



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF COLLIN COUNTY
www.lwvcollin.org

Nonpartisan

VOTERS GUIDE

March 6, 2018
Primary Election
US Representative District 4

Early voting: February 20 – March 2

Election Day Polls: March 6 – 7 am to 7 pm

About this Voters Guide

This Voters Guide is published by the League of Women Voters of Collin County to help citizens prepare to cast an informed vote. The League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

This guide is available online at www.lwvcollin.org, along with guides for other offices that include all or part of Collin County. Candidate responses for all races are also available at www.VOTE411.org, where you can enter an address and view a personalized ballot with races specific to that address.

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates for each office, whether or not the race is contested. Candidate replies were subject to a character limit and are printed without editing or verification. If a candidate did not respond by the deadline, "No response received" is printed. Candidates were asked to avoid references to their opponents. Photos are included for candidates who provided them.

This Voters Guide is organized by office sought, with candidates listed in alphabetical order, regardless of their political party.

League of Women Voters is a Nonpartisan Organization

The LWV never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

US Representative District 4

2-year term. Must be 25 years or older, a US citizen, and a resident of Texas. Responsible for representing the citizens of the district in which he/she is elected in the US House of Representatives.

Questions

Immigration: What changes, if any, would you propose to the current immigration policy for (1) current undocumented residents, and (2) the over 4 million people on the waiting list to get a visa to enter the country? Why?

Foreign Intervention: Under what circumstances should the US intervene militarily in a foreign conflict?

Economy: What federal policies do you support to maintain a healthy economy and enable the public to improve their economic positions?

Representation: What steps would you take to ensure that you represent all of your constituents? Do you participate in town hall meetings?

Healthcare: What legislation would you support, if any, to ensure comprehensive, affordable healthcare for all Americans?

Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of Congress, and what is your position on these issues?

Ken Ashby, Libertarian Party



Email: kenashby@aol.com

Website: <http://www.lp.org/>

Education: BA, Sociology, Honors Program, University of Kentucky, 1975; BA, Education, Math & Coaching, Eastern Kentucky University, 1977; BS, Electrical Engineering, University of Kentucky, 1984.

Experience: I am not a career politician. I grew up on a farm and have worked as a high school teacher and coach, a college math instructor, and an engineer in a high-tech corporation. I now help non-profits and small businesses serving the running community.

Immigration: Immigration has been chaotic for decades with restrictive laws that cannot be enforced. Republicans want to keep out and deport as many immigrants as they can. Democrats want to put them on welfare and to protect criminals and terrorists with sanctuary. Their compromises favor those here illegally over those waiting lawfully to get in. Why not have a system that legalizes those who are contributing to America, but keeps out the bad guys and prohibits welfare? Let each get in line and make his case. It will take Libertarians to do this, because Republicans and Democrats have shown themselves incapable.

Foreign Intervention: Both Republicans and Democrats continue to wage a Middle East war that has gone on for 15 years with no end in sight, costing America thousands of lives and trillions of dollars. Those countries don't appreciate what we are trying to do for them. What is the point of fighting wars on the opposite side of the world if we cannot win? I oppose the use of combat forces abroad, unless we are attacked. The U.S. should keep out of other countries' conflicts. Intervening makes America more enemies and less secure. Cut off foreign aid to nations supporting terrorism. It will take Libertarians to do this, because Republicans and Democrats have shown themselves incapable.

Economy: For a decade, the U.S. economy has grown at a rate of two percent, not much faster than the population. We have fallen behind other countries which have lower taxes and fewer regulations on business. We go deeper in debt to import \$3 trillion of goods and services each year, while 90 million working-age Americans lack jobs. Socialist control of business by government hasn't worked. It takes free markets to grow an economy. Repeal regulations which do not protect people's rights. Scrap the 10,000-page tax code and replace it with a simple, flat tax. It will take Libertarians to do this, because Republicans and Democrats have shown themselves incapable.

