

# ALEX DONKERVOET

Candidate for  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Texas 3rd Congressional District

Dear Friends, Family, and Community:

I believe our **success story** will be driven by **great individual leaders**, open to the ideas and the opinions of a diverse group. Debate and compromise will ultimately lead to a government, not separated by opposing opinions, but made stronger because of those opinions. When representing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District, I will **uphold my promises**, explain my positions, and realize every solution has its own obstacles and opportunities.

(Re) Election campaigns based on generic, party-based comments that read like a user's manual should not be a substitute for **fact-based discussions, transparency, and informed voting**. Elected officials should share ideas, proposals, and principles to allow the public, not lobbyists or political parties, to determine who will serve in office.

The government can work together while using research and facts to help guide decisions to solve the current divisive political atmosphere. We need individuals to advance the cause of a **Better Texas** and a **Better America** while adequately and accurately representing the will and viewpoints of the greater constituency.

It is with absolute certainty, I believe I can be one of the individuals to advance the cause of a **Better Texas** and a **Better America**. That is why I have decided to run for the United States House of Representatives for Texas 3rd Congressional District.



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*I have prepared details to clearly state my thoughts and opinions on major issues. I believe everyone should know the details and plans behind a candidate's campaign from the beginning. Political games are a waste of time and money while being detrimental to the United States.*

# Alex Donkervoet for Congress

U.S. Congress needs a new voice that will bring innovative ideas, stability, and collaboration between individuals, companies, and government. I **PROMISE** to look for creative solutions using all the resources available. I will hold my fellow Members of Congress accountable when they choose the easy or artful way out rather than making the necessary decisions.

Many Americans are frustrated with our politicians and the way our political system is unfolding. Actions speak louder than words, which is why I decided to run for this office in an effort to actually make changes.

- › Our political atmosphere should not be where it is today. The Federal Government is moving towards the unknown while Congress tries to pass unoriginal and useless legislation.
- › Most candidates are running with status quo responses to the issues. Their positions are vacuous, while lacking in detail and void of logic.
- › In TX-3 district 80% of Republican precinct chairs and numerous political leaders have endorsed a candidate 90+ days prior to the deadline to become a candidate. Endorsing a candidate before knowing who is running shows the mob mentality in politics. **THIS IS NOT HOW OUR LEADERS SHOULD BE SELECTED.**

*There is nothing which I dread so much as a division of the republic into two great parties, each arranged under its leader, and concerting measures in opposition to each other. This, in my humble apprehension, is to be dreaded as the greatest political evil under our Constitution.*

– John Adams

## FAST FACTS

### 30%...

The probability of a policy change regardless of whether a small minority or a large majority of American citizens support the policy. The probability of policy change is nearly the same showing average voters have a low to nonexistent influence on public policy compared to the economic elites and interest groups.<sup>1</sup>

## PRINCIPLES

I believe the Federal Government's role should be limited while using its resources to foster growth and stability. Providing safety to our citizens from physical threat, greed, corruption, and undue influences from both foreign and domestic threats is a core principle.

I believe the government should support the people to achieve peace and prosperity. This can be accomplished by fixing current issues while setting policies in place to advance the growth of future generations.

## ISSUES TO ADDRESS

Elected officials and most candidates do not provide their principles or details to proposed solutions. This lack of transparency prevents voters from making the best and most informed decisions in upcoming elections.

I **PROMISE** to directly answer questions rather than oversimplify or avoid the issues. By way of research and debates, my solutions and opinions may alter and/or change along the way. Insight into my final decisions will be transparent.

Below are high level details on issues that are important to Americans now and in the future.

## Term Limits

Above all other issues, implementing consecutive term limits is my primary goal. 74% of Americans are in favor of term limits.<sup>2</sup> Term limits will minimize the opportunity for corruption and centralization of power to a single individual while allowing politicians to do things for the right reason instead of whatever it takes to get re-elected.

