



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 2-13-06

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## PATTERSON AND CHISUM ENDORSE CASTEEL RE-ELECTION

NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS — Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson and State Representative Warren Chisum (R-Pampa) endorsed State Representative Carter Casteel (R-New Braunfels) for re-election to the Texas House today. Patterson is a former state senator and author of the Texas Concealed Handgun Law. Chisum has served in the Texas House since 1989 and is the author of the Defense of Marriage Act.

“I generally try to stay out of primaries, but I’m making an exception this time. Carter Casteel deserves to be reelected to the Texas House,” Patterson said. “Carter is strong, independent and an ally of those of us who firmly believe in the constitutional right to keep and bear arms.”

“Carter Casteel and I have worked side-by-side to protect traditional Texas values. She co-sponsored the Defense of Marriage Act and has been an effective conservative voice in Austin,” Chisum added. “I am proud to join other Republican leaders endorsing Carter for re-election to the Texas House.”

Casteel has been endorsed by prominent Republican leaders, including U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-Texas), House Speaker Tom Craddick (R-Midland), Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs, Texas Railroad Commissioner Elizabeth Ames Jones, Congressman Henry Bonilla (R-Texas), Congressman Mike Conaway (R-Texas), Congressman Lamar Smith (R-Texas), State Senator Troy Fraser (R-Horseshoe Bay), State Senator Todd Staples (R-Palestine) and State Senator Jeff Wentworth (R-San Antonio).

Casteel is seeking a third term as the state representative for Bandera, Comal, Gillespie and Kendall Counties. An attorney and former public school teacher, Casteel was first elected to the Texas House in November 2002. A New Braunfels resident since 1973, she previously served eight years as Comal County Judge (1990-98) and six years on the Comal Independent School District Board of Trustees (1984-90).

The statewide primary election is March 7, 2006.