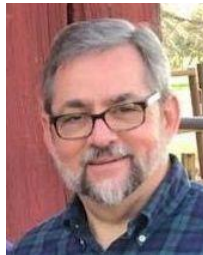
Representation: The first step in just representation is for the Representative and his constituents to understand the duties of Congress as detailed in Article I of the

Constitution. There are 18 specific powers granted to Congress. All else is reserved to the states or to the people. Do not expect Congress to legislate matters outside its jurisdiction. It is impossible for a Congressman to communicate individually with all 750,000 people in his district. However, I expect to meet with all interested groups, including town halls, and to maintain office staff sufficient to address any individual concerns and inquiries.

Healthcare: Health care is not the job of government. Socialist monopolies do nothing efficiently. Medicare and Medicaid are running deficits and going bankrupt. Obamacare has forced up insurance costs. Medical bills keep rising because government and insurance companies are never as careful spending money as people spending it themselves. Affordable care requires personal responsibility, market competition and consumer choice. Needed reforms include health savings accounts and competition across states. It will take Libertarians to do this, because Republicans and Democrats have shown themselves incapable.

Other Issues: The most pressing issue is the continuing budget deficit and a \$20 trillion debt run up under Bush and Obama. Congress must prioritize spending and limit it to the level of revenues. Quit borrowing and drowning our children in debt. Stop using the Federal Reserve to buy debt by inflating our money. It will take Libertarians to do this, because Republicans and Democrats have shown themselves incapable.

Lander Bethel, Democratic Party



Email: lander@Bethel4Congress.com

Website: <http://Bethel4Congress.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Bethel4Congress/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/Bethel4C>

Education: University of Oklahoma, BA Psychology McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, Master of Divinity, Doctor of Ministry

Experience: Grayson Dem Chr 5 yrs Chr Fed Emergency Food Shelter Prgm Grayson Co 20 yrs Advy Bd Children's Advocacy Ctr Sherman Advy Cm Sherman ISD Ethics Cm WN Jones Hospital 20 yrs TX Bd of Ed testified for accurate textbook biological & contraception info

Immigration: We are a safer, stronger nation by recognizing the contributions of immigrants. Rather than isolating specific groups, we can be vigilant in screening, documentation and a thorough vetting and permitting process. Callous disruption and separation of working families is not the answer. Mutually beneficial

international relationships provide awareness and resources to help identify threats here and across the world.

Foreign Intervention: Until recently, the United States enjoyed a position of strength through diplomacy. Without thoughtful, informed leadership, we alienate our allies and diminish opportunities for diplomatic solutions. Working within a coalition of partner countries, and with the able assistance of our intelligence professionals, the US can help resolve conflicts before drastic interventions are required. Should thorough, earnest diplomatic measures fail, we should work with the international community, relying on military intervention as a last resort.

Economy: Trickle-down economics only makes puddles of wealth for a few. Let's boost the economy through incentives for the working and middle class. By restoring tax deductions for tuition, property and sales taxes, by providing real child tax credits, and ensuring affordable health coverage, the economy grows from the ground up, benefitting all.

Representation: Your input is the catalyst for my leadership. Those of us in the 4th District share concerns about foreign relations, medical care, education, jobs and job training, social security, and how to support local farms and ranches. Together, we will work for a more mature, responsible, transparent, and caring government for and of the people.

Healthcare: A healthy America is a stronger America. I support restoring and repairing the Affordable Care Act to provide greater access to healthcare. We will protect small to medium size hospitals and clinics, especially in rural parts of the district. We can lower risk and costs by working with insurers to give incentives for preventive care. We must make it more desirable to act in ways that promote a healthy lifestyle.

Other Issues: Social security should help provide just that: Security. Many of you have spent many years paying into the Social Security Trust Fund through your payroll taxes. I will resist legislation that reduces your hard-earned benefits.

