



## **Other Voices: Texas better than California**

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Less government is better government. As evidence, there is this humorous story the *Amarillo Globe-News* recently stumbled across in cyberspace that details why Texas is better than California. (Richard W. Fisher, former president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, mentioned the tale in October 2012 in a speech before the Cato Institute, crediting "a friend from Los Angeles," according to a transcript of the speech on [www.dallasfed.org](http://www.dallasfed.org).)

Paraphrasing, the example as to why Texas is better than California goes something like this:

The governors of Texas and California were enjoying the outdoors with their dogs on a nature trail -- separately, of course.

In separate instances, a coyote attacked the governors and their dogs.

The governor of California thought about defending himself and his dog against the coyote, but did not because the coyote was only acting in a natural way -- doing what coyotes do. The coyote was captured by animal control and taken to a veterinarian for testing, and the state was subsequently billed thousands.

The trail the governor was using was shut down while the state did a survey for dangerous animals in the area, and the state spent thousands for a "coyote awareness program."

The governor's security personnel were fired for not stopping the coyote, and the state spent thousands retraining its security personnel.

The California Legislature spent millions on a study for rabies treatment, while an animal rights organization sued the state when the coyote is relocated.

In Texas, the governor of the Lone Star State was also attacked by a coyote on a trail. The governor pulled out his state-licensed firearm and shot the coyote. End of story.

Funny? You bet, but there are elements of truth and logic in the aforementioned story.

The truth is big government creates big problems.

Government is nothing more than people, and when there are more people attempting to dictate how people live with burdensome government mandates and regulations than people who just want to enjoy their freedoms, problems occur.

The aforementioned example as to why Texas is better than California is worth a chuckle, but there is truth and logic behind the joke.