



## Texas

Voters in Texas will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 150 seats are up in the House and 15 seats are up in the State Senate. Republicans have a trifecta the state and should continue their dominance after the November elections.

### Governor

#### Democratic Nominee

##### Lupe Valdez

Lupe Valdez was elected as Sheriff of Dallas County for four terms serving from 2005-2017. She was the nation's only Latina Sheriff and one of few openly LGBTQ sheriffs. She defeated her Democratic challenger in a runoff primary on May 22 by 5 points.

Valdez has stated that criminal justice reform is her passion. She wants to eliminate cash bail and close for-profit prisons. She favors decriminalizing small possessions of marijuana. Valdez has publicly fought against the state's immigration policies in the past and continues to campaign on it in the present.

She has campaigned on equal pay for equal work and women's healthcare issues taking aim at the current administration and legislature's anti-choice agenda. She supports automatic voter registration. She has also promised to fight for the LGBTQ community. She also fully supports paid sick leave.

Valdez supports Medicaid expansion, investing more in rural healthcare centers, and making healthcare costs more transparent to consumers.

Valdez supports universal Pre-K. She wants to re-work the funding formula for K-12 public education, including removing the cap on special education funding. She wants to increase investment in career and technical schools.

She's campaigned on securing the state's water supply and protecting it from lead, pollution, and arsenic. She wants to expand the state's solar energy industry. Valdez is also campaigning on property tax reform. She supports high-speed rail in Texas' metro centers and wants the state to prepare now for autonomous vehicles.

***Trivia:** When Valdez first started her campaign, she did not have enough money for an office or official campaign car. She's put tens of thousands of miles on her pick-up truck this year.*

\*Information is heavily borrowed from campaign websites, social media, and news and blogs.