



## Texas Disability Issues Forum

September 19, 2022

Austin, Texas + virtual

[TDIF.REVUPTexas.org](http://TDIF.REVUPTexas.org)

### MEDIA ALERT

**Yes, there is Power in the Disability Vote**

**AND WE ARE HOLDING A FORUM TO SHINE A LIGHT ON THE ISSUES**

**WHO:** REV UP Texas and the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, along with more than 45 Texas organizations, have joined forces to host the third Texas Disability Issues Forum (TDIF). Democrat and Republican candidates for the offices of Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and Agriculture Commissioner are invited.

**WHAT:** TDIF is a non-partisan, one-day event, where candidates for elected statewide office are asked to specifically address the concerns of Texans with disabilities. This forum is not a debate and will be moderated by independent journalists and livestreamed by our media partner, the Texas Tribune. Major TDIF sponsors include Amerigroup, Superior Healthplan, Molina Healthcare, and Secure Democracy.

**WHY:** Now more than ever, it is critical that the Texas disability community get out the vote. Issues include: affordable health care that covers pre-existing conditions and protects mental health parity; Medicaid funding for in-home services so folks can stay out of nursing homes and other institutions; barriers like long waiting lists and ridiculously low wages for Community Attendants that further strangle the system; and, cutbacks in funding for already chronically underfunded affordable, accessible integrated housing mean growing numbers of the disabled face homelessness.

Even the right to vote itself has been attacked here in Texas. These are just some of the reasons why the Texas disability community is becoming active in electoral politics. We need to educate candidates about disability issues, and disabled people and our allies about the candidates' stand on these issues.

**WHEN:** The 2022 Forum will be held on Monday, September 19. Registration begins at 9:00 am, welcome at 10:00 am, candidate interviews begin at 10:15 am, and the event ends at 2:00 pm.

**WHERE:** TDIF will take place at the AT&T Conference Center on the UT campus, 1900 University Drive in the Zlotnik Ballroom. To receive a press pass, parking directions and more, visit:

[TDIF.revuptexas.org](http://TDIF.revuptexas.org)

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