



# A Political Junkie's Perspective

## About Me

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Conservative political activist with interests in local, regional and state government. Also assisting local and state-level candidates with campaign strategy and targeted strategic communications.

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If the Lege is serious about tax relief

Personal Liberty & Your Appraisal Cap

Thursday, December 11, 2014

## Personal Liberty & Your Appraisal Cap

There is increasing concern among local elected officials across the State of Texas that State Legislators may look to state tax changes in an effort to provide tax relief to Texas property owners. It is expected that the GOP lead effort will entertain further restricting the appraisal cap that is currently set at 10%.

Many believe that this is the most impactful and effective way to stabilize property tax bills. Some areas of the state have consistently experienced tax bills surging because of increased assessments while the taxing entities such as County Commissioners Courts have touted their record of not raising the tax rate while still collecting more and more revenue.

While I agree Texans deserve a break on what seems to be their ever increasing property tax bills that are supporting what seems to be unencumbered spending increases, I do not believe further restriction of the appraisal cap is the appropriate way to do so.

To further restrict the appraisal cap is to ask the property owners of Texas to forfeit their right earn based on their property holdings. The right of every Texan to the opportunity to own property and profit from its increased value is inherent in who we are as Americans and as Texans. To further restrict such a right would be a continued erosion of individual liberty and something that should not be taken lightly. Texans have the right to own property and therefore the right to both the increase and decrease in value of that property based on a free market assessment not that of a government entity that is limited in their ability to do so.

Benjamin Franklin once said; "Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety." Ironically enough, he said these words with regards to the Colony of Pennsylvania's property taxing practices. Are Texans really willing to sacrifice their Liberty for the sake of a small amount of security?

Is it not a prevailing principle in conservative thought to leave control at the lowest possible level; closest to the people? This type of reactionary, sound bite governing is what we must get away from and go back to applying sound conservative thought and practice to the decision being made.

Posted by [Brian Kyle Dawson](#) at [7:30 AM](#)



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