# FRANK RAMIREZ (D-HD118) TEXAS



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ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ	

## **MAIN ISSUES**

- In 2021, Ramirez's campaign became a focal point for many prominent Texas state Democrats and outside interest groups, including Beto O'Rourke.
- During his 2021 special election, Ramirez received \$20,000 from the Future Now Fund, a group that previously pushed legislation to defund the police.
  - o **Editor's note:** Future Now Fund is now known as The PAC for America's Future.
- In a 2021 interview, Ramirez stated he would represent his community with progressive values and legislation.
- While Ramirez served as his legislative director, Rep. Uresti authored a bill to increase the diesel tax in the state of Texas.
- Ramirez has been endorsed by the American Youth for Climate Action, a group that has called for Medicare for All, minimum wage increases, and tax reform.
- In a 2021 interview, Ramirez stated he would have joined the Democrats who broke quorum and fled Texas for Washington, D.C.

## **METHODOLOGY**

- A review of Google and Nexis for news articles and blog posts related to Ramirez.
- A review of Ramirez's social media accounts for comments, images, and videos that may provide vulnerabilities.
- A review of videos of Ramirez available online.
- Property, financial, campaign finance, and criminal records available online and through Nexis.
- A review of public records related to Ramirez's employment for Rep. Uresti and the City of San Antonio, which were obtained by FOIA, and a review of Uresti's legislative record.
- A review of Ramirez's previous employment, including campaign finance reports for Ramirez's pay from various political groups and campaigns.
- Pulled negative information related Ramirez's ties to Beto O'Rourke.

## **OUTSTANDING RESEARCH**

Researcher is awaiting responses to some public records requests.

## **TIMELINE**

December 18, 1993 – Born Frank Alejos Ramirez IV. (Nexis Public Records, Accessed 1/10/22)

**2012 – Graduated McCollum High School.** (<u>iVoterGuide</u>, Accessed 1/10/22; <u>Frank Ramirez for State Representative</u>, Accessed 1/10/22)

2012 - 2016 — Attended the University of Texas at Austin and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and Government. (LinkedIn, Accessed 1/10/22)

July 2015 – July 2016 – Interned for the Texas Senate Finance Committee. (LinkedIn, Accessed 1/10/22)

August 2016 - November 2016 - Deputy Director of Community Outreach for the Texas Democratic Party. (LinkedIn, Accessed 1/10/22; Employment Records, Texas State Legislature, Accessed 2/25/22)

November 2016 - October 2017 — Legislative Director for Representative Thomas Uresti. (LinkedIn, Accessed 1/10/22; Jackie Wang, "Five candidates seek HD 118 seat in special election," <u>San Antonio Report</u>, 9/19/21)

January 2017 - October 2017 - Chief of Staff for Representative Thomas Uresti. (LinkedIn, Accessed 1/10/22; Jackie Wang, "Five candidates seek HD 118 seat in special election," <u>San Antonio Report</u>, 9/19/21)

December 2017 - May 2020 — Zoning Policy Manager for City of San Antonio's District 7. (LinkedIn, Accessed 1/10/22; Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/10/22)

May 2020 - August 2021 - Zoning & Planning Director for the City of San Antonio's District 7. (LinkedIn, Accessed 1/10/22; Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/10/22)

**September 8, 2021 – Announced candidacy for the 118<sup>th</sup> House District.** (Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 9/8/21)

**September 28, 2021 – Advanced to a special election runoff.** (Patrick Svitek, "Republican John Lujan and Democrat Frank Ramirez advance to runoff for San Antonio-area Texas House seat," *The Texas Tribune*, 9/28/21)

**November 15, 2021 – Lost special election runoff to John Lujan.** (\*2021 Election Results," Office of the Secretary of State, 11/15/21)

November 2021 – Announced he would be running in the 2022 election for the 118<sup>th</sup> House District. (LinkedIn, Accessed 1/11/22)

## **BACKGROUND**

**In 2021, Ramirez stated he is running to represent and help develop the community he was raised in.** "Ramirez told the Signal he's running to represent the community he grew up in and bring more infrastructure and education dollars to the region. 'I'm from the district through and through,' Ramirez said. 'I grew up in the southside of San Antonio and I went to elementary, middle, and high school in the Harlandale Independent School District.'" (Fernando Ramirez, "WHY FRANK RAMIREZ IS RUNNING FOR STATEHOUSE," *Texas Signal*, 10/19/21)

• Ramirez stated that working to develop his community motivated him to seek public office. "Recognizing that our state has a lot of work to do to catch up educationally, to catch up in terms of business and property taxes and infrastructure. That was the motivating factor for me,' Ramirez said of running." (Fernando Ramirez, "WHY FRANK RAMIREZ IS RUNNING FOR STATEHOUSE," Texas Signal, 10/19/21)

In 2021, Ramirez stated he wanted to tackle infrastructure and historic disinvestment in San Antonio's South Side. "As a lifelong resident of the city's South Side, Ramirez said he wants to tackle historic disinvestment in the area. 'Not only are we playing catch up infrastructurally, but we're catching up with economic development,' Ramirez said. We're playing catch up with public education and public health." (Jackie Wang, "Five candidates seek HD 118 seat in special election," San Antonio Report, 9/19/21)

**AUDIO:** In a 2021 interview, Ramirez stated he would represent his community with progressive values and legislation. RAMIREZ: "You can count on me to be a voice for Democrats and for all the districts of 118 through progressive values and through progressive legislation." (Frank Ramirez, "John Lujan and Frank Ramirez face off in a special election runoff for Texas House District 118," Texas Public Radio, 10/18/21) Minute 22:44-22:53

## **PUBLIC RECORDS**

## **Property Records**

According to the Texas Secretary of State website, Ramirez's listed his address at 2105 Clamp Avenue, San Antonio TX, 78221.

