JERRY Patterson
FOR TEXAS LAND COMMISSIONER

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Announcement Press Release
Patterson Biography
Top Ten Reasons to Support Jerry Patterson
3 x 5 photo

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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PATTERSON FORMALLY LAUNCHES BID FOR LAND COMMISSIONER

AUSTIN – Today, former State Senator Jerry Patterson announced his campaign for the Republican nomination for Commissioner of the General Land Office. Surrounded by family, friends, veterans and supporters, Patterson outlined his goals for the General Land Office, a position rarely understood by the voting public, but one with immense importance to the State of Texas.

"I stand before you today with a distinction not found in others who may seek this office. My goal has been, and will remain, to serve the people of Texas as Commissioner of the General Land Office. I seek no higher office. I will be a full-time commissioner. I intend to seek reelection for this office and no other. The people of Texas deserve a Land Commissioner who wants to be Land Commissioner," Patterson said.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office chairs the School Land Board, the Texas Veterans Land Board, the Coastal Coordination Council and the Oil Spill Interagency Council. In addition, the Land Commissioner serves as either chairman or a sitting member of nine additional state and federal boards, including the Legislative Redistricting Board. The General Land Office produces more income for the State of Texas than any other agency or department.

Patterson, a retired Marine aviator and a Vietnam veteran, made it clear veterans are a priority. "Having just celebrated Memorial Day, we are once again reminded of the service and sacrifices so many have given to this nation. Our veterans have been celebrated and honored by politicians of every ilk. While the accolades are nice, it is time somebody actually did something for the veterans rather than just make political speeches about the 'Greatest Generation.' I am prepared to do more than talk. I am prepared to go to work on behalf of every veteran in the state.

"I intend to be the strongest advocate possible for Texas' 1.6 million veterans by continuing in the good work started by current commissioner, David Dewhurst. We need continued improvement to the Veterans Land Board, and we need to aggressively pursue additional federal funding for future veteran's homes in Texas. The veterans will not only have a voice; they will have an advocate of unparalleled intensity. They deserve nothing less."

[MORE]

Patterson was a candidate for Land Commissioner in 1998, holding his opponent to 51 percent of the vote in spite of having been outspent 10-to-1. Part of Patterson's campaign was the introduction of the Texas Schools Power Plan, a program to provide electricity generated from state-owned natural gas through independent power producers to the school districts across Texas. Upon assuming office, current Land Commissioner David Dewhurst embraced and implemented that plan. Patterson intends to expand the program to save our school districts millions in energy costs through a more effective use of our natural resources.

Patterson highlighted his view of one of the state's greatest natural resources its coastline. "Our coastline impacts every resident of the state, whether they reside in Amarillo or Galveston. It fuels Texas' tourism economy and is home to our ports and waterways that transport and distribute billions in commodities throughout the world. It is a resource that must be protected. We need to achieve a balance between commerce and the environment. As a former senator representing the coastline of southeast Texas and as the senate author of the Texas Coastal Management Plan, I fully understand the challenges to meet this balance.

"We are starting this campaign early, but for good reason we have a great deal of work before us to educate the public about this critical office. I want to carry the message across Texas that the job of Land Commissioner is one of immense importance," Patterson concluded.

Patterson currently serves as Director of State Relations and legislative advocate for the American Red Cross in Texas. He served in the Texas Senate from 1993 to 1999 representing Senate District 11, which encompasses portions of Harris, Galveston and Brazoria counties. He currently resides in Austin with his wife Jennifer. He has two grown children.

-30-

For additional information visit the NEW Patterson web site: www.votepatterson.com

Patterson Biography

Born in Houston, Texas on November 15, 1946, Jerry Patterson was raised to believe in the values of hard work, honesty and integrity. Whether serving his country as a Marine aviator or serving the people of Texas as State Senator, Jerry Patterson has earned a reputation as an honest, hard-working overachiever.

Jerry attended public school in the Houston area, and graduated Texas A & M Class of 1969. While a student, Jerry worked in summer jobs ranging from longshoreman on the docks of Houston to roustabout on an offshore oilrig in the Gulf of Mexico.

