

TEXAS SCHOOL BOND CAMPAIGNING

RULES FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

CAN AN ELECTED SCHOOL BOARD OFFICIAL OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT EXPRESS HIS OR HER POSITION (FOR OR AGAINST) A SCHOOL BOND MEASURE?

YES. Ethics laws governing the activities and/or behavior of individual school board members do not restrict those individuals from expressing their position(s) on a school bond measure if that person is speaking for his or herself as an individual.

HOWEVER... elected school board members should refrain from making partisan comments in publications (digital and/or print) funded by the school district and/or during school board meetings. School board members are also *encouraged* to refrain from making partisan comments during any public function and/or forum occurring on district-owned property.

CAN AN ELECTED SCHOOL BOARD OFFICIAL PARTICIPATE IN ORGANIZED POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING FOR A SCHOOL BOND MEASURE (I.E. ON A POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE)?

YES. But again, that individual must represent themselves as participating in the campaign (or as a member of the PAC) as an individual (not on behalf of the school district).

IMPORTANT: It is important to keep in mind that an individual board member's participation in an organized function and/or activity conducted for the purpose of political campaigning for/against a bond measure (i.e. a PAC meeting) should NOT coincide with the simultaneous participation/attendance of a number of fellow board members that would constitute a quorum. In other words, a majority of elected board officials should never attend an organized function/activity (aimed at political campaigning for/against a bond measure) at the same time.