



For Immediate Release

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Texas Conservative Coalition Presents its “Courageous Conservative” Award to Eight State Senators

AUSTIN, TEXAS — Today, the Texas Conservative Coalition (TCC) announced the State Senators who are recipients of the organization's “Courageous Conservative” award, which is given in recognition of legislators’ efforts to advance, support, and vote for conservative policy positions in the 82nd Texas Legislature.

John Colyandro, Executive Director of TCC, stated: "Conservative leaders were extremely successful in defending and advancing conservative principles in the 82nd Texas Legislature. This group of 'Courageous Conservative' State Senators earned this special recognition by consistently applying conservative principles to help keep Texas on the path toward growth and prosperity."

The Texas Conservative Coalition, the conservative caucus of the Texas Legislature, operates under four guiding principles: Limited Government, Individual Liberty, Free Enterprise, and Traditional Values.

To receive the “Courageous Conservative” award a member must have an average score of 85 percent on the TCC Senate scorecard. Based on 95 votes, the TCC Senate scorecard for the 82nd Legislature is perhaps the most comprehensive snapshot of members' voting records.

In the 82nd Legislature, conservative state legislators achieved significant accomplishments, including:

- Balancing the budget without raising taxes
- Limiting federal intrusion by requesting an interstate health care compact to free the state from costly and intrusive federal mandates
- Securing elections against vote fraud by requiring photo ID of voters
- Continuing border security appropriations, and requiring proof of citizenship or legal residency to obtain a driver’s license
- Encouraging the free market by continuing the small business franchise tax exemption, and by limiting lawsuit abuse through groundbreaking “loser pay” reforms

The Pledge was signed by Governor Rick Perry, Comptroller Susan Combs, and 79 conservative state legislators.

Mr. Colyandro concluded: "‘Courageous Conservative’ State Senators exhibited a steadfast resolve to defend and advance conservative principles. They earned the title ‘Courageous Conservative’ through their work, their dedication to principle, and their service to the State of Texas."

Last week, TCC announced the State Representatives who are recipients of the TCC "Courageous Conservative" award.

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The Texas Conservative Coalition is the conservative caucus of the Texas Legislature. TCC is online at www.txcc.org.

For more information on the "Courageous Conservative" award and a full list of recipients, please see:

<http://www.txcc.org/blog/courageous-conservative-awards-82nd-legislature>.