

For Immediate Press Release

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State Rep. Susan King Forms Exploratory Committee For 2016 State Senate Campaign

Her 2016 State Senate candidacy decision will be announced by the end of the month

Abilene, Texas— State Representative Susan King (R-Abilene) has announced the formation of an exploratory campaign committee to decide whether or not to run in the 2016 Republican primary for the open District 24 State Senate seat. King will make a formal announcement of her candidacy decision by the end of the month.

By forming the Senate exploratory committee, King also confirmed that she will not be seeking a 6th term to the Texas House of Representatives.

State Senate District 24 stretches approximately 250 miles from its northernmost point in Taylor County (Abilene) through the center of Texas to its southernmost point in Bandera County. Earlier this summer, incumbent State Senator Troy Fraser (R-Horseshoe Bay) announced he would not be seeking reelection.

With funds transferred from her State House campaign account and a family loan, King's exploratory State Senate campaign committee has been launched with \$1 million dollars cash on hand. Her State Senate committee paperwork was mailed to the Texas Ethics Commission on September 3rd.

"I will spend very little of these funds in the exploratory period, but feel it is important to be a serious candidate invested in winning should I decide to run," King said.

King currently serves as Chairman of the Texas House Committee on Defense and Veterans' Affairs. She cites her legislative experience in protecting Texas veterans and military bases as one of the key issues and motivations for her exploratory committee to consider.

"Fort Hood and Dyess Air Force Base along with our retired military families are the heart and soul, as well as the economic engine, of this state senate district," King said.

King is an Honors graduate of the University of Texas with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. She works in Abilene as a surgical nurse and is a former

head nurse for world-renowned Houston heart surgeon Dr. Denton Cooley.

"As a frontline healthcare provider, I am strongly opposed to Obamacare," said King. "Top down big government healthcare harms more than it helps. The federal government should reverse course and return control of health care to patients, providers and the states."

King also cited her background in public education as an important qualification for legislative service.

"As the parent of three children who graduated from local public schools and as a former 8-year School Board Member and President (Abilene ISD), I am committed to the principal of local control and innovation in education."

King's five-term background in the Texas House is also highlighted by past service on the House Appropriations Committee and as a current board member of the Texas Conservative Coalition. The TCC has a five point conservative mission statement calling for a secured Texas border, improved public education, reduced taxes, increased government transparency and economic freedom. Additionally, King is an NRA member and a concealed handgun license permit holder.

King also commended retiring State Senator Fraser for his service in the Texas Senate and House. King said, "Senator Fraser and his wife Linda are valued neighbors and have set the bar high for Republican leadership. He is one of our state's most prolific and productive conservative trailblazers and is the only Texas Republican who has served in both our state's legislative chambers during the overlapping periods of all four of Texas' modern day Republican Governors (Bill Clements, George W. Bush, Rick Perry and Greg Abbott). From tax relief to lower priced electricity to photo voter ID to our new statewide water plan to restored individual liberties, Senator Fraser has had a hand in molding modern Republican reforms that have made Texas better."

King is an active member and former Sunday school teacher at First Central Presbyterian Church. She and her husband, Dr. Austin King, have been married for 39 years and have 3 grown children and 4 grandchildren. They also own and manage a ranch with a cow-calf operation in south Taylor County.

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