With his father and grandfather both having served with distinction in the military, Jerry was destined for military service. In October 1965, he joined the Marine Corps Reserve, and later served as a Platoon Leader Class (PLC) in the Officer Commissioning Program. Jerry received his commission at Texas A&M in January 1970.

In 1972, Patterson volunteered for in-country duty and was assigned to the staff of the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade as intelligence watch officer. His duty was to effect liaison with the Vietnamese marines primarily in Quang Tri, Hong Dien, and Da Nang Vietnam. Jerry served in active duty during last 6th months of Vietnam war, leaving on 26 January 1973, the day of the so-called “cease-fire”.

In 1973, Jerry moved to Pensacola, Florida for flight training as a naval flight officer and received his naval flight officer wings in November 1974. Six years later, Patterson left active duty and joined the Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 112, or “Cowboys”, at Dallas Naval Air Station. He continued to serve in the Active Reserve from 1980 until 1991; his diverse responsibilities included aircraft maintenance officer, unit legal officer, air combat tactics instructor, and mission commander. In 1991, Patterson was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the Marine Corps Reserve. He retired in 1993.

In 1992, Jerry Patterson was elected to the Texas Senate in a stunning victory over a 30-year Democrat incumbent. His work ethic and wit quickly earned the respect of his colleagues and led to major legislative successes, including passage of the historic concealed handgun law, a constitutional amendment allowing home equity lending, and the creation of the General Land Office State Veterans Home program at no cost to the taxpayers.

Since retiring from the Texas Senate, Jerry was a candidate for Land Commissioner in the Republican primary in 1998. Despite being outspent 10 to 1, he held his opponent to 51% of the total vote. Recently, he has served as State Relations director for the American Red Cross, and as an advocate for conservative causes.

Senator Patterson is married to the former Jennifer Kowalik, a graduate of the University of Texas School of Law and a practicing attorney specializing in tax law. His daughter, Emily, is a honors graduate of St. Edwards University and a freelance writer, and his son, Travis, is a graduate of Texas A&M and serves as a Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps.

The TOP 10 reasons to support JERRY Patterson for TEXAS LAND COMMISSIONER

10 Jerry Patterson is the most qualified candidate to ever seek the position of Texas Land Commissioner.

- Primary responsibilities of Land Commissioner: Texas veterans, coastal management and oil & gas royalties.
- Jerry is a retired Marine, Vietnam veteran, and author of the Texas Veterans Home Program.
- Served six years as coastal state senator and author of the Texas Coastal Management Plan.
- Proposed Texas School Power plan in 1998 to lower costs for Texas schools through in-kind gas royalties.
- Jerry understands the importance to education of the state's oil and gas royalty revenues.

9 He's a nationally-recognized spokesman for conservative causes.

- Known statewide as conservative leader on constitutional rights and individual freedoms.
- National TV appearances include Court TV, FOX TV's *Hannity and Colmes*, Tom Snyder, *Nightline*, PBS.
- National radio exposure on Sean Hannity's WABC radio program and Rush Limbaugh.
- Jerry's historic debate vs. liberal Molly Ivins on ABC's *Nightline* earned respect of conservatives nationwide.
- Frequent guest on local conservative talk radio in major media markets across Texas .

8 He enjoys strong ties to Republican grassroots in Texas.

- Jerry Patterson is a longtime Republican; his first elected office: Republican precinct chairman.
- Served in several county Republican party positions and as delegate to Republican State Conventions.
- Remains regular visitor to Republican clubs from El Paso to Galveston, from Lubbock to San Antonio.
- Maintains the support of many SREC, county chairs and precinct chairs across the state.
- Will actively seek to build Republican grassroots as a statewide Republican officeholder.

7 He will strengthen the GOP ticket with crossover conservative Democrat votes.

- With strong Republican values, Patterson was elected twice in a heavily Democrat district.
- Author of the 1995 concealed handgun law, Jerry appeals to Democrat supporters of the 2nd amendment.
- A Marine Vietnam veteran, Jerry is the favored candidate of Texas' 1.6 million veterans regardless of party.
- Blue collar background (longshoreman, truck driver, roustabout) appeals to conservative Democrats.
- Established reputation for honesty and integrity appeal to all voters, regardless of party affiliation.

