



West Tennessee Voter Guide

Nov. 8th Elections

Dear Voter,

Thank you for doing your civic duty and helping safeguard our democracy!

We understand that our community's diversity goes beyond racial, ethnic and ideological affiliations, but extend to our political stances and philosophies as well. Because of this, we have focused this voting resource around a narrow set of civil liberties issues, scoring the candidates on their opposition to or embracing of xenophobia and their support for extending real, constitutional, religious liberty to all Tennesseans.

This means that you will have to factor these important American freedoms into your own political or partisan stances as you vote. As an organization, we are both centrist and nonpartisan. As such we discourage voting "straight ticket" for any political party. Instead we favor issues based voting. Please see our rating key at the bottom of this document and the included links to other voter information sites that may also help inform you!

Key: Yes  Neutral  No 

Yes: Candidate's voting record and/or campaign stances have demonstrated a commitment religious liberty, inclusion and equal rights for all Tennesseans.

Neutral: Candidate's positions either do not touch on our priorities or are fairly unknown (no voting record and/or explicit campaign stances) in terms of their support for religious liberty and/or stance on xenophobia.

No: Candidate has targeted minority communities, abused and/or worked against religious liberty and/or demonstrated xenophobia in their campaign rhetoric and/or legislative record.

Links to additional resources:

Vote 411: <http://www.vote411.org/> a project of the [Women's League of Voters](#)

US House of Representatives

Office	Name	Party	County	Rating
DISTRICT 7	Marsha Blackburn - Incumbent	Republican		✗
	Tharon Chandler	Democrat		⊖
	Leonard Ladner	Independent		⊖
DISTRICT 8	David Kustoff	Republican		✗
	Rickey Hobson	Democrat		⊖
	Shelia Godwin	Independent		⊖
	James Hart	Independent		✗
	Adrian Montague	Independent		⊖
	Mark Rawles	Independent		⊖
	Karen Free Spirit Talley-Lane	Independent		⊖
DISTRICT 9	Wayne Alberson	Republican		⊖
	Steve Cohen - Incumbent	Democrat		✓
	Paul Cook	Independent		✗

Tennessee State Senate

Office	Name	Party	County	Rating
DISTRICT 24	John Stevens - Incumbent	Republican	Benton, Carroll, Gibson, Henry, Obion, and Weakley Counties	✗
DISTRICT 26	Dolores Gresham - Incumbent	Republican	Chester, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, McNairy, and Henderson Counties	⊖
DISTRICT 28	Joey Hensley - Incumbent	Republican	Giles, Lawrence, Lewis, Maury, Perry and Wayne Counties	✗
	Joey Norman	Independent		⊖
DISTRICT 30	Sara Kyle - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	✓
DISTRICT 32	Mark Norris - Incumbent	Republican	Tipton, and part of Shelby County	✓

Tennessee House of Representatives

Office	Name	Party	County	Rating
DISTRICT 71	David Byrd - Incumbent	Republican	Hardin, Lewis, Wayne and part of Lawrence Counties	✗
DISTRICT 72	Steve McDaniel - Incumbent	Republican	Henderson, Chester, Decatur and Perry Counties	✗
DISTRICT 73	Jimmy Eldridge - Incumbent	Republican	Part of Madison County	✗
DISTRICT 75	Tim Wirgau - Incumbent	Republican	Henry, Benton and Stewart Counties	✗
	Daniel Powell	Democrat	Henry, Benton and Stewart Counties	⊖
	James Hart	Independent	Henry, Benton and Stewart Counties	✗
DISTRICT 76	Andrew H. Holt - Incumbent	Republican	Weakley, and part of Obion and Carroll Counties	✗
	Angela Callis	Democrat	Weakley, and part of Obion and Carroll Counties	⊖
	Bennie Castleman	Independent	Weakley, and part of Obion and Carroll Counties	⊖
DISTRICT 77	Bill Sanderson - Incumbent	Republican	Dyer, Lake and part of Obion County	⊖
	Tom Reasons	Independent	Dyer, Lake and part of Obion County	⊖
DISTRICT 79	Curtis Halford - Incumbent	Republican	Gibson and part of Carroll Counties	⊖
DISTRICT 80	Johnny Shaw - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Hardeman and Madison Counties	✓
DISTRICT 81	Debra Moody - Incumbent	Republican	Tipton County	✗
	Deborah K. Reed	Democrat	Tipton County	⊖
DISTRICT 82	Andy Cole	Republican	Lauderdale, Crockett and Haywood Counties	✗
	Craig Fitzhugh - Incumbent	Democrat	Lauderdale, Crockett and Haywood Counties	⊖
DISTRICT 83	Mark White - Incumbent	Republican	Part of Shelby County	✓
	Lawrence Pivnick	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	⊖
DISTRICT 84	Joe Towns, Jr. - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	✓
DISTRICT 85	Johnnie Turner - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	✓
DISTRICT 86	George T. Edwards	Republican	Part of Shelby County	⊖
	Barbara Cooper - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	✓

