

## **U.S. Senate candidate Ted Cruz benefits from outside contributions and expenditure groups**

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Friday, February 03, 2012 at 10:56 am

When the voters will make their choice in the Republican primary for the U.S. Senate in Texas is still undecided, but the candidates and outside groups have raised and spent millions of dollars during the wait. Ted Cruz, the former Solicitor General of Texas, [trails by 18 points in the latest poll](#), behind Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst. However, Cruz may be gaining momentum with the help of contributions from outside the state, and from outside expenditure groups spending on behalf of Cruz.

[According to Center for Responsive Politics \(CRP\) data](#), Cruz has raised more money through contributions than either Dewhurst or former Dallas mayor Thomas Leppert. Cruz has raised more than \$2.8 million in campaign funds, and 96% has been from individual contributions. Dewhurst has raised \$4.6 million and Leppert has raised \$5.1 million, but 48% and 52% of their campaign cash has come through self-financing.

Cruz's total of \$2.7 million in contributions exceeds the \$2.4 million in contributions to both Dewhurst and Leppert. However, the amounts of contributions coming from out of state to the Cruz campaign are more than Dewhurst and Leppert have received from out of state combined. [According to the CRP data](#), \$558,749 in contributions have been made to Cruz's campaign from out of state, making up 26% of his total contributions. While Leppert has received \$292,202 (12%), and Dewhurst has received just \$80,000 (3%).

A significant portion of out of state money coming to Cruz's campaign, over \$200,000, has come from the Washington, D.C. area. This has included contributions from attorneys at law firms such as Jones Day and from employees of Koch Industries, Inc. Cruz has also received contributions from investment bankers at Goldman Sachs and from employees of conservative think tanks such as the Heritage Foundation and the Cato Institute.

Where Cruz has most benefited from outside money has been from outside expenditure groups. According to CRP data, there has been \$1.1 million spent by outside groups in Texas, and every penny has been either in support of Cruz or against his opponents. Senator Jim Demint's Senate Conservatives Fund has

spent \$575,057 supporting Cruz as the **“conservative alternative to Dewhurst,”** and Dick Arney’s Freedom works spent \$30,000 in **supporting Cruz.** The Club for Growth has spent \$468,760 criticizing Dewhurst for his position on **taxes** and **health care.**