



## Texas Politics: Governing the Lone Star State (Volume 2)

*By Cal Jillson*

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### **Texas Politics: Governing the Lone Star State (Volume 2)** By Cal Jillson

The fifth edition of this popular text is now expanded and updated to better fit the needs of a stand-alone Texas Politics course. Jillson continues to approach the politics of the Lone Star State from historical, developmental, and analytical perspectives, while giving students the most even-handed, readable, and engaging description of Texas politics available today. Throughout the book students are encouraged to connect the origins and development of government and politics in Texas--from the Texas Constitution, to party competition, to the role and powers of the Governor--to its current day practice and the alternatives possible through change and reform. This text helps instructors prepare their students to master the origin and development of the Texas Constitution, the structure and powers of state and local government in Texas, how Texas fits into the U.S. federal system, as well as political participation, the electoral process, and public policy in Texas.

Texas Politics offers instructors and students an unmatched range of pedagogical aids and tools. Each chapter opens with an engaging vignette and a series of focus questions to orient readers to the learning objectives at hand and concludes with a chapter summary, a list of key terms, review questions, suggested readings, and web resources. Key terms are bolded in the text, listed at the end of the chapter, and included in a glossary at the end of the book. Each chapter includes "Let's Compare" boxes to help students see how Texas sits alongside other states, and "Pro & Con" boxes to bring conflicting political views into sharper focus. Tables, figures, and photos throughout highlight the major ideas, issues, individuals, and institutions discussed.

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

"I've taught from all four editions of Cal Jillson's *Texas Politics* and am now looking forward to the fifth edition. I've organized my Texas government course to the Jillson text and it works like a charm, be it for a full semester or a shorter summer session."

?Gary Brown, *Lone Star College-Montgomery*

Ounce per ounce this new Jillson 300-page edition, is among the better reads on Texas politics. The mandated essentials for Student Learning Objectives are presented in clear, to-the-point, prose; good tool for government teachers and students of rough-and-tumble Texan politics.

?Jose Angel Gutierrez, *University of Texas-Arlington*

"Jillson's text offers an excellent description and analysis of politics and political institutions in Texas. Students will appreciate the accessible and lively writing style. Brief but thorough, this textbook is well suited to the task of introducing students to Texas government."

?Daniel Sledge, *University of Texas-Arlington*

### Praise for Previous Editions

"Cal Jillson has provided students with a concise yet thorough introduction to the often Byzantine intricacies of the Texas government. Especially helpful are the special features in each chapter that bring abstract concepts into contemporary and concrete focus. Students who use this book will find it engaging, timely, and relevant, and will be spurred to further independent exploration of their state's institutions, warts and all?a critical step toward becoming actively participating democratic citizens."

?Kevin T. Holton, *South Texas College*

"Cal Jillson has masterfully developed a Texas Politics book that combines readability with scholarship and enables the student to understand much of the institutional structure and unique character of Texas within the Federal context. Jillson provides needed insights to understanding Texas institutions and the interactions of interest groups within those institutions. He does so in an enjoyable readable format while addressing the important Texas state-mandated student learning outcomes and the significance of Texas politics for everyone. *Texas Politics* is reflective of the myriad of interesting stories which made Texas what it is today."

?Ray Sandoval, *Richland College*

"*Texas Politics* is a well-written and documented text that will be an asset to any professor or student

interested in Texas politics. As mentioned in the Preface, one will find a broad 'range of pedagogical aids and tools' that will be helpful in the classroom."

?Morris D. Drumm, *Texas Christian University*

#### About the Author

**Cal Jillson** is professor in the department of political science at Southern Methodist University. His recent books include *American Government: Political Development and Institutional Change*, 8th edition; *Lone Star Tarnished: A Critical Look at Texas Politics and Public Policy*, 2nd edition; *Pursuing the American Dream: Opportunity and Exclusion Over Four Centuries*; and *Pathways to Democracy: The Political Economy of Democratic Transition*. He is frequently cited in local and national media on a range of political issues.

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