John Cooper, Republican Party



Email: jcooper@johncooperuscongress.com

Website: www.johncooperuscongress.com/bio/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/John.Cooper.for.US.Congress

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/drjcooper>

YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCq7AbBbI7A6gPXsGL8JQIXw

Education: Dallas Bible College graduated in 1972 with a Bachelor of Art and a Bachelor of Theology degrees. Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary graduated in 1976 with a Master of Divinity, and in 1978 Luther Rice Seminary with a Doctorate of Ministry.

Experience: Dr. Cooper has served as pastor to Churches in Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. John has worked in the engineering and surveying fields in the private sector, in the municipal sector, in TXDOT and is a Registered Professional Land Surveyor in Texas

Immigration: They must obey the current laws. The illegal aliens will have to go back to their country and reenter the USA legally. This creates a problem with their children that are born in the United States of America. They should automatically become citizens as soon as their parents are legal citizens. The children did not violate any laws and therefore should not be punished for the actions of the parents. This puts the burden back on the parents of their unlawful residents in the United States of America. I will help them as much as I can to expedite this process as long as they follow the law. Therefore, they must join their parents going back to their country and coming back into the United States to gain their citizens. All of this must be approved through the immigration laws and regulations. The 4 million people on the waiting list to get a visa to enter the country will have to wait their turn to be processed into the USA.

Foreign Intervention: Only when it is in the United States of America's best interest to preserve and protect the American people's freedom.

Economy: We are talking about the destruction of the middle class as led by Obama who was a Communist Socialist. Their goal was to take over America with out firing a shot. I remember when Premier Krushchev took off his shoe while beating on the table with his shoe saying that we "meaning Communist Socialism" take over America with out firing a shot. It was John Adams who said some 200 years ago that you can conquer and enslave a nation by the sword or by debt. It is obvious, that Obama 's administration gave it a good try because we are over a \$20 trillion, 496 billion in debt. We must overcome this immoral attempt to remove the middle class and make us a third world country. We must begin to work, immediately, to restore our free market and make the American dream a reality again. This means working with President Trump to create great career opportunities and improve our current economic state by removing regulations that have crippled our economy, and end unproductive legislation.

Representation: My serious commitment to the Constitution and to the Restoration of America back to greatness is my main goal. My goal is to be a Peoples Representative in Congress. I am committed to maintain a contact with the people in District 4 by one to three breakfast meeting each month to report what Congress is doing and to receive information on how the people feel about the issues of the day. We definitely don't need a career politician in Washington. I am committed to run for 2 terms, one term at a time. I will only run after that if a constitutional conservative does not run. We must protect the Constitution because it protects us. I will work hard to restore our First Amendment right and our Second amendment rights. We must deal with the Progressive tax made possible by the 16th Amendment. We must also deal with the 10th Amendment to be sure our

State's rights are protected. We must prevent any attempt of Congressional representatives from sidestepping the main issues.

Healthcare: I would support the full repeal of all the provisions of the Affordable Care Act. President Trump says that it will self destruct anyway. This act was a Communist Socialist illusion to make Americas Health Care better, when reality it imposed finical burdens on the American people. People have always had affordable healthcare through regulations that no person can be turned away from any hospital, such as emergency room care.

Other Issues: The greatest threat to America security is to overcome the Communist Socialist attempt to enslave America. Along with this problem is the issue of protecting our borders. We must support President Trump's goal to build a wall or use electronics such as drones to secure our border. We also have to deal with the illegal alien problem. They must obey the current laws, to go back to their country and reenter legally. The issue with their US born children is that they will be allowed citizenship once their parents have achieved citizenship. Congress has about an 8% to 15% approval rating. They have not controlled the excessive moneys spent and borrowed on behalf of our Government. Most people don't realize that this debts is each Americans. Each person now owes over \$63,000.00, each tax payer owes over \$160,000 dollars and as we speak, we pay out over a total of \$14,033.00 dollars every second. So in total the National Debt of the United States is over \$20,000,000,000 dollars.