- › 5-two year terms (10yrs) – U.S. House of Rep
- › 2-six year terms (12yrs) – U.S. Senate

### 97%...

Win rate for a 2016 incumbent member of the U.S. House of Representatives running for reelection.<sup>3</sup>

## Healthcare

Obamacare has severe deficiencies and the current proposals are inadequate. The Federal Government needs to stabilize the market:

- › **Pre-existing** health conditions are **covered**.
- › Removal of employer-provided healthcare.
- › Purchasing of healthcare through the open market (similar to car insurance).
- › Contributions by employers to an employee's HSA account to help build balance.
- › Price **TRANSPARENCY**. Patients need to clearly see the price of a treatment and

determine the out-of-pocket cost before receiving care while putting an end to negotiated medical prices.

- › Creation of state domestic mutual insurance companies which provide a stable, last resort, competitive market.
- › National database so doctors (with permission) can see diagnosis and prescriptions from other doctors.

## Tax Reform

The tax code needs to be simplified to create an equal footing domestically and internationally for both individuals and companies.

### Personal Taxes need...

- › Progressive tax rate based on income regardless of capital gains or ordinary income.
- › Fewer deductions and lower tax rates.
- › Adjustment of the EITC.
- › Removal of AMT.

### Business Taxes need to...

- › Enact a Corporate Tax rate of 25% and Small Business Tax rate of 20%.
- › Allow immediate expensing of capital purchases.

## Immigration

Legal immigration strengthens the U.S. economy and does more good than harm. We need to embrace legal immigration to encourage growth and fuel American businesses. We need to reduce incentives for illegal immigrants but address the industries where illegal immigrants are present (i.e. farming and construction). America should...

- › Increase permanent and temporary worker visas.
- › Mandate payment of U.S. taxes for legal immigrants and require proper auto and health insurance while being prohibited from government benefits.
- › Implement strict penalties for companies hiring illegal workers.
- › Not grant automatic U.S. citizenship if you are born in the U.S. to non-U.S. parents.
- › Increase Citizenship through naturalization.

### 5%...

Only 5% of developed countries (Canada and the United States) that grant birthright citizenship.<sup>4</sup>

## Economic Safety & Security

The deceitful practices by banks contributing to America's financial meltdown, the Wells Fargo fraudulent bank accounts, the Equifax security breach, etc., were products of individual and corporate greed and negligence. Regulations for businesses need to be minimal; however, when a company and/or individual's actions criminally or unethically impact consumers, both company

assets and **PERSONAL ASSETS** of those individuals should be a remedy for recovery of the lost funds.

## NASA...

...is our reach for the future and has paid society back many times over. NASA has documented nearly 1,800 "spinoff" technologies such as cell-phone cameras, MRI and CAT scans, and water filters. I believe we should increase their budget and promote their vision.

## Abortion

I am Pro-Life and if we lived in utopia, this topic would not be a debate. Abortion would not exist because Pro-Life and Pro-Choice proponents would work together to eliminate the need for abortions all together. However, we don't live in such a world and must do all we can and continue to work with Pro-Choice proponents to reduce abortion on all fronts.

## Environment

The environment is an international issue. Google search 'Los Angeles smog 1955' or 'Beijing smog 2017' and learn that today, China's air pollution is making its way into the U.S.<sup>5</sup> The U.S. must work not only domestically but internationally to protect the environment.

## Second Amendment

We are given the right to own guns and I believe that right should not be taken away. Reasonable solutions need to be put in places that allow quick and secure gun sales while keeping the freedoms of gun owners and security of the people intact.

Such solutions are:

- › Permit to purchase and registration
- › Accountability if your gun is used in a crime
- › Laws against trafficking and straw purchases

## Net Neutrality

I strongly believe in an internet that enables and protects free speech and provides us with open networks while slamming the back door on governments, organizations, and individuals that want to destroy our faith in a free society. Websites, videos, your personal blog, mobile apps, and basically anything that uses the internet could have its speed and content regulated without Net Neutrality.

## Education

- › Education guidelines should be set at a state and local level. Standardized tests are one indicator of childhood progression but should not be the only metric targeted and tested.
- › The Federal Government should set high level guidelines and provide resources to assist the individual goals of each state.

- › I believe parental and local involvement, which encourages and allows students to interact and enjoy school, is as valuable as the curriculum itself.

