# THE INSIDER

THE HOUSTON ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2016 ISSUE NO. 9

## ELECTION EDITION

# FIVE INSIGHTS FOR NOVEMBER

03 | ELECTION 2016

05 | PROP 1 - WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

06 | GET INVOLVED!

07 | ENGAGEMENT

08 | UPCOMING EVENTS

# HISTORIC EARLY VOTING TURN-OUT

Texans turned out in unprecedented numbers during Early Voting (10/24-11/4). Over 4.4 million voters have cast their ballots By Mail and In-Person. If you still haven't voted, see the next page for our recommended candidates list, information on where to vote, and a link to an informative article from NAR Magazine.

**November 8, 2016**
**Early Voting**
**Cumulative Totals**
**Thru Close of Business**
**November 4, 2016**

| County | Reg Voters | # In Person On 11/4/2016 | Cumulative In-Person Voters | Cumulative % In-Person | Cumulative By Mail Voters | Cumulative % by Mail Voters | Cumulative In-Person And Mail Voters | Cumulative Percent Early Voting |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harris | 2,234,678 | 105,005 | 882,580 | 39.49% | 94,699 | 4.24% | 977,279 | 43.73% |
| Dallas | 1,287,171 | 63,342 | 512,168 | 39.79% | 37,475 | 2.91% | 549,643 | 42.70% |
| Tarrant | 1,077,618 | 56,156 | 480,936 | 44.63% | 34,294 | 3.18% | 515,230 | 47.81% |
| Bexar | 1,045,360 | 46,651 | 436,731 | 41.78% | 35,177 | 3.37% | 471,908 | 45.14% |
| Travis | 725,041 | 42,932 | 357,595 | 49.32% | 20,090 | 2.77% | 377,685 | 52.09% |
| Collin | 536,915 | 30,409 | 289,561 | 53.93% | 12,378 | 2.31% | 301,939 | 56.24% |
| Denton | 464,829 | 24,983 | 228,928 | 49.25% | 11,026 | 2.37% | 239,954 | 51.62% |
| El Paso | 428,320 | 16,926 | 142,453 | 33.26% | 7,993 | 1.87% | 150,446 | 35.12% |
| Fort Bend | 404,038 | 23,569 | 201,655 | 49.91% | 11,912 | 2.95% | 213,567 | 52.86% |
| Hidalgo | 338,563 | 15,829 | 132,424 | 39.11% | 7,409 | 2.19% | 139,833 | 41.30% |
| Montgomery | 311,882 | 15,527 | 145,264 | 46.58% | 11,554 | 3.70% | 156,818 | 50.28% |
| Williamson | 299,960 | 17,268 | 153,286 | 51.10% | 9,272 | 3.09% | 162,558 | 54.19% |
| Galveston | 208,228 | 9,621 | 94,088 | 45.19% | 7,400 | 3.55% | 101,488 | 48.74% |
| Nueces | 199,468 | 8,081 | 67,099 | 33.64% | 7,745 | 3.88% | 74,844 | 37.52% |
| Cameron | 197,726 | 8,317 | 61,339 | 31.02% | 2,900 | 1.47% | 64,239 | 32.49% |
| Total | 9,759,797 | 484,616 | 4,186,107 | 42.89% | 311,324 | 3.19% | 4,497,431 | 46.08% |