Tennessee House of Representatives

Office	Name	Party	County	Rating
DISTRICT 87	Karen Camper - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	✓
DISTRICT 88	Larry Miller - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	⊖
	Orrden Williams, Jr.	Independent	Part of Shelby County	⊖
DISTRICT 90	John DeBerry, Jr. - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	✓
DISTRICT 91	Samuel Watkins	Republican	Part of Shelby County	⊖
	Raumesh Akbari - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	✓
DISTRICT 92	Thomas R. Tillis	Republican	Marshall and part of Franklin, Lincoln, and Marion Counties	✗
	Tamra King	Democrat	Marshall and part of Franklin, Lincoln, and Marion Counties	⊖
DISTRICT 93	G.A. Hardaway - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	✓
	William King	Independent	Part of Shelby County	⊖
DISTRICT 94	Ron M. Gant	Republican	Fayette, McNairy and part of Hardeman Counties	✗
	Daniel Harris	Democrat	Fayette, McNairy and part of Hardeman Counties	⊖
DISTRICT 95	Mark Lovell	Republican	Part of Shelby County	✗
DISTRICT 96	Stephen McManus - Incumbent	Republican	Part of Shelby County	⊖
	Dwayne Thompson	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	⊖
DISTRICT 97	Jim Coley - Incumbent	Republican	Part of Shelby County	✓
DISTRICT 98	Antonio Parkinson - Incumbent	Democrat	Part of Shelby County	✓
DISTRICT 99	Ron Lollar - Incumbent	Republican	Part of Shelby County	✗


County & Municipal Ballot Items

City of Bartlett

NOTE: All of City of Bartlett candidates are unopposed

Town of Collierville

Collierville Mayor

 - We recommend voting re-elect Mayor Stan Joyner


NOTE: All of the Collierville Alderman candidates are unopposed

City of Germantown

NOTE: The candidates running both for the Alderman and School Board positions are equal regarding ACO's rating criteria.

City of Lakeland Referendum

TERM LIMITS - Ordinance 15-226 seeks to institute a two (2) four-year term limit for persons elected to the Lakeland Board of Commissioners or Mayor, and any persons elected to a single four-year term as Mayor and a single four-year term as Commissioner shall be ineligible to run for or otherwise hold either position again. Shall Ordinance 15-226 be approved?

 - Yes, we recommend voting for the amendment

City of Memphis Home Charter Amendment

Shall Sections 691 (4) and 693 (4) of the Charter of the City of Memphis, Tennessee be restored and amended to require distribution only to the general fund of the City, before any distributions of tax equivalents to the County under state law, of that portion of any Electric or Gas Tax Equivalent Payments calculated and determined by the Council under state law or agreement with the Tennessee Valley Authority, equal in amount to the City taxes assessed and levied on the fair market value of properties of MLGW electric or gas divisions situated within the corporate limits of the City of Memphis in the same manner and as if said properties were privately owned?

I, BRIAN COLLINS, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE FOR THE CITY OF MEMPHIS DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE NET ANNUAL INCREASE IN REVENUES TO THE CITY IF THIS AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED IS ESTIMATED TO BE \$5,000,000.



- We recommend voting for this amendment

Shelby County Home Rule Charter Amendment

Shall the Shelby County Charter be amended to require both the County Mayor and County Commission's approval to dismiss the County Attorney from office?



- We recommend voting against the amendment

Unincorporated Shelby County Wine at Retail Food Stores Referendum



- We recommend voting against legalizing the sale of wine at retail food stores in Unincorporated Shelby County.