Texas 18th Congressional District
Sheila Jackson Lee (D)
2008-2018 Election Results

Jackson Lee has been TX-18’s representative since she was first elected in 1994
Determinants of Support for Restrictive/Permissive Immigration Policy

- Higher % unemployed population
  (Wong 2014)

- Southern state
  (ibid)

- Republican MC
  (ibid)

- Protests in area
  (Wong and Ramakrishnan 2010)

- Recent immigration
  (ibid)

- Large share of agricultural jobs
  (ibid)

- Non-White MC
  (Wong 2014)
How do these determinants map on TX-18?

- **7.1% unemployment rate (high)** (US = 4%)  
  (census.gov, 2017)
- **Southern state**
- **Negligible agricultural jobs**  
  (ibid)
- **Democrat MC**
- **Protests (e.g. 2006 May Day, June 2018)**
- **African-American MC**
- **Immigrant population grew 2x national rate (2000-2013)**  
  (Capps et al, 2015)

Jackson-Lee more likely to support permissive policy
Website
pro-comprehensive reform
protect Dreamers
condemn Trump Twitter/xenophobia
protect families @ border
TPS for victims of war/disaster

Twitter
15% of tweets on immigration
dozens of retweets on immigration
tone + content
anti-border wall
anti-Trump
pay US workers - condemns shut
down over the wall
border wall is “inefficient”
condemns family separation
happy about progress on
challenging “immoral + abhorrent
child separation policy”

Bill Sponsorship
4% of bills on immigration
E.g.
Protect American Taxpayers
and Secure Border Act
Continue American Safety Act
Save America Comprehensive
Immigration Act
Border Security, Cooperation,
and Act Now Drug War
Prevention Act
No Fly for Foreign Fighters Act
permissive + comprehensive
approach with anti-terrorist +
anti-drug stance

No mention on campaign site

Issue coverage by word volume
1 of 11 issues
6.4% of coverage