FRANK RAMIREZ

2105 CLAMP AVENUE SAN ANTONIO TX 78221 E-mail: info@frankfortexas.com PARTY: DEMOCRATIC STATUS: IN RUNOFF INCUMBENT: NO OCCUPATION: SELF EMPLOYED FILING DATE: 09/08/2021

("Candidate Information" Texas Secretary of State, 9/8/21)

On April 16, 2004, Frank Ramirez Jr. and Leticia Ramirez paid off their mortgage and received ownership of the deed.

Loan Number: <u>0193913464</u> MERS ID: <u>100112065678590536</u> MERS Telephone: <u>1-888-679-6377</u>

Deed of Release

For Value Received, the present undersigned Beneficiary under a deed of trust executed by FRANK RAMIREZ JR. AND SPOUSE, LETICIA A. RAMIREZ as Grantor/Trustor, to JOHN T. RITTER as Trustee, dated 04/12/2004, certifies that the Deed of Trust has been fully paid, satisfied or otherwise discharged. The Deed of Trust was recorded in the Deed of Trust Records of Bexar County, TX on 04/16/2004, and is indexed as Volume 10684, Page 1419, File No. 20040081861. The undersigned releases and reconveys, without covenant or warranty, the Deed of Trust and all of its right, title and interest which was acquired by the Trustee under the Deed of Trust, in the property located at: 2105 CLAMP AVE, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78221

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS. INC. by the officers duly authorized, has duly executed the foregoing instrument.

Dated this: 02/27/2013

Lender: MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.

Riryf-

RIMMA AIRAPETYAN, Assistant Secretary

State of WI, County of Milwaukee

Witness my hand,

Sylvia Kohut

SYLVIA KOHUT

Notary Public for said state and county

Expires: 05/22/2016

Sylvia Kohut Notary Public State Of Wisconsin

(Deed of Release, Instrument 20130039017, Filed 2/27/13)

#### All taxes have been paid on 2105 Clamp Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78221.

**Account Number: 111010081130** 

Address:

RAMIREZ FRANK JR & LETICIA A 2105 CLAMP AVE

SAN ANTONIO, TX 782213434

**Property Site Address:** 

2105 CLAMP AVE

**Legal Description:** 

NCB 11101 BLK 8 LOT N 195 FT OF 113

Current Year Tax Levy: \$0.00

Current Year Amount Due: \$0.00

Delinquent After: 01/31/2022

Split Payment Option Amount (1/2 of Current Tax Levy): \$0.00

\* Deadline November 30, 2021

Prior Year Amount Due: \$0.00

Total Amount Due: \$0.00

Last Payment Amount for Current Year Taxes: Not Received

Last Payer for Current Year Taxes:

Last Payment Date for Current Year Taxes:

(Albert Uresti, Bexar County Tax Assessor-Collector, Accessed 2/25/22)

## **Voting Records**

#### On March 6, 2018, Ramirez registered in Bexar County.



(Texas Secretary of State, Accessed 2/7/22)

#### Statement of Economic Interest

#### 2021 Filing

#### Ramirez reported having Ethereum Classics (ETC) stock.

1	FILER INFORMATION	FILER NAME		FILER ID	
		Ramirez IV, Frank A. (N	1r.)	000858	301
2	BUSINESS ENTITY	NAME			
L		Ethereum Classic (ETC)			
3	S STOCK HELD OR ACQUIRED BY	X FILER	SPOUSE	DEPENDENT CHILI	D
4	NUMBER OF SHARES	LESS THAN 100	X 100 TO 499  10,000 OR MORE	500 TO 999	1,000 TO 4,999
Ę	F SOLD NET GAIN NET LOSS				

(Frank Ramirez, 2021 Statement of Economic Interest, Accessed 2/15/22)

#### 2022 Filing

**Editor's note:** As of April 20, 2022, researcher has not received Ramirez's 2022 Statement of Economic Interest due February 14, 2022.

## **Employment History**

From August to November of 2016, Ramirez worked as the deputy director of community outreach for Texas Democrats.

Dates of Employment (month, Year): From Ang NSF 2016 To November 2016	Title of Position: Deputy Director	Salary or Earnings: Starting \$ i3.50 per hv Ending \$ per
Type of business or organization:	Name and title of immediate supervisor:	Number of employees supervised by you, if any: 10
Description of duties, responsibilities, a	ccomplishments:	

(Frank Ramirez, House Application for Employment, Filed 12/29/16)

On January 10, 2017, Rep. Uresti hired Ramirez as his Legislative Director for \$3,500 a month.

REQUESTED BY:		REPRESENTATIVE		Member Acct. No #5863 Acct. No
TYPE OF ACTION   Hire	Date: (Last	Agency Name  Day Worked)	Hours Docked Leave Without Pay LWOP Start LWOP Stop  Address Change:	Day Year
EMPLOYEE STATE Employee Type:	Fu Pa	Ill Time (40 hrs. Week)  Int Time ( hrs. Week)  Int Time ( hrs. Week)  No. Hours Worked	Session Emplo	Location:  District Office Capitol Office
Effective Date: <u>Ja</u>	Monthly \$ 3500 Nuary 10, 201 Ving if paid from two			Hourly \$
Member/C	omas committee/Department	Uresti		; 3,500°-
Member/C	ommittee/Department		Signature: Member/Co	smmittee Chairman/Director

(Personnel Action Request, Hire Action, Filed 1/27/17)

On February 27, 2017, Rep. Uresti authored HB2513, a bill raising the state diesel fuel tax rate. "AN ACT relating to increasing the rate of the state diesel fuel tax. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: SECTIONA1. Section 162.202, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows: Sec.A162.202. TAX RATE. The diesel fuel tax rate is 22 [20] cents for each net gallon or fractional part on which the tax is imposed under Section 162.201." (HB2513, Referred to Ways and Means, 3/23/17)

On July 21, 2017, Ramirez left the employment of Rep. Uresti.

