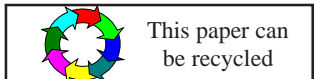


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RAPPIN'  
 Thomas Wyatt

**Hinojosa vs Abbott**

Democratic state Rep. **Gina Hinojosa** has officially clinched her party's nomination for governor, setting the stage for a high stakes November matchup against **Gov. Greg Abbott**, who easily won the Republican primary and is seeking to become the longest serving governor in Texas history.

Hinojosa, an Austin area lawmaker and five term representative known for her sharp critiques of Abbott's education policies, enters the general election as the first Democrat in over three decades with a viable path to breaking the GOP's hold on the governor's mansion. Her campaign has centered on **public education, affordability, and political accountability**, positioning herself as a foil to Abbott's push for school vouchers and his deep ties to major donors.

Her nomination caps a rapid rise from local advocate to statewide contender. A civil rights and union attorney before entering the Legislature, Hinojosa has built her brand on defending Texas families "left out by a political system that favors insiders and wealthy donors," a message she first sharpened when launching her campaign in late 2025.

The November contest is expected to be one of the most closely watched races in the country. Abbott, in office since 2015, is seeking a fourth term that would cement his place in Texas political history. Hinojosa, meanwhile, is betting that demographic shifts, voter frustration over rising costs, and backlash to state level crackdowns on local control will create an opening unseen since the 1990s.

Turnout patterns from the March primaries suggest a competitive landscape, with hundreds of thousands of Texans casting ballots across major counties and signaling heightened engagement heading into the fall.

For Democrats, Hinojosa represents both a generational shift and a test of whether Texas is finally ready to break its long Republican streak. For Republicans, Abbott's campaign will aim to prove that even amid statewide change, the GOP's grip on the governor's office remains firm.

**Texas's Civil War**



Hinojosa

Abbott

**The Architecture of Power — Mapping the Abbott Machine and the Hinojosa Insurgency Trying to Break It.**

By Thomas Wyatt | EIC, The Villager

**(VILLAGER)** - Texas is heading into a governor's race that functions less like an election and more like a forensic investigation into how political power is built, maintained, and protected. At the center of that examination is **Gov. Greg Abbott**, whose decade in office has produced a sprawling, donor driven political apparatus that touches nearly every corner of state governance. Opposing him is **Gina Hinojosa**, the Austin lawmaker whose campaign is explicitly designed to expose the machinery Abbott built — and the human cost of its operation.

To understand the stakes, you have to understand the structure. Abbott's political empire is not just a campaign; it is a network. Over the past ten years, Abbott has consolidated influence through a triad of mechanisms:

- (1) donor aligned policy pipelines,
- (2) expanded executive authority, and
- (3) state level interventions that override local control.

The donor pipeline is the most visible. Abbott's largest financial backers — including billionaire voucher advocates, deregulation champions, and private sector interests with stakes in state contracts — have poured millions into sustaining his agenda. Their fingerprints appear across legislative priorities: school vouchers, corporate tax incentives, privatized border operations, and the weakening of municipal authority. These donors don't just fund campaigns; they shape the policy environment in which those campaigns operate.

The second pillar is executive power. Abbott has repeatedly used emergency authorities, agency directives, and state level deployments to implement policies that never passed through the Legislature. Border operations, policing expansions, and regulatory overrides have been executed through executive channels that limit public oversight. Critics argue that this has created a shadow governance structure — one where decisions with billion dollar consequences are made behind closed doors, insulated from scrutiny.

The third pillar is preemption: the systematic stripping of authority from cities and counties. Abbott's administration has overridden local rules on policing, environmental protections, public health, and housing — effectively centralizing power in Austin while weakening the ability of communities to govern themselves. The result is a state where local democracy is increasingly symbolic, not functional.

Hinojosa's campaign is built as a counter investigation into this architecture. Her legislative record shows a consistent pattern: following the money, exposing the beneficiaries, and challenging the legal mechanisms that allow state power to bypass public accountability. Her opposition to vouchers is not just ideological; it is forensic. She has traced how voucher proposals intersect with donor interests, how they redirect public funds into private networks, and how they destabilize rural and urban districts alike.

Her critique of Abbott's border and policing operations follows the same pattern. She points to ballooning budgets, opaque contracting processes, and the absence of measurable outcomes. She argues that these operations function as political theater — expensive, unaccountable, and designed to reinforce the governor's brand rather than address systemic issues.

The forensic contrast between the two candidates is stark. Abbott's Texas is built on centralized authority, donor aligned policy, and the erosion of local control. Hinojosa's Texas is built on restoring public institutions, strengthening democratic oversight, and dismantling the financial and political networks that have shaped state governance for a decade.

The November election will determine which model prevails. But the deeper truth is this: the race is not just about who becomes governor. It is about whether Texans are willing to confront the machinery that has governed them — and whether an insurgent campaign can dismantle a political architecture designed to withstand exactly this kind of challenge.

**INSIDE**



How a "bone-spur" draft dodger is doing running America's military. See **CHIEF** Page 4



After Noem's firing, Bondi should be next. See **EXPOSED** Page 5



The collapse of DEI turned Black women into a force of nature. See **ABANDONED** Page 6

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