## Liberties

- › **Freedom of speech** may be considered offensive at times but we should never limit non-violent and peaceful protest and speech...EVER!
- › **Personal beliefs** should not be forced on one another. Communities and individuals should be able to live without discrimination and enjoy equal rights, personal autonomy, and freedom of expression and association.

## Political Foresight

It is a major problem that political foresight is lacking in D.C. Unfortunately; politicians can't agree on today's issues, let alone focus on and address plans for the issues of tomorrow.

- › **Knowledge Economy** – We need to recognize we are moving toward a knowledge economy. An increase in automation will lead to numerous positions being replaced with new technology. Instead of waiting until this new technology comes along and unemployment rates spike, we can get ahead of this and plan for those future losses. As an example; long haul trucking currently employs over three million people and it is inevitable that future trucking will be automated. We have the opportunity to start preparing for such changes today.
- › **U.S. will take on billions in debt** if a major earthquake (EQ) hits the west coast. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac **DO NOT** require EQ insurance on the west coast. As a byproduct only around 10% of California homeowners purchase EQ insurance. If an EQ hits California, the 100's of billions of dollars in uninsured property damaged would be rebuilt using tax payers' money. Policies must be put in place to distribute the cost through the open markets by requiring proper insurance coverage. If Florida did not require hurricane insurance and only 10% of homeowners were insured, the economic impact of hurricanes would be placed on the shoulders of the U.S. government while the taxpayer's are left taking on the debt associated with rebuilding.
- › **Social Security** – Don't do anything and cut benefits or increase taxes in 2035. Or, we could partner with corporate America to provide annuities while these corporations take on risk to maximize return on investments. This would be backed by the government in case a company went out of business. Other possibilities are: increase the full retirement age over time, adjust the payroll tax cap, reduce benefits for high value

individuals, and/or stop taxing Social Security benefits. There is no perfect solution but something must be done sooner than later.

- › **Social Security Numbers** – Your SSN was never meant to be a personal identifying document for YOU! It lacks any built-in security features and the paper ID printout is ridiculous. The card is less secure than a library card but vastly more important and in today's world of theft and fraud, this number should be secure.

## Bipartisanship

The partisan divide has grown and after each election, politicians seem more interested in sticking it to and embarrassing the other party than working together to better this nation. I firmly believe if politicians consistently believe their answers are the only answer and won't contemplate other viewpoints, they are unfit to serve.

## Ethical Behavior

We, as both individuals and as a country, must learn to regard our politicians as the leaders they are. We should hold them to higher standards and not allow them passes for harmful intent or malicious acts. No one is perfect, but as role models for our youth and the face of our country to the world their behavior and character should be beyond reproach.

## Who is Alex Donkervoet?

Alex is married, has a baby daughter, and is the proud step-father to an 8-year-old son.

He was born and raised outside of New Orleans, Louisiana and has 2 brothers and a sister. He holds a degree in Actuarial Science from University of Wisconsin – Madison and moved to Dallas to work for a consulting firm after college. He pursued his career internationally, working for a reinsurance company in Bermuda, before moving back to Dallas where he has now settled with his family. Alex and his wife are members of a local Methodist Church while participating in youth sports, PTA, and HOA activities.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please visit our Campaign website  
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ALEX DONKEROET CANDIDATE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TEXAS 3<sup>RD</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

- <sup>1</sup> <https://journalistsresource.org/studies/politics/finance-lobbying/the-influence-of-elites-interest-groups-and-average-voters-on-american-politics>
- <sup>2</sup> [http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public\\_content/politics/general\\_politics/october\\_2016/more\\_voters\\_than\\_ever\\_want\\_term\\_limits\\_for\\_congress](http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/general_politics/october_2016/more_voters_than_ever_want_term_limits_for_congress)
- <sup>3</sup> <https://www.opensecrets.org/overview/reelect.php>
- <sup>4</sup> <https://www.numbersusa.com/content/learn/issues/birthright-citizenship/nations-granting-birthright-citizenship.html>
- <sup>5</sup> <https://weather.com/science/environment/news/china-emissions-reach-america>