

# The Houston <sup>new</sup> Post

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## DAVIS STRIKES BACK ABOUT BIO

*Clears up some discrepancies— [Peggy Fikac, Houston Chronicle](#)*

Democratic Sen. Wendy Davis, faced with questions about the compelling life story at the center of her campaign for governor, went on the offensive Monday against Republican Attorney General Greg Abbott, her expected opponent in November.

"I came from a place of struggle, and we can parse dates all day long," Davis said by telephone.

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### HARVEY HILDERBRAN PUTS UP HIS FIRST TELEVISION AD

*First of Comptroller candidates— [Robert Garrett, The Dallas Morning News](#)*

State Rep. Harvey Hilderbran, signaling the start of a fierce battle to succeed retiring GOP Comptroller Susan Combs, has aired his campaign's first TV ad.

In the 30-second spot, Hilderbran, R-Kerrville, says that he'll reinvigorate the "performance reviews" begun by former Comptroller Bob Bullock in the early 1990s. Several years later, Bullock's Democratic successor, John Sharp, made them famous.

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### WHITMIRE, LaCROIX SPAR OVER RESIDENCY ISSUES

*Senate Dean calls opponent a "fraud"—[Kiah Collier, Houston Chronicle](#)*

State Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, said Tuesday it is "common knowledge in political circles" that one of his primary opponents, lawyer Damian LaCroix, does not live in the district he is seeking to represent.

"Most nights his wife and two kids live in Bellaire," Whitmire said, when asked about LaCroix's residency. He noted that LaCroix's mother, Faye, in 2010 listed the address of a property on Maxie Street her son now owns when she contributed to his campaign for Harris County Civil Court at Law No. 2.

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## EQUALITY TEXAS BACKS GOP FOR FIRST TIME IN HISTORY

*Granted, in a Republican Primary-- Kolten Parker, San Antonio Express-News*

A gay rights group Tuesday backed its first Texas Republican in a primary election, for better or worse.

State Rep. Sarah Davis, R-West University Place, will find out in March if the endorsement, from Equality Texas, a gay rights advocacy group, will help or hurt her re-election bid. The announcement marks the first time the group has endorsed a Republican, a subtle signal of the momentum marriage equality is gaining as cases challenging the state's Constitutional ban make their way through courts.

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## PATTERSON SUPPORTS GUEST WORKER PROGRAM, REFORMS

*Takes a more moderate stance—Allan Turner, Houston Chronicle*

Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, one of four contenders for the Republican lieutenant governor nomination, Tuesday reiterated his support for creation of an immigrant guest worker program, allowing students to carry concealed weapons on college campuses and policies to promote "smarter building" on the state's barrier islands.

Patterson, a former state senator who has been land commissioner since 2003, dismissed immigration hardliners' calls to "build fences, no amnesty, deport 12 million people. While Patterson opposes amnesty for undocumented workers and supports border barriers "where tactically called for," Patterson told the Houston Chronicle editorial board "it's stupid" to implement mass deportations.

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## JERRY PATTERSON CRITICIZES OPPONENTS ON 17<sup>th</sup> AMNDMNT

*Blasts 'pandering'—Todd Gillman, The Dallas Morning News*

All four contenders for lieutenant governor vowed Monday night to protect the right of Texas voters to pick U.S. senators.

This was somewhat remarkable in that three months ago, at another tea party forum, two of those candidates – Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and state Sen. Dan Patrick — called it a great idea to repeal the century-old 17th Amendment.

But at a forum Monday night hosted by the King Street Patriots, each said they opposed such repeal. So did Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples and Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson.

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## DEWHURST CLAIMS TEACHERS ARE PAID 'VERY FAIR' SALARY

*Average salary roughly \$47k—Associated Press*

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said Texas public school teachers bring home "a very fair salary" during a debate in Houston Monday night against three big-name Republican challengers in the state's most competitive primary race.

"At the end of the day, we're paying our school teachers - when you count in cost of living - a very fair salary," Dewhurst said. "We need to have better results. We need to make sure that we're not just paying more money and we need to look at more choice for parents." Texas consistently ranks near the bottom nationally in average teacher pay according to many groups that track classroom salaries, including teacher unions.

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# THE DAMNED THIRD PAGE

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<sup>new</sup>  
**The Houston Post**

## THE PROBLEMS OF SEN. WENDY DAVIS

*Yeah, they keep accumulating—*[Paul Burka, Texas Monthly](#)

*The Houston New Post* is an exclusive service of Now that details about Wendy Davis's biography have been called into question, the spotlight needs to focus *Texpatriate* ([www.texpate.com](http://www.texpate.com)). We strive to bring on the Davis campaign. It cannot afford to make unforced errors like these, and it certainly can't turn around you the biggest news, from around the State, every try to blame the Greg Abbott campaign for them (the last time I checked, Wayne Slater was a political business day. Articles are property of the individual journalist, not a political operative). author and publication, not of the Post. Any opinions expressed are similarly those of only the author. [PLEASE SEE THE REST OF THE STORY!](#) While *Texpatriate* will offer editorials and endorsements, the Post will never take sides in an ongoing dispute or take political positions.

Presented by: *Sophia Arena, Olivia Arena, George Bailey, Luis Fayad, Noah M. Horwitz and Andrew Scott Romo.*

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## BEST OF THE BLOGS!

### BIG JOLLY POLITICS

[“Barry Smitherman’s record”](#)

### BRAINS & EGGS

[“non-Wendy Davis wrangle”](#)

### BURNT ORANGE REPORT

[“Rep. Stickland is a bully”](#)

### DOS CENTAVOS

[“Immigration Reform: what’s next?”](#)

### EYE ON WILLIAMSON

[“About the ‘anti-gov left’”](#)

### OFF THE KUFF

[“Why not three?”](#)

### RHYMES WITH RIGHT

[“Scorched Earth Conservatives”](#)

### TEXPATRIATE

[“Is objectivity important?”](#)

### TEXAS LEFTIST

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Upper limit of 200 words, all submissions will be published!

## EDITOR'S PICKS

*Noah M. Horwitz*

Wendy Davis has had a bad month. There are no ands, ifs and butts about it. It has been brutal. Accordingly, when Paul Burka of *Texas Monthly* put these thoughts to paper, I was shocked how many in "Team Wendy," so to speak, were so quick to point fingers and yell about bias. Granted, Burka is a Republican, but Wayne Slater definitely is not. Yet when Slater called out Davis on some discrepancies, otherwise known as a journalist's job description, the liberals yelled and ranted and raved.

Instead of just looking for little holes in any piece of negative press, perhaps the Davis campaign should use this as an opportunity to reassess their priorities in the coming month. A hit piece on January does not have the same lasting hurt as a hit piece in October. Accordingly, Davis' campaign should do everything possible to make sure they remain on message and an embarrassment of this magnitude may never happen again.

Perhaps while they are at it, they could focus on being a little more specific when it comes to their priorities, such as educational platforms. Once again, this should be construed simply as constructive criticism.