REQUESTED BY: Member/Manager Rep. T  Committee/ Department	Member Acct. No
TYPE OF ACTION:  Hire  Re-Hire  Inter-Agency Transfer In/Out  Termination  Salary Change  Account Change (Employee Transfer)  Time Schedule Change	Pay for Hours Hours Docked Leave Without Pay (LWOP)  LWOP Start LWOP Stop Mo. Day Year  LWOP Stopay Address Change:

(Personnel Action Request, Termination Action, Filed 7/25/17)

**Editor's Note:** Researchers are awaiting a response from the City of San Antonio regarding the work history of Frank Ramirez.

## RAMIREZ CAMPAIGNS

## 2021 Special Election

<u>In 2021, Ramirez lost a special election for HD118 to Republican John Lujan</u>

On September 8, 2021, Ramirez filed his candidacy for the 118<sup>th</sup> House District.



(Frank Ramirez, <u>Twitter</u>, 9/8/21)

In 2021, Ramirez left his job with the City of San Antonio to run, alongside two other Democrats, in a special election for the 118 House District. "Katie Farias, Desi Martinez, and Frank Ramirez are also hoping to succeed Pacheco in House District 118...And Ramirez, who is the youngest candidate in the race at age 27, left his job as director of zoning and planning for San Antonio City Councilwoman Ana Sandoval (D7) to enter the race." (Jackie Wang, "Five candidates seek HD 118 seat in special election," San Antonio Report, 9/19/21)

 Ramirez campaigned on his experience working for the City of San Antonio and his prior experience in the Texas Legislature. "Ramirez is the former zoning and planning director for a San Antonio City Council member and before that, he was chief of staff to Pacheco's predecessor in the seat, Tomas Uresti. At 27, Ramirez ran on the generational change he would bring to the seat and his already considerable experience in government." (Patrick Svitek, "Republican John Lujan and Democrat Frank Ramirez advance to runoff for San Antonioarea Texas House seat," The Texas Tribune, 9/28/21)

On September 28, 2021, Ramirez and Lujan advanced to a special election runoff. "Republican John Lujan and Democrat Frank Ramirez are advancing to a special election runoff

to fill the seat of former state Rep. Leo Pacheco, D-San Antonio, a seat the GOP is eager to flip as it looks to gain new ground in South Texas. With all vote centers reporting Tuesday night, Lujan was getting 42% of the vote, while Ramirez was receiving 20%, according to unofficial returns." (Patrick Svitek, "Republican John Lujan and Democrat Frank Ramirez advance to runoff for San Antonio-area Texas House seat," *The Texas Tribune*, 9/28/21)

On October 9, 2021, Ramirez posted a tweet alleging his opponent was receiving inside information about the election.



(Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 10/9/21)

**Lujan responded that he had assumed the runoff would be November 2, the same day as the statewide propositions election.** "Lujan said he had assumed the date would be Nov. 2 — the same day as the statewide propositions election — and made the decision to print the literature against the advice of his campaign." (Patrick Svitek, "Texas Democrats went 'all in' to protect a San Antonio-area House seat from flipping. The GOP still took it." *The Texas Tribune*, 11/3/21)

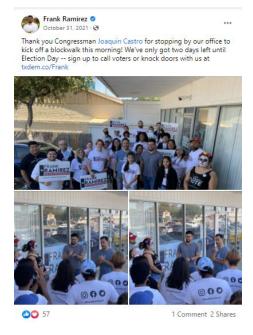
- Ramirez stated it was inappropriate for Lujan to assume what day the election
  would be held since it could mislead voters. "If you have an election date certain and
  you know it, and you're printing literature in a campaign when you print things it's not a
  light measure you take, you have to be certain you have a duty as a public official and
  face of your party in this race to inform your residents of that date,' Ramirez said." (Fernando
  Ramirez, "WHY FRANK RAMIREZ IS RUNNING FOR STATEHOUSE," Texas Signal, 10/19/21)
- The Texas Democratic Party Chair Gilberto Hinojosa claimed that Lujan had inside information on when the election would be held. "Hinojosa also claimed Republicans had 'insider information' about the runoff date that gave them an unfair head start a reference to Lujan campaign literature that said the runoff would be Nov. 2, before Abbott had announced it." (Patrick Svitek, "Texas Democrats went 'all in' to protect a San Antonio-area House seat from flipping. The GOP still took it." The Texas Tribune, 11/3/21)
- **Editor's note:** The election runoff was held on November 2.

On October 30, 2021, Ramirez's campaign hosted a canvassing event led by a diverse roster of key Texas Democrat leaders.



(Frank Ramirez, Facebook, 10/30/21)

# On October 31, 2021, Congressman Joaquin Castro and Ramirez led a canvassing event.



(Frank Ramirez, Facebook, 10/31/21)

#### **Endorsements**

In 2021, former Representative Leo Pacheco endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/12/21)

In 2021, Rey Saldaña, the former San Antonio District 4 Councilman, endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, "FRANK RAMIREZ ANNOUNCES MAJOR ENDORSEMENTS FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 118 CAMPAIGN," Press Release, 8/31/21)

In 2021, Andres Lopez, State Democratic Executive Committeeman SD 25, endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, "FRANK RAMIREZ ANNOUNCES MAJOR ENDORSEMENTS FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 118 CAMPAIGN," Press Release, 8/31/21)

In 2021, Jamie "Lane" Eickhoff, State Democratic Executive Committeewoman SD 25, endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, "FRANK RAMIREZ ANNOUNCES MAJOR ENDORSEMENTS FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 118 CAMPAIGN," Press Release, 8/31/21)