6 He likes to beat Democrats in November.

- Defied expectations in 1992 by defeating a 30-year incumbent in a heavily Democrat district
- In 1994, court-mandated redistricting made his district even more democrat
- 1994 opponent was well-financed, two-term Democrat twice named one of "Texas Ten Best" legislators.
- Again, Patterson defied expectations and defeated his opponent with a 56% margin of victory.
- Strength of personality, amiability and core convictions make Jerry a tough candidate against Democrats.

5 He has a history of bold, legislative accomplishments in the Texas Senate.

- Amended the Texas Constitution to allow Home Equity Lending; supported overwhelmingly by Texans.
- Created the Texas Veterans Home program in the Veterans Land Board
- Veterans Home Program provides Texas veterans with skilled long-term care at no cost to the taxpayer.
- Authored and Passed the Right To Carry law and restored a constitutional right for law-abiding Texans.
- Created a new Department of Public Safety task force to round up dangerous parole violators.
- New DPS task force funded without new appropriations solely by fees placed on convicted felons.
- Jerry's legislative experience will help to maximize efficiency of GLO programs and initiatives.

4 He has a wide base of support across Texas.

- Jerry Patterson has successfully established a strong base of support in every corner of Texas.
- High visibility and support amongst 225,000 Concealed Handgun Licensees and 300,000 NRA members.
- Favored candidate of 1.6 million Texas veterans and active military personnel.
- Strong ties to his former Senate constituency in Harris and surrounding counties.
- Former Senate district is the #1 media market and largest Republican primary electoral block in Texas.
- Residual statewide name I.D. from the 1998 Republican primary campaign
- Leadership of Republican Veterans of Texas, an official Republican Party auxiliary.

3 He is a proven primary vote-getter.

- Outspent $3.8 million to $380,000—a ten to one margin—Jerry held his 1998 primary opponent to 51%.
- Embedded constituencies and built-in name I.D. gives Jerry a head start for 2002.
- Jerry Patterson has shown he can achieve greater turnout per expenditure than any other candidate.

2 He is a man of integrity and honesty. But don't take our word.

- In the 1998 primary, Jerry received the endorsement of every major daily newspaper in Texas.

Dallas Morning News (February 1998)

"... A primary reason this newspaper supports Mr. Patterson is his reputation as a straight player. Legislative colleagues describe the senator as someone who pulls few punches."

Texas Monthly (March 1998)

"... State Senator Jerry Patterson of Pasadena, is an all-too-rare type of politician: an unpolished, fearless, what-you-see-is-what-you-get overachiever ..."

Fort Worth Star Telegram (February 1998)

"State Senator Jerry Patterson of Harris County receives our endorsement in this hotly contested race on the basis of his record of achievement on land office issues while in the Senate and his greater dedication to the land commissioner's position for its own sake rather than as an interim steppingstone to higher office ..."

The Facts (Brazosport, TX - February 1998)

"... we knew Patterson was bound for statewide constituency. The rest of Texas deserves the same outstanding leadership in the Land Office that Patterson demonstrated in the Senate ... he has been tenacious and diligent ... the most impressive of Patterson's achievements is his personal integrity ... When this man gives you his word, he stands by it. Jerry Patterson is a man of action, not empty rhetoric ..."

... and the number one reason to support Jerry Patterson for Texas Land Commissioner ...

1 He wants the job . . not the title.

- The office should seek the man, not the other way around.
- Jerry has never "shopped around" for office; he has been single-minded in his campaign for GLO.
- The Office of Land Commissioner is more than a placeholder. It is vital for millions of Texans statewide.
- Jerry Patterson wants the job of Texas Land Commissioner – not the title.



Patterson for Texas Land Commissioner

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To volunteer or make a contribution please visit www.votepatterson.com

Paid for by Patterson Campaign, Jennifer Patterson, Treasurer.