# Where to vote on Election Day

## HAR/TAR Recommended Candidates

How REALTORS® Turn Around Elections
by Robert Freeman

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

# PROP 1

THE BUZZ >

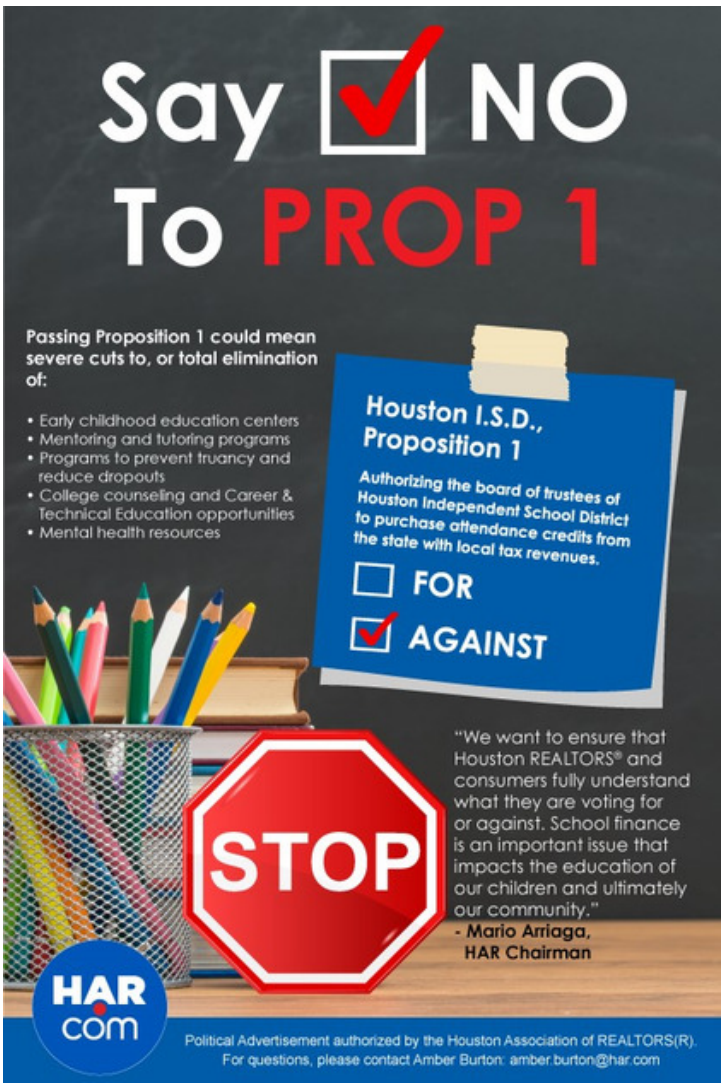
## WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE AGAINST

Houston Independent School District (HISD) was mandated to put Proposition 1 on the ballot for the November 8 election but the ballot language asks about attendaWhat you need to know is that voting FOR Proposition 1 does not simply purchase "attendance credits." Due to a robust and thriving real estate market, Houston is considered "property-wealthy" and now HISD may be required to make a recapture payment to the state under the Robin Hood plan (Chapter 41). Voting FOR this proposition will force HISD to send $162 million local dollars to the state of Texas.  If HISD goes into recapture, it will send over a billion dollars to the state in the next four years.

If voters vote AGAINST this proposition, the Texas Education Agency will detach a portion of HISD's commercial property and reassign it to other school districts in Texas, where it will be taxed at a higher rate than HISD's tax rate. Either option will result in local dollars leaving Houston. HISD is the largest school district in the state and nearly 80 percent of its students are economically disadvantaged. This can lead to severe consequences such as additional teacher layoffs and school closures.

What can we do about this broken system?

This summer, the Texas Supreme Court upheld our current school finance system but warned that the legislature needed to address and correct the system once and for all. As the largest school district in Texas, HISD and Houstonians can set the tone for the next legislative session. HAR joins other community stakeholders and recommends voting AGAINST this confusing proposition. A vote AGAINST will give HAR members and HISD constituents the opportunity to work together with our state lawmakers and take action towards reforming our current school finance system to protect our children's education and their futures.



# WE WANT YOU

## TO GET INVOLVED WITH AN HAR ADVISORY GROUP!

**Click here to learn more!**

The deadline to apply is December 5, 2016!

# ENGAGEMENT

Members of the HAR Political Affairs Advisory Group, TREPAC Trustees and HAR staff meet with State Representative Borris Miles, HAR recommended candidate for State Senate District 13, to discuss the 85th Legislative Session.

# UPCOMING DATES YOU NEED TO KNOW

- **Tues Nov 8** - Election Day
- **Wed Nov 16** - Election Wrap-Up Panel Discussion with Allen Blakemore and Nancy Sims 12pm at HAR Central
- **Thur Nov 24 and Fri Nov 25** - Thanksgiving and HAR Offices Closed
- **Fri Dec 2** - HAR GA Volunteer Appreciation Brunch 8 am at The Houstonian
- **Fri Dec 23 - Mon Dec 26** - Christmas HAR offices closed
- **Sun Jan 1** - New Years 2017
- **Tues Jan 10** - 85th Legislative Session
- **Tues Apr 4** Realtor Lobby Day in Austin
- **Wed and Thurs May 17-18** Congressional Hill Visits in DC