In 2021, Robert Vargas III, State Democratic Executive Committeeman, SD 26 endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, "FRANK RAMIREZ ANNOUNCES MAJOR ENDORSEMENTS FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 118 CAMPAIGN," Press Release, 8/31/21)

In 2021, Justin Michel Uresti, the Bexar County Democratic Party Precinct Chair, endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, "FRANK RAMIREZ ANNOUNCES MAJOR ENDORSEMENTS FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 118 CAMPAIGN," Press Release, 8/31/21)

In 2021, Nick Peña, the Bexar County Democratic Party Precinct Chair, endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, "FRANK RAMIREZ ANNOUNCES MAJOR ENDORSEMENTS FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 118 CAMPAIGN," Press Release, 8/31/21)

In 2021, Senator José Menéndez endorsed Ramirez. (<u>Frank Ramirez for State Representative</u>, Accessed 1/12/21)

In 2021, Judge Nelson Wolff endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/12/21)

In 2021, Sheriff Javier Salazar endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/12/21)

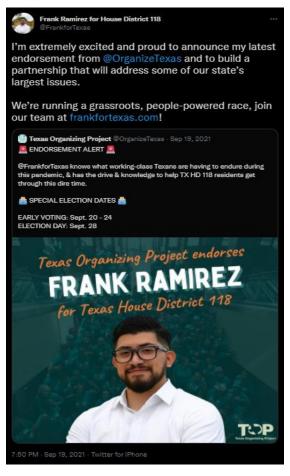
In 2021, Representative Ray Lopez endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/12/21)

In 2021, Councilwoman Ana Sandoval endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/12/21)

In 2021, Councilwoman Adriana Garcia endorsed Ramirez (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/12/21)

In 2021, City Councilman Jalen McKee-Rodriguez Endorsed Ramirez. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/12/21)

On September 19, 2021, The Texas Organizing Project endorsed Ramirez.



(Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 9/19/21)

The Texas Organizing Project is a group local to Dallas, Harris, and Bexar counties that trains and mobilizes members of the Black and Latino communities for campaigns. "The Texas Organizing Project (TOP), founded in 2009, organizes Black and Latino communities in Dallas, Harris and Bexar counties with the goal of transforming Texas into a state where working people of color have the power and representation they deserve...Our greatest strength is the more than 285,000 members and supporters who help lead our direct-action organizing, grassroots lobbying, and electoral organizing. In addition, we provide training to develop everyday leaders in our Black and Latino neighborhoods; people hungry for positive change who want to be champions for their communities." (Organize Texas, Accessed 1/27/22)

- The Texas Organizing Project PAC's stated goal in 2020 was to push Texas toward a progressive future. "Texas is a battleground state, and Texas Organizing Project (TOP) PAC's aim in 2020 is to further push the state toward a progressive future that will deliver substantive change and shift more power into the hands of Black and Latino Texans." (Organize Texas, Accessed 1/27/22)
- The Texas Organizing Project advocates for the expansion of Medicaid in the state of Texas and Medicare for All at the national level. "From pushing for Medicaid expansion for our state, to advocating for Medicare for All at the national level, we recognize that our current, profit-driven healthcare industry in the United States is

- shortchanging Black and Latino communities across the board and must be drastically transformed." (Organize Texas, Accessed 1/27/22)
- The Texas Organizing Project's Right2Justice campaign advocates for defunding the police in Bexar County. "The mission of TOP'S Right2Justice (R2J) Campaign is to end mass incarceration and the criminalization of poverty of Black and Latino people in four of the largest counties in Texas (Harris, Dallas, Bexar and Fort Bend) by creating a justice system that is fair and just... We're fighting to end mass incarceration by demanding bail reform, cite and release policies and defunding the police." (Organize Texas, Accessed 1/27/22)

On October 19, 2021, the Texas State Teachers Association PAC endorsed Ramirez.



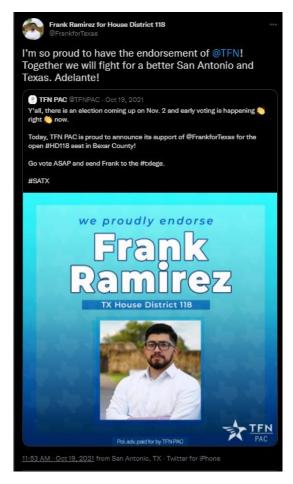
(Frank Ramirez, <u>Twitter</u>, 10/19/21)

On October 19, 2021, Planned Parenthood Texas Voters PAC endorsed Ramirez.



(Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 10/20/21)

On October 19, 2021, the Texas Freedom Network PAC endorsed Ramirez.



(Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 10/19/21)

The Texas Freedom Network PAC is an organization focused on electing
progressive candidates in Texas. "TFN PAC believes that helping progressive Texans get
into public offices will result in a better Texas where basic values like fairness and equality
for all will guide our state's policies." (TFN PAC, Accessed 1/12/22)

On September 15,2021, the AFL-CIO San Antonio endorsed Ramirez.



(Frank Ramirez. Twitter, 12/10/21)

On September 20, 2021, the Texas American Federation of Teachers endorsed Ramirez. (Texas AFT, Accessed 2/1/22)

## 2022 Campaign

In November 2021, Ramirez announced he would be running in the 2022 Democratic primary for the 118<sup>th</sup> House District.



(LinkedIn, Accessed 1/11/22)

On December 13, 2021, Ramirez announced that he would be the nominee for the 188<sup>th</sup> House District.



(Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 12/13/21)

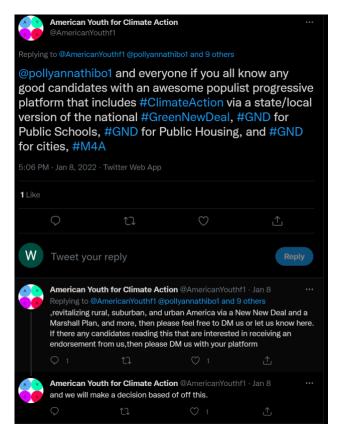
#### **Endorsements**

On January 14, 2022, the American Youth for Climate Action endorsed Ramirez.



(Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 1/14/22)

 The American Youth Group for Climate action endorses candidates with progressive agendas including Medicare for All, minimum wage increases, and tax reform.



(American Youth for Climate Action, Twitter, 1/8/22)



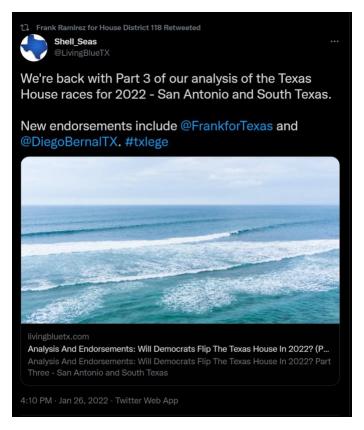
(American Youth for Climate Action, Twitter, 1/13/22)

The organization has retweeted calls to end the filibuster.



(American Youth for Climate Action, Twitter, 1/13/22)

On January 26, 2022, Living Blue Texas endorsed Ramirez.



(Living Blue Texas, Twitter, 1/26/22)

 Living Blue Texas core principals include expanded medical care, increased minimum wage, and gun regulations.



#### Our core principles:

We believe in:

- · Equality and equal opportunity for all Texans
- Protection for civil liberties and human and individual rights
- Black lives matter
- If you aren't anti-racist, then you are racist
- Common-sense gun laws
- · No that one in America should be hungry
- · A woman's medical procedures are no body's business
- $\bullet\,$  No one should have to die without access to medical care
- People are more important than corporations
- Employees should earn a living wage
- Our earth and environment are in danger and we must do what we can now for the preservation of the generations to come.

(Living Blue Texas, Accessed 1/27/22)

On January 23, 2022, Stonewall Democrats of San Antonio endorsed Ramirez. (Stonewall Democrats of San Antonio, "2022 SDSA Endorsement Selections." Blog, 1/24/22)

## **CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

## 2021 Special Election

#### **Top Line Numbers**

In 2021, Ramirez's campaign raised \$294,945 on the special election runoff. (Frank A. Ramirez, 8/13 to 9/18 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 9/20/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19 to 9/22 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 9/23/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/26/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/25/21 to 11/1/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 11/1/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/25 to 11/1, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 11/01/21 Frank A. Ramirez, 9/7 to 10/19 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/18/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

By October 23, 2021, Ramirez campaign was estimated to have raised \$220,000 in direct and in-kind contributions. "By contrast, as of Oct. 23, Mr. Ramirez had raised about \$220,000 in direct and in-kind contributions, including \$70,000 from the Texas Organizing Project, a nonprofit that supports diversity in elections, and from Democratic lawmakers, according to his filings." (Edgar Sandoval, "This Special Election Is Testing Republican Efforts to Court Latino Voters," The New York Times, 10/26/21)

In 2021, Ramirez's campaign spent \$214,250 on the special election runoff. (Frank A. Ramirez, 8/13 to 9/18 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 9/20/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19 to 9/22 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 9/23/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/26/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/25/21 to 11/1/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 11/1/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/25 to 11/1, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 11/01/21 Frank A. Ramirez, 9/7 to 10/19 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/18/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

#### **Notable Donations**

In 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$73,168 in-kind donations from the Texas Organizing Project PAC. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/26/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/25/21 to 11/1/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 11/1/21)

In 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$4,500 from State Representative Chris Turner. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 10/26/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/25/21 to 11/1/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 11/1/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 1/19/22)

On October 21, 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$1,000 from State Representative James Talarico. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 10/26/21)

On October 23, 2021, Ramirez campaign received \$7,388 in-kind donations from Rodreguez Resource Lab. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/26/21)

On September 29, 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$500 from State Representative Tracy King. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 10/26/21)

On September 29, 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$1,000 from State Representative Rafael Anchia. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/7/21 to 10/19/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, 11/18/21)

On October 7, 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$500 from State Representative Donna Howard. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/26/21)

On October 14, 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$500 from State Representative Barbara Hawkins. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/26/21)

On October 18, 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$20,000 from The PAC for America's Future. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/26/21)

- The PAC for America's Future is a branch organization of Future Now. "The Future Now umbrella includes The States Project, The Lawmaker Network, and The PAC for America's Future. Its initiatives focus on improving Americans' lives by winning state legislative majorities and working with them to achieve goals for the common good." (Future Now, Accessed 1/26/22)
- Future Now Fund has historically endorsed progressive candidates and assists left leaning legislators draft policy at the state level. "And whereas most national groups targeting state governments have chosen to focus on either campaigns or policy, Future Now operates as both a campaign organization—Future Now Fund—and an issue-advocacy group that helps legislators draft and pass legislation under the rubric America's Goals. Nearly 500 state lawmakers have pledged their support for the agenda, which is organized under seven issue areas that, while technically nonpartisan, amount to a comprehensive progressive wish list." (Russell Berman, "The Democrats Whose 2020 Goal Is Grander Than the Presidency," *The Atlantic*, 4/17/20)
- In January 2021, Future Now Fund's website "America's Goals" promoted legislation calling for the reallocation of police funding. "This act establishes a Commission to examine police funding in STATE and provide evidence-based ways to generate savings and increase public safety by reallocating funds toward proven methods to support communities, and report annually with proposed action for the Executive and Legislative branches." ("Improve Public Safety by Reinvesting Policing Savings in Community Based and Prevention Programs," America's Goals, Archived 1/18/21)
- In January 2021, Future Now Fund's website "American Goals" promoted legislation calling for the expansion of Medicaid. "Medicaid 'buy-in' allows families and individuals not otherwise eligible for Medicaid the chance to 'buy-in' to Medicaid as an insurance plan. It's a universal, affordable option for those who don't have one... This act establishes a Medicaid buy-in program to provide residents with a choice of quality, affordable health insurance." ("Expand Access to Affordable Healthcare through a Medicaid Buy-in Plan," America's Goals, Archived 1/18/21)

