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August 26, 2020 Newsletter

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### President's Message

As this newsletter reaches you, Texans on our Gulf Coast face Hurricane Laura. I am especially thinking of our members from Coastal Bend,

Harris County Metro, Galveston County and South East Texas Chapters - it is going to be rough and we are all wishing them safety through the storm.

On this day in 1920 the final enactment of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granting women the right to vote took place, making today the centennial of women's suffrage, Celebrated annually as Women's Equality Day, it is a time to reflect on the steadfast leaders of the movement from so long ago and consider the unfinished work still to be done to achieve full equality.

One sure thing is that electing more Democratic women to office will advance the cause.

In it to win it,  
Sue Barrick

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**KEEP THOSE CALLS AND TEXTS GOING!**

**Texas Democratic Party**

<https://www.mobilize.us/texasdemocrats/>

**MJ Hegar Campaign**

<https://www.mobilize.us/mjfortexas/>

### 2020 General Election Campaign Contributions

TDW is proud to announce our 2020 General Election campaign contributions. This year's contributions total \$60,000. Funding decisions were made after consultation with the state Democratic Party and organized labor. July finance report totals were also taken into account.

Most TDW contributions are going to women in key districts about to go Democratic and first-term incumbent state representatives.

TDW is also supporting the U.S. Senate campaign and two TDW members' U.S. House campaigns.

Finally, contributions are going to women pushing the envelope for Democrats in high-profile statewide and judicial races, and TDW members running to represent their areas. Please look [here](#) on TDW.org for complete information.



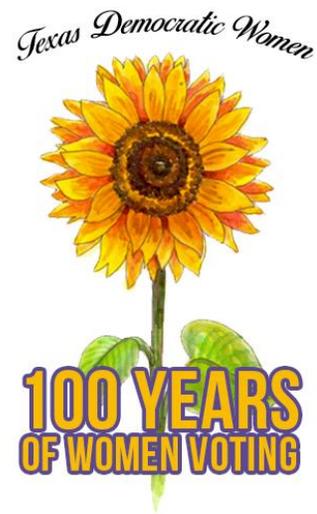
**CHAPTERS: STICKER SPECIAL  
5 OR MORE STICKERS, \$2.50 EACH  
ON [ACTBLUE](#)**

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**COMMEMORATING THE CENTENNIAL OF WOMEN'S  
SUFFRAGE**

The story of the U.S. has been one of progress - though sometimes uneven, halting, and grudging, with more work yet to be done - towards a society that has served as a beacon of hope and freedom to the rest of the world. In 2020 we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granting women the right to vote.

The movement to achieve voting rights for women was intertwined in important ways with the anti-slavery and temperance movements. Suffragists west of the Mississippi adopted the sunflower as their symbol. Women voting over the last century have advanced gender equality, education, better working conditions, social spending, and progressive legislation in general that benefit all Americans today. Yesterday's suffragists would no doubt recognize something of themselves in TDW's work today to increase the participation and influence for Democratic women in party politics and government and secure equal rights for women.



We hope you will enjoy the three following videos as you join TDW in reflecting on how far we have come. Two are portrayals of famous U.S. suffragists, [Susan B. Anthony](#) and [Sojourner Truth](#). The third discusses [lesser-known suffragists](#), showcasing their diversity and some of the obstacles they faced. TDW thanks Bell County TDW and friends, especially our member Mary Ho, for the research and time spent bringing what they have learned to us.

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## STATE PACs and FEDERAL GIVING

About now in every election cycle, misconceptions about state PACs and contributions to federal candidates start to fly. One misconception is that a Texas PAC, like the PACs that individual chapters of TDW are required to have, cannot donate to federal candidates.

In fact, a chapter may donate to one or more federal candidates BUT in order to do so, they must keep the total of all federal contributions during the calendar year below the \$1000 Federal Election Commission (FEC) reporting threshold, AND have sufficient funds from federally-acceptable sources on hand to cover their federal contributions when they are given. Federally acceptable sources are individuals rather than corporations or partnerships or labor organizations. The \$1000 reporting threshold means that \$999.99 is the limit. The \$999.99 may all go to one candidate or be divided among more than one. Hitting \$1000 or more triggers a requirement that your Chapter Treasurer must start reporting to the FEC in addition to the reports she already must file with the Texas Ethics Commission (TEC).

**A word of caution** - Keep in mind that what is legal may not always be advisable. Before jumping into federal giving take stock of your Treasurer's willingness to meet those extra filing requirements if you go big. On the other hand, consider the political fallout if you decide to give only to one federal candidate if your chapter is in a metro area with more than one federal candidate worthy of your support.

