

## Editorial: Keep Zaffirini in the Senate

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### **San Antonio Express-News**

San Antonio lawyer Rene Barrientos filed as candidate in the 21st Senatorial District, but he announced he was withdrawing.

However, Barrientos remains on the ballot for the seat held by Sen. **Judith Zaffirini**.

Even if Barrientos had not belatedly said he was withdrawing, we would strongly urge Democratic voters to re-nominate Zaffirini.

The Laredo communications specialist, whose district includes a portion of Bexar County, has been a strong, effective member of the Texas Senate since she took office in 1987.

Zaffirini, chairman of the Senate subcommittee on Higher Education, has been a consistent and successful proponent of the University of Texas at San Antonio and higher education in general.

And her work in 2003 to protect the most crucial portions of health care programs amid a wave of budget cuts was exemplary.

Zaffirini is well known for arriving at the Capitol before dawn and burning the midnight oil.

Residents of the 21st Senatorial District and South Texas as a whole has been well served by Zaffirini's hard-charging, principled representation.

We recommend that Democrats vote for Zaffirini in this year's primary.