In 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$25,000 from the Texas Trial Lawyers Association. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/26/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/25/21 to 11/1/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 11/1/21)

In 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$40,000 from the House Democratic Campaign Committee. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 10/26/21; Frank A. Ramirez, 10/25/21 to 11/1/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 11/1/21)

On October 22, 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$5,000 from the Texas Freedom Network PAC. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/26/21)

On September 29, 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$1,000 from the Regina I Hinojosa Campaign Fund. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 10/26/21)

On October 16, 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$1,000 from the Northside AFT Committee on Political Education. (Frank A. Ramirez, 9/19/21 to 10/23/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 10/26/21)

On October 29, 2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$10,000 from AFSCME People. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/25/21 to 11/1/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 11/1/21)

On October 29, 2021, Ramirez campaign received \$5,000 from the National Democratic Redistricting PAC. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/25/21 to 11/1/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 11/1/21)

On November 1, 2021, Ramirez campaign received \$250 from State Representative Eddie Rodriguez. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

On October 25, 2021, Ramirez campaign received \$1,500 from the San Antonio Alliance of Teachers and Support Personal. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

On October 29, 2021, Ramirez campaign received \$500 from State Representative Christina Morales. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

On October 29,2021, Ramirez's campaign received \$1,000 from State Representative Erin Zwiener. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 1/19/22)

On October 28, 2021, Ramirez campaign received \$500 from State Representative Jasmine Crockett. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

#### **Expenses**

On October 26, 2021, Ramirez's spent \$23,000 on Euclid Media Group for digital advertisement. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, <u>Texas Department of Elections</u>, Filed 1/19/22)

On October 28, 2021, Ramirez's campaign spent \$2,500 on The Political Group for phone banking services. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

On October 29, 2021, Ramirez's campaign spent \$21,043 on InFocus Campaigns LLC. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

In 2021, Ramirez's campaign spent \$1,252 on Facebook ads. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

In 2021, Ramirez's campaign spent \$44,238 on the RG Group for canvassing and poll greeting. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

#### 2022 Election

#### Top Line

#### **Loans**

On December 12, 2021, Frank Ramirez Jr, Ramirez's father, loaned the campaign \$1,800. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24/21-12/31/21 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

#### **Notable Donations**

On December 22, 2021, State Representative Chris Turner donated \$1,000 to Ramirez's campaign. (Frank A. Ramirez, 10/24 to 12/31 Report, Texas Department of Elections, Filed 1/19/22)

### **ISSUES**

#### **Education**

Ramirez's campaign website states he will support increasing teachers' salaries and retiree benefits. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/20/22)

Ramirez's campaign website states he will support a thirteenth check for retirees and full funding for the Teachers Retirement System. (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/20/22)

#### **Public Health Care**

Ramirez's campaign website states he will support Medicare expansion in Texas. "One of my priorities is to ensure that our communities have access to affordable healthcare insurance. I fully support the long-overdue expansion of Medicare in our state, which will make healthcare accessible to millions of Texas families. Every Texan deserves access to quality medical care at an affordable price." (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/18/22)

• AUDIO: In a 2021 interview, Ramirez stated he would support Medicaid expansion if it ever gained momentum in the Texas Legislature. RAMIREZ: "If we had Medicaid expansion in Texas wouldn't that be a solution? Absolutely, and if there is political willpower and if there is a vote to be had you can find me on the correct side of that vote every time. But that's something we're not seeing that in this current political environment, which is really disappointing." (Frank Ramirez, "John Lujan and Frank Ramirez face off in a special election runoff for Texas House District 118," Texas Public Radio, 10/18/21) Minute 14:36- 14:54

**AUDIO:** In 2021, Frank campaigned on prioritizing the development of 60 acres of land dedicated to the expansion of the University Health System in San Antonio.

RAMIREZ: "Specifically with public health we just got some news last week or the week before that we are looking at a significant portion of acreage, around 60 acers or so, that are being dedicated to the expansion of the University Health System here in San Antonio. This would be one of the first if not only medical center outside 410 South...One of my policy priorities is going to revolve around, again, that responsible development." (Frank Ramirez, "John Lujan and Frank Ramirez face off in a special election runoff for Texas House District 118," Texas Public Radio, 10/18/21) Minute 9:54-10:36

#### Infrastructure

Ramirez's campaign website states he will work to overhaul the power grid and the state's energy policy. "The power crisis we suffered in February 2021 laid bare the problems with our power grid and the shortcomings of our energy policy. The Legislature has failed to pass a meaningful bill to address these issues. The bill that was passed does not increase the capacity or resiliency of our electric grid. I will work to support legislation that ensures we never face again the massive loss of power and resulting issues that devastated so many of our neighbors." (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/20/22)

 AUDIO: In a 2021 interview, Ramirez called for stricter laws regarding ERCOT, and other Texas based utility companies. RAMIREZ: "I don't think they got it right. I think that the deaths that were experienced throughout the state of Texas because of this

tragedy, because of this failure were preventable...There is still a portion of that bill that would allow a company to exempt themselves for \$150 that's not the way to approach this issue because, if you are talking about a multimillion-dollar investment from a private company or from ERCOT of course you're going to take the \$150 every time. That's much less. And so, I think there needs to be a more robust bill passed, one that tends directly to the issues that are being experienced with ERCOT and reliability." (Frank Ramirez, "John Lujan and Frank Ramirez face off in a special election runoff for Texas House District 118," Texas Public Radio, 10/18/21) Minute 15:07-16:12

