



Young Conservatives of Texas

Young Conservatives of Texas is a non-partisan conservative youth organization that has been fighting for conservative values in the Lone Star State since 1980; and, publishes the longest running, and most respected ratings of the Texas legislature.

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YCT Releases Ratings of 83rd Texas Legislature

Austin, TX—Young Conservatives of Texas (YCT) today released its ratings of the 83rd Texas Legislature. These ratings mark the 20th consecutive installment of the public service offered by YCT as a way for constituents to evaluate the time their representatives spend in Austin. With bi-yearly installments dating back to 1975, YCT issues the most thorough, respected and consistent legislative ratings in the Lone Star State.

Ratings of the 83rd Texas Legislature can be found at yct.org/ratings. This year, YCT's ratings are available both in PDF format and on the website as an additional tool for visualizing and reading about each legislator's votes and the votes used in the ratings.

"YCT's ratings serve as an educational tool for Texas voters to utilize in choosing the most conservative candidates," said Jeff Morris, YCT State Chairman. "Our ratings also serve as a notice to legislators who talk the conservative talk in their districts but do not walk the walk when they arrive in Austin."

Scores for the 83rd Legislature are calculated based on 42 votes in the Senate and 60 votes in the House, marking the largest combined scored votes in the history of YCT's ratings. Members of the legislature received a score for the session based on their votes on bills that YCT believes have a clear left/right policy choice. Each legislator also has a combined score covering his or her time at the state house.

Senator Ken Paxton and Representative Jonathan Stickland earned the group's 'Rookie of the Year' awards for their first sessions in their respective chambers of the legislature.

"Senator Paxton and Representative Stickland also have the top scores in the Senate and House, respectively," said Jenna White, YCT Executive Director and Chair of the Legislative Ratings Committee. "This reflects a trend of the session—rookies represented 9 of our 12 top ratings."

YCT recognized 12 Legislators with scores of 90% or above on their "Honor Roll" for the session. They were Representative Jonathan Stickland (97), Representative Matt Krause (95), Representative Matt Schaefer (95),

Representative Steve Toth (95), Senator Ken Paxton (93), Representative Giovanni Capriglione (92), Representative Pat Fallon (92), Representative Craig Goldman (92), Representative Van Taylor (92), Representative Jodie Laubenberg (91), Representative Bill Zedler (90), and Representative Scott Turner (90).

The most liberal legislator of the session, according to YCT, was Representative Justin Rodriguez, with a score of 7.

Young Conservatives of Texas is a non-partisan organization that has promoted conservatism at universities across the Lone Star State for over three decades. The State's most active political youth organization, YCT is composed of hundreds of members and alumni who participate in the full spectrum of politics. YCT issues the most respected ratings of the Texas legislature and is the only conservative group to have done so without interruption over the past 20 legislative sessions. For more information about YCT, please visit www.YCT.org.

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