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Texas women broke records last night

Annie's List candidates lead the charge towards progressive change in 2020

(AUSTIN, TX) - Annie's List, the statewide political organization that works to elect pro-choice, progressive women to office in Texas, reflects on the March 3 primary election.

The following endorsed candidates won outright in their contested primary bids:

- Elizabeth Beck for Texas House District 97
- Natali Hurtado for Texas House District 126
- Rep. Dr. Alma Allen, Texas House District 131
- Rep. Michelle Beckley, Texas House District 65
- Rep. Shawn Thierry, Texas House District 146
- Rep. Senfronia Thompson, Texas House District 141
- Rep. Erin Zwiener, Texas House District 45
- Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector and Voter Registrar Ann Harris Bennett

The following endorsed candidates will advance to primary runoffs:

- Rep. Lorraine Birabil, Texas House District 100
- Akilah Bacy for Texas House District 138
- Sara Stapleton Barrera for Texas Senate District 27
- Xochil Peña Rodriguez for Texas Senate District 19

While hard fought, Rocio Hernandez will not be continuing her candidacy in Texas House District 67 this cycle. Annie's List is grateful for Rocio's nonstop work to reach voters in the HD 67 community and her dedication to progressive values.

Texas House

Annie's List looks forward to May runoffs for Akilah Bacy and Rep. Lorraine Birabil, both of whom received the highest number of votes in their races. An additional 19 Annie's List Legislative Champions will again serve as the Democratic nominee in their races -- many of which face Republican opposition in November. Protecting these progressive champions is key to Texas Democrats' biggest goal of 2020 -- flipping the Texas House.

Texas Senate

In both Senate Districts 19 and 27, Annie's List candidates will advance to their respective runoffs. Stapleton Barrera (SD 27) will go head-to-head with incumbent Democratic Senator Eddie Lucio, who is anti-abortion and has been known to vote in tandem with right-wing Republicans. Having earned at least 4,700 more votes than her second-place opponent, Peña Rodriguez (SD 19) will face State Rep. Roland Gutierrez this May.

Annie's List Impact

"Annie's List candidates prevailed in 12 out of the 13 contested primaries we were involved in," said Royce Brooks, Annie's List Executive Director. "That success and the successes of the Democratic party as a whole speak volumes about the realities of the diverse voting population here in Texas. It is clear that these gains are being driven by Texas women -- both as candidates and as voters."

Texas women up and down the ballot had strong showings on Super Tuesday. Including federal candidates who are a part of the Annie's List community as former trainees, previously endorsed candidates, or volunteer leaders. Brooks commented, "Though Annie's List does not participate in federal races, we're proud to be a part of women's stories like: Wendy Davis, former Texas Senator and the Democratic nominee in TX 21; Kim Olson, former Annie's List endorsed candidate and in runoffs for TX 24; and Sima Ladjevardian, staunch supporter of Annie's List and in runoffs for TX 02."

"Texas has a lot to be proud of after last night. Along with seeing incredible voter turnout, a record-breaking number of Democratic women candidates became the nominees in their Texas House races," said Monica Gomez, Annie's List Political Director. "Last cycle, 58 Democratic women secured nominations; in comparison to last night, where more than 60 women were elected as nominees. We plan to break that record again once runoffs are complete and the November ballot is set."



Annie's List has trained thousands of pro-choice, progressive women to run for office and won more than 140 races across the state - making it one of the most successful political organizations in Texas. Since its founding in 2003, Annie's List has raised more than \$19 million to help progressive women run efficient and effective campaigns. Last cycle, 85% of the women who ran for the Texas state legislature were Annie's List trainees and a record-breaking number of Democratic women were elected to the Texas House.