## Property Tax

Ramirez's campaign website states he will work to pass tax relief for Texas homeowners. "I will work for meaningful tax relief for all homeowners and will commit my office to help residents navigate our complicated tax system and make sure residents know how to take advantage of existing avenues for relief like the appraisal protest process." (Frank Ramirez for State Representative, Accessed 1/20/22)

## **Democrats Breaking Quorum**

On July 12, 2021, House Democrats announced that they had left Texas for Washington D.C. to protest the proposed election reform. "Today, Texas House Democrats stand united in our decision to break quorum and refuse to let the Republican-led legislature force through dangerous legislation that would trample on Texans' freedom to vote. We are now taking the fight to our nation's Capital. We are living on borrowed time in Texas. We need Congress to act now to pass the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Act to protect Texans — and all Americans — from the Trump Republicans' nationwide war on democracy." (Texas House Democrats, "Texas House Democrats Break Quorum," Press Release, 7/12/2021)

**AUDIO:** In a 2021 interview, Ramirez stated he would have joined the Democrats who broke quorum and fled Texas for Washington, D.C. RAMIREZ: "Would you have joined the quorum busting walk out the Democrat members had? I would have and I'll tell you why it's important that as a democratic party, at a statewide level, that we remain on the same side working toward the same goal. The strategy was to prevent the passage of a regressive voting rights bill it was done in good faith. It was done to create good trouble, and it is important that I stick with my Democratic colleagues to get that message across. I definitely would have if I had the opportunity to" (Frank Ramirez, "John Lujan and Frank Ramirez face off in a special election runoff for Texas House District 118," Texas Public Radio, 10/18/21) Minute 23:00- 23:30

On September 14, 2021, Ramirez tweeted support for Democrats breaking Quorum and asked Senators to expedite passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Act.



(Frank Ramirez, <u>Twitter</u>, 9/14/21)

#### Gun Laws

From August 2015 to May 2016, Ramirez traveled to Washington, D.C., on a research grant from the University of Austin at Texas, to study the passage and introduction rates immediately following mass shooting events in the United States. (LinkedIn, Accessed 2/17/22)

On September 2, 2021, Ramirez tweeted that Texas' open carry policy was reckless legislation that would increase gun violence.



(Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 9/2/21)

On August 31, 2021, Ramirez tweeted that he strongly supports increasing background checks for gun purchases.



(Frank Ramirez, <u>Twitter</u>, 8/31/21)

## **Voting Rights**

On January 13, 2022, Ramirez tweeted support for the John Lewis Voting Rights Act.



(Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 1/17/22)

#### Law Enforcement

On August 23, 2021, Ramirez replied to a comment about defunding the police saying he instead supports increased accountability for both law enforcement and politicians.



(Frank Ramirez, Facebook, Accessed 2/16/22)

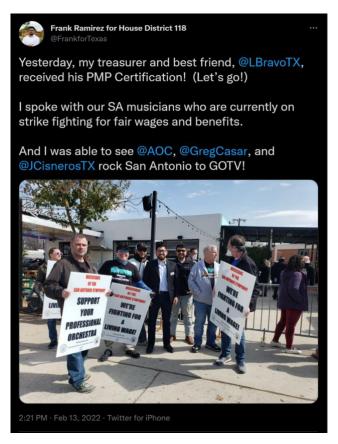
## Minimum Wage Increase

**AUDIO:** In a 2021 interview, Ramirez stated he wants competitive wages for Texas workers. RAMIREZ: "Making sure that we have access to quality education, that our teachers and educators, faculty members, public workers, and state employees have access to pensions and competitive wages." (Frank Ramirez, "John Lujan and Frank Ramirez face off in a special election runoff for Texas House District 118," Texas Public Radio, 10/18/21) Minute 2:42- 2:56

In response to his 2022 AFL-CIO endorsement, Ramirez tweeted he would work with local union leaders on livable wages, better pensions, and improving the cost of living for retirees. "I'm excited to work alongside our labor leaders to gain a livable wage, better pensions, and cost of living adjustments for our retirees." (Frank Ramirez. Twitter, 12/10/21)

## **ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ**

On February 13, 2022, Ramirez tweeted that he attended an event where Ocasio-Cortez was a key speaker.



(Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 2/13/22)

The event was a get out to vote rally for Ocasio-Cortez endorsed Congressional candidates Cisneros and Casar in San Antonio. "During the rally, Ocasio-Cortez said she believes Texas will turn blue soon. Touting it's only a matter of time before the state turns blue, she threw in her support of Cisneros and Casar – calling them progressive leaders who are here to fight for Texas families... 'Here's what's exciting about Jessica's race and Greg's race, is that if we flip Texas, we flip the country,' Ocasio-Cortez said. '...Texas turning blue is inevitable. The

only question is when. We are going to fight for a living wage, we are going to make sure we unionize the hell out of this state... and we're going to make sure that not one dime is made exploitatively across any worker, especially the undocumented." (Priscilla Aguirre, "Texas turning blue is inevitable': Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez stumps in San Antonio for Texas candidates," My San Antonio, 2/12/22)

## **BETO O'ROURKE**

In 2021, Ramirez's campaign became a focal point for many prominent Texas state Democrats and outside interest groups, including Beto O'Rourke. "National and statewide groups on both sides poured money into the runoff, and dozens of House members got involved, lending their time and money to each candidate. Ramirez campaigned with Beto O'Rourke and other prominent state Democrats, while Lujan benefited from the support of Abbott and House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont." (Patrick Svitek, "Republican John Lujan wins special election runoff to flip Texas House seat in San Antonio," *The Texas Tribune*, 11/2/21)

On October 25, 2021, Ramirez hosted a phone banking event with Beto O'Rourke.



