 50 of the top 75 counties representing approximately 85% of the GOP vote.

Your decision to withdraw would ensure the millions of dollars you would otherwise spend on negative ads aimed at Senator Paxton can instead be focused on the Democrat ticket, which all of us are committed to defeating in the general election in November. Those resources can also be used to fund the state party, underwrite get out the vote efforts, and fund viable Republicans in races all across the state.

We respect and admire your many years of service to the State of Texas and to the Republican Party, which is why we are calling on you to consider this action that only stands to benefit both. We understand this is a difficult and very personal decision and realize it is not an easy one to make. Still, we firmly believe it is the right decision, and we hope you will follow the selfless example of our colleague Rep. Harvey Hilderbran, who withdrew from the Comptroller race on Friday under similar circumstances. Should you choose to do so, you will earn the lasting respect and admiration of Texans all across our state as we band together as Republicans and fight to Keep Texas Red!

Sincerely,

Rep. Pat Fallon
Rep. Dan Flynn
Rep. Bryan Hughes
Rep. Phil King
Rep. Jodie Laubenberg

Rep. Jeff Leach
Rep. Charles Perry
Rep. Scott Sanford
Rep. Matt Schaefer
Rep. Jonathan Stickland

Rep. Van Taylor
Rep. Steve Toth
Rep. James White
Rep. Bill Zedler