

The logo for Rick Kennedy's congressional campaign is displayed on a black rectangular background. At the top, the name "RICK" is written in white, uppercase, sans-serif font. Below it, the name "KENNEDY" is written in a much larger, bold, white, uppercase, sans-serif font. A blue five-pointed star is positioned inside the letter "Y". Underneath "KENNEDY", the text "FOR U.S. CONGRESS • TEXAS • DISTRICT 17" is written in a smaller, white, uppercase, sans-serif font, with blue dots separating the words.

**RICK
KENNEDY**
FOR U.S. CONGRESS • TEXAS • DISTRICT 17

Voters Guide 2020 - League of Women Voters

Occupation Project Manager for an international technology company

Background A software engineer for more than three decades, Rick Kennedy proudly claims a STEM background. His son attends Baylor and his two daughters go to Round Rock public schools.

Education Rick graduated from Burlington (MA) High School in 1980. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from The Pennsylvania State University in 1984.

Website www.RickKennedyforCongress.com

FaceBook [RickKennedyforCongress](https://www.facebook.com/RickKennedyforCongress)

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ec8ROAKkqrM&t=1s>

What do you recommend to improve the immigration system?

We must stop political posturing and devise a broad revision of our immigration system that meets our economic needs, addresses security, and reflects our values.

Such a plan starts by treating asylum seekers with respect and processing claims in a timely manner. We also must secure our borders and ports of entry with technology- and human resource-based solutions. Finally, we need a path to citizenship for undocumented residents who have lived here for 10+ years that focuses on security.

What legislation would you support to address access to and cost of healthcare?

I support the Medicare for America Act of 2019. It is the appropriate next step in health care because it achieves universal coverage, especially important in rural areas where the uninsured rate is high.

It will not eliminate private insurance. It provides relief from the threat of medical bill-induced bankruptcy - the leading cause of personal bankruptcy in the US. At the same time, it addresses uncompensated care for hospitals. Lastly, it empowers Medicare to negotiate drug prices.

What do you recommend to curb gun violence in our country?

Saving American lives should not be an issue subjected to partisan bickering.

I am happy to see that Congress recently appropriated funds for gun violence research. As an engineer, I want to implement policy based on facts.

I support better background checks (as do 90% of voters) and banning gun ownership for convicted domestic abusers.

I also support the Second Amendment. My goal is to reduce gun violence without infringing on Second Amendment rights of lawful gun owners.

What other issue is your highest legislative priority and what do you propose to address it?

Our current political environment is a symptom of the corrupting influence of money in our politics. I've rejected corporate PAC contributions to my campaign, and in Washington I'll support H.R. 1 to overturn Citizens United and end corporate PAC contributions to federal candidates.

I believe it is the best way to restore honor and leadership to Washington and the US Congress.