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## **Ken Paxton Endorsed by Former Texas GOP Chair, Former Texas Secretary of State George W. Strake, Jr.**

*Paxton: Strake is “One of the true titans of the Texas Republican Party”*

(McKinney, Texas) - Senator Ken Paxton, building on the momentum from his first-place finish in the March 4<sup>th</sup> Republican primary, today announced the endorsement of Houston businessman George W. Strake, Jr., one of the most respected long-time leaders in the Texas Republican Party.

In endorsing Paxton, Strake stated, “Throughout my life I have worked to build the Texas Republican Party, and have helped elect many of our state’s leaders. I am now excited to endorse Senator Ken Paxton, a man who represents a new generation of conservative Republicans who can lead our party in the years to come. Ken Paxton is a bright, committed conservative, and I encourage Texas Republicans to unite behind his candidacy for Texas Attorney General.”

The Honorable George W. Strake, Jr. served as Texas Secretary of State under former Governor William P. Clements and later served as Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas. A resident of Houston, he has distinguished himself in business, politics, and civic leadership.

Senator Paxton commented, “It’s an incredible honor to earn George's endorsement, as he is one of the true titans of the Texas Republican Party. George Strake was a key player in turning Texas to the Republican column, and his leadership was instrumental in electing President Ronald Reagan. George is respected across Texas as a person of character and integrity, and I’m truly humbled to have someone of his stature supporting my candidacy.”

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, Senator Paxton shocked political observers with his first-place showing. During early voting, the Dan Branch campaign released a poll showing Representative Branch with an almost 2-1 lead over Senator Paxton. Despite being outspent more than 2-1, Senator Paxton led the field with 44%, coming within just 6 points of winning outright.

Additionally, Paxton won Dan Branch’s home county of Dallas and his other “home” county of Bexar, where Rep. Branch grew up and still has family. The McKinney Republican won the largest seven GOP counties including Harris, Tarrant, Dallas, Bexar, Collin, Montgomery and Denton. Senator Paxton won 19 of the top 20 counties in Texas, and won 51 of the top 75 counties representing approximately 85% of the GOP vote.

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