

Linda Curtis Bio

Linda is a leading spokesperson, analyst, and tactician for the Texas independent political movement. She has a long history in independent politics.

Linda is proud to have played a key role in gaining ballot access in 1988 for independent progressive Lenora Fulani, the first woman and African American to get on the ballot for President in all 50 states. Linda worked in Texas with Fulani to bring progressives into the Ross Perot movement just after his groundbreaking 1992 independent presidential campaign. In the 90s, Linda served on the national committee of Ross Perot's Reform Party USA and as its Texas state organizer (1996-2000).

Following the demise of the Reform Party in 2001, Linda helped found the Independent Texans PAC. The PAC got its big break in 2005-6, when Carole Keeton Strayhorn, the Republican Texas Comptroller, left the Texas GOP to run as an independent for Governor against Republican Governor Rick Perry. Perry squeaked by with 39% of the vote, having lucked out with two independents for Governor in the race, Carole and Kinky Friedman. Democratic candidate, Chris Bell, came in second, but with a combined 1.3 million votes, Strayhorn and Kinky put the independents at 2nd place.

In 2004, Linda assisted the Libertarian Party of Texas in regaining ballot access. She shepherded their Executive Director in running a successful petition drive gathering 45,000 signatures to qualify for the ballot and personally, Linda collected 2,000 signatures. That same year, Linda advised the Ralph Nader independent presidential campaign, which came close but failed to get on the ballot.

In 2013, Linda helped found the nonpartisan, nonprofit 501c4 membership association for Texas independents – the League of Independent Voters of Texas (LIV). LIV is the only voter association in Texas for the growing legions of Texans who call themselves independents.

Linda has played a leading role in several citizen municipal petitions, including three significant efforts in the city of Austin. In 1997, a campaign finance reform measure called, Austinites for A Little Less Corruption, passed at 72%. In 2008, a narrowly failed challenge to Austin subsidies for The Domain, a luxury shopping mall. The Domain battle led to a successful effort in 2012. That was moving Austin to a new voting system called "10-1". The effort ushered in geographic representation, aka single-member districts, and the first in Texas (still only) independent citizens redistricting commission to draw the district lines.

Linda is also leader in the central Texas battle to avert the "Californiafication of Texas Water Policy," i.e., mass conveyance of groundwater for real estate development in areas with inadequate local supply. She has continued to spur Texas officials to take action to audit and cut back the controversial Vista Ridge "San Antonio Hose" water pipeline.

In 2026, Linda brought LIV fully into the statewide uprising on AI data centers. The citizen pushback is in full swing in the mid-term election. She sees this as an opportunity for

independent voters to flex their political muscle by switching horses away from one-party Republican rule and forward to competitive elections in Texas.