(Frank Ramirez, Facebook, 10/25/21)

On November 16, 2021, Ramirez attended a gubernatorial campaign event for Beto O'Rourke in San Antonio. "O'Rourke also highlighted Texas should focus on developing world-class schools, expanding Medicaid, and legalizing marihuana. Democratic nominee Frank Ramirez and San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg welcomed Beto at the Communication Workers of America building, located at 1027 N St Mary's St in San Antonio, TX. During his first stop in San Antonio, Beto O'Rourke highlighted the need to reach out to all communities instead of making assumptions based on race or language." (Christian Nunez, "Former El Paso Congressman Beto O'Rourke Picks San Antonio as the First City for His Governor's Race," Christian Nunez, Blog, 11/17/21; Jackie Wang, "Beto O'Rourke stops in San Antonio after announcing run for governor," San Antonio Report, 11/16/21)

Ramirez tweeted after the event that he will work together with O'Rourke to improve Texas.



(Frank Ramirez, Twitter, 11/16/21)

#### O'Rourke said his plan would be "to take your AR-15, your AK-47"

On September 12, 2019, O'Rourke stated, in defense of his buyback program, "Hell yes, we're going to take your AR-15, your AK-47." "Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke gave an unapologetic defense Thursday night of his proposed mandatory buyback program for assault weapons, delivering one of the standout moments at the third primary debate here. 'Hell yes, we're going to take your AR-15, your AK-47,' the former El Paso congressman said. 'We're not going to allow it to be used against our fellow Americans anymore." (Patrick Svitek, "Beto O'Rourke gets debate moment: "Hell yes, we're going to take your" assault weapons," The Texas Tribune, 9/12/19)

• On February 8, 2022, O'Rourke tried to walk back his statement by saying he wants a gun policy in Texas driven by law enforcement. "Texas Democratic gubernatorial candidate Beto O'Rourke on Tuesday said that he has no 'interest in taking' assault weapons from gun owners, apparently backing away from a position he took during his campaign for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination... 'I'm not interested in taking anything from anyone,' O'Rourke said, according to KLTV, the ABC affiliate in Tyler. 'What I want to make sure that we do is defend the Second Amendment. I want to make sure that we protect our fellow Texans far better than we're doing right now. And that we listen to law enforcement, which Greg Abbott refused to do." (Max Greenwood, "O'Rourke on past remarks about taking guns: 'Not interested in taking anything from anyone," The Hill, 2/10/22)

#### O'Rourke has called modern law enforcement the "New Jim Crow"

On September 20, 2018, O'Rourke called modern law enforcement the new Jim Crow citing a history of prejudice toward African American communities. "When contractors needed labor, they would talk to local law enforcement, who would arrest African-Americans for idling, for petty crimes, frivolous offenses. Those contractors would describe the

number of bodies that they needed and law enforcement would provide those bodies.' 'That injustice ... continues to persist today. That system of suspending somebody solely based on the color of their skin, searching that person solely based on the color of their skin, stopping that person solely based on the color of their skin, shooting that person solely based on the color of their skin, throwing the book at that person and letting them rot behind bars solely based on the color of their skin is why some have called this — I think it is an apt description — the new Jim Crow," (Beto O'Rourke, Remarks at Prairie View A&M University town hall, Prairie View, TX, 9/20/18; Amber Athey, "Beto O'Rourke: Law Enforcement Is The 'New Jim Crow," *Daily Caller*, 9/20/18)

- The Texas Municipal Police Association called the remarks "disgusting and disrespectful" to the men and women serving their communities, especially after O'Rourke praised them for keeping communities safe. "Racist accusations about the dedicated, hardworking men and women who don a uniform daily to protect and serve our communities are disgusting and disrespectful. It is critical to remember the number of law enforcement officers who have been assaulted and murdered simply because of the uniform they wear. O'Rourke's inflammatory speech is particularly surprising since it follows a tweet he made four days prior, praising law enforcement officers who are 'keeping our communities and our state safe." (Texas Municipal Police Association, "Texas Municipal Police Association Appalled By Robert 'Beto' O'Rourke's Characterization of Law Enforcement As The 'New Jim Crow," Press Release, 9/21/18)
- On September 22, 2018, O'Rourke, in a tweet, thanked officers for keeping communities safe across Texas.



(Beto O'Rourke, Twitter, 9/22/18)

# O'Rourke used his PAC, Powered By People, to raise funds for House Democrats fleeing Texas

In July 2021, Beto O'Rourke announced his PAC had helped raise over \$600,000 for the Texas Democrats in Washington D.C. "O'Rourke, a former congressman and presidential candidate from El Paso, raised \$600,000 for the lawmakers through his Powered By People PAC and said he wired money to party officials Monday, but he announced the

contribution to the Democrats in their Washington hotel Thursday." (Madlin Mekeburg, "Beto O'Rourke raises \$600K for Texas House Democrats in Washington," <u>Austin American-Statesman</u>, 7/22/21)

• Powered by People PAC received over 15,000 donations to help the Texas lawmakers in Washington D.C. "The former presidential candidate, El Paso congressman and 2018 U.S. Senate nominee has used his Powered by People group to raise over \$500,000 for the quorum-busting Democrats in just two days, according to his team. There have been over 15,000 contributions, with an average individual donation of \$36. (Patrick Svitek, "Who is footing the bill for Texas Democrats' weekslong exodus to block the voting bill?" *The Texas Tribune*, 7/14/21)