Catherine Krantz, Democratic Party



Email: catherine@catherinekrantzforcongress.com

Website: <http://www.catherinekrantzforcongress.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KrantzforCongress/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/krantz4congress>

Education: BA English BA Fine Arts

Experience: 20 years of experience in small business ownership and community economic development

Immigration: We need work programs that acknowledge the benefits we receive from immigrant workers. For generations, the world's best and brightest have wanted to come to our country. Without reasonable immigration policy, we run the risk of losing that access to talent. We have already seen the effects of not allowing in the people we need. When we have less farm workers than we need our crops suffer. When our rules are too restrictive, top tech talent stays home and creates

thriving industries in their own countries. We so often think of immigration as only about letting people in or keeping people out. But what about the millions of people who are already here? They are working here, spending money here, paying all sorts of taxes here, making contributions here. They should have a realistic process to become citizens if they wish. We need reasonable immigration policies that acknowledge the real value immigrants bring.

Foreign Intervention: Military intervention should never be taken lightly. It brings with it tremendous cost, not only in tragic loss of life on both sides but in economic expense to our country, money that could be spent on other priorities. Our commitments to other countries and our place in the global community create a complex and delicate situation. We need to thoughtfully consider all options before going to war. I firmly believe that war is never the only option and it is rarely the best option. But I do concede, there are times when it is necessary. We must be vigilant in our attempts to avoid it wherever possible and we must have a strong moral compass about the lengths we are willing to go to, especially when loss of life on the opposing side is far greater than ours or when our forces are vastly superior. With great military might comes a moral obligation to use it with integrity.

Economy: The widening gap between the rich and the poor has a negative impact on us all. It's not just about more of us being poor, it's about the cost of this poverty to society. The cost in less people paying less taxes to maintain our systems. The cost of people having less money to contribute to our economy, less money to spend, less money to save. And it's about wasted potential, American potential. Less innovation, less advancement for our country. Studies prove that poverty begets poverty, so the situation will only get worse if we don't adjust course now. We need to focus on ways to raise people out of poverty. We need to invest in improved education that leads to better job opportunities, we need to invest in direct job creation and economic development in low income areas to keep Americans from falling through the cracks and we need to guarantee affordable health care so working families don't have to worry about an emergency or illness bankrupting their families.

Representation: I believe that Democracy requires participation and I believe Democracy requires space for dissenting opinions. This winner take all approach that we have seen in American government recently is not Democracy. Bipartisan policies and programs are stronger, last longer and benefit more people. I am committed to representing ALL of my constituents. As a candidate I am already hosting Town Halls all across my district to find out what the voters' concerns are and what they would like to see improve in their community. I would continue to host them if elected, probably on a monthly basis.

Healthcare: I support affordable health care. The ACA has had a tremendous impact on millions of Americans who would not have been able to get affordable health care otherwise. It was meant to be a framework to be built upon and more work needs to be done but I think the ACA is a step in the right direction. We urgently need to address the unreasonable cost of healthcare and medication in our country. Americans deserve affordable, accessible, high quality health care. We shouldn't have to worry about an accident or an illness bankrupting our family. Almost every other country in the world has figured this out, there is no reason we can't. I would support a single payer system that guarantees all Americans equal access to high quality affordable health care.

Other Issues: I am very passionate about women's rights. I am a proud feminist. Women need to be paid the same amount for the same work. Equal pay, equal access to the work place and access to affordable child care will be the great equalizers. I look to progress made in Scandinavian countries when it comes to women's inclusion in government and pay equality. Iceland recently passed a law making it illegal to pay a woman less than a man for the same job, I would propose such legislation in the US. Countries that have programs to insure working women have access to affordable child care have higher pay for women, higher life expectancy, and higher representation of women in government. This is where we should be going as a country. We are going backwards. Texas has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the developed world. This is unacceptable. We need to make women's rights and women's health a priority and to do this we need equal representation in government.

John Ratcliffe, Republican Party

No response received

You may bring this *Voters Guide* into the voting booth! In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this *Voters Guide*, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional (*Texas Election Code, Section 61.011*)

Your vote is your voice. Be heard.