

## **Texas Legislative Alert May 9, 2023**

Texas needs your help! The 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session is running out of time and only has until May 31 to have these bills sent to the Governor's desk. Please read these 3 urgent items.

### **Protect Children:**

1. An update on protecting children under the age of 18 by banning surgical procedures or pharmaceuticals that are for the purpose of gender transitioning, chemical sterilization, and gender reassignment.

SB 14 by Senator Donna Campbell and HB 1686 by Rep. Tom Oliverson are bills to prohibit procedures and treatments for gender transitioning, gender reassignment, or gender dysphoria and the use of public money or public assistance to provide those procedures and treatments to minors.

SB 14 was passed out of the Senate as well as the House Public Health Committee to be voted on House floor by the entire chamber. The first time the bill was brought to the House floor for a vote was on Tuesday, May 2, amid many trans protestors who became violent and disruptive to the point of increased Capitol security and a clearing of the House gallery. SB 14 was sent back to committee after a trivial point of order. It was brought back to the House floor on Friday, May 5, only to be sent back to the committee for a second time after more trivial points of order. It is expected to come back to the House floor a third time for a vote on Friday, May 12. Eighteen other states have already passed these protections for children and it is time for Texas to do the same.

Texas must shut down the money-making "sex change" industry on our children. There are over 16 pediatric gender clinics in Texas. Major children's hospitals are participating in this destructive cultural confusion. An investigation has been launched by our Attorney General Ken Paxton into Dell Children's Hospital. [texasattorneygeneral.gov/news/releases/paxton-announces-investigation-dell-childrens-medical-center-potentially-illegal-performance-gender](https://texasattorneygeneral.gov/news/releases/paxton-announces-investigation-dell-childrens-medical-center-potentially-illegal-performance-gender)).

### Further Reading:

Parent Resource Guide Responding to the Transgender Issue, [genderresourceguide.com/wpcontent/themes/genderresource/library/documents/NPRGFullDocumentPrintV17.pdf](https://genderresourceguide.com/wpcontent/themes/genderresource/library/documents/NPRGFullDocumentPrintV17.pdf)

Michelle Cretella, M.D., executive director of the American College of Pediatricians [dailysignal.com/author/michelle-cretella/](https://dailysignal.com/author/michelle-cretella/)

Walt Heyer Ministries, [waltheyer.com/](https://waltheyer.com/)

**ACTIONS:**

Pray that this bill is passed as it is written. There is a spiritual battle over our children, and we must stand in the gap for them!

Call Governor Abbott and let him know it is imperative that Texas ban these dangerous, life-altering procedures and drugs on our children.

Governor Abbott, (512)-463-2000, Senior Advisor Steve Munisteri, (512)-463-1830

Call or email House Speaker Dade Phelan's office and let him know that Texas must pass SB 14 out of the House with no further delays.

Speaker Dade Phelan, [dade.phelan@house.texas.gov](mailto:dade.phelan@house.texas.gov), (512)-463-1000

Call or email your Texas House Representative today and let them know you support SB 14 to protect children. You can find your House Representative at [wrm.capitol.texas.gov/home](http://wrm.capitol.texas.gov/home).

2. Stop sexually oriented performances in the presence of a child.

SB 12 by Senator Bryan Hughes would ban sexualized drag and other sexually explicit performances in front of our children. Sadly, these types of performances are being hosted at "educational" and "family-friendly" places.

SB 12 was passed by the Senate and now we need it passed in the Texas House. There is a hearing tomorrow, and we need your help.

**ACTION:**

Come to the Capitol in-person or electronically submit comments in support of SB12 until the hearing is adjourned by visiting [comments.house.texas.gov/home?c=c450](http://comments.house.texas.gov/home?c=c450)

In-Person Hearing Information:

When: Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 8 a.m. Arrive no later than 7 a.m. to park. Check-in on the kiosk outside the hearing room at the Capitol.

Where: Texas Capitol, John H. Reagan Building, Room 140, House State Affairs

Parking is available at the Capitol Visitor's Parking Garage at 1201 San Jacinto Blvd., Austin, TX, 78701, or at Bob Bullock History Museum 1800 Congress Ave., Austin, TX, 78701.

What: Stay and give a 3-minute testimony on why this bill is important to protect young hearts and minds. Please contact Cindy Asmussen at [casmussen@sbtexas.com](mailto:casmussen@sbtexas.com) if you plan to come to the Capitol and need help preparing your testimony. You can also submit a written testimony only by providing 15 copies to the committee clerk. Be sure and write your name and the bill number on each copy and why you support the bill.

**Gambling:**

Gambling interest groups have spent tens of millions of dollars to turn Texas into a predatory gambling state and now they are bringing these bills to the House floor for a vote on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

Read why this is not good for our families, children, and state. [sbtexas.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/TERLC-Sentinel\\_Jan-2023.pdf](https://sbtexas.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/TERLC-Sentinel_Jan-2023.pdf)

**1. Sports Betting and Casinos**

HJR 102 and HB 1942 by Rep. Jeff Leach would legalize predatory Sports Betting in Texas, which is known to be highly addictive, especially for our young people. It also has been proven in every other state that legalizing it does not end the black-market sports betting industry.

HB 2843 by Rep. John Kuempel would create the Texas Gaming Commission which would pave the way for casinos.

A vote on these bills will happen Wednesday, May 10.

**ACTION:**

Call or e-mail House Speaker Dade Phelan's office and let him know we do not want Texas to be a gambling state.

Speaker Dade Phelan, [dade.phelan@house.texas.gov](mailto:dade.phelan@house.texas.gov), (512)-463-1000.

Call Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and let him know that we do not want Texas to be a predatory gambling state.

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick, (512)-463-0001

Call Governor Abbott and ask him to stand against predatory gambling in Texas.

Governor Abbott, (512)-463-2000, and his Senior Advisor Steve Munisteri, (512)463-1830

Call or email your Texas House Representative today and let them know we do not want any predatory gambling in Texas, and to vote against these bills. You can find your House Representative at [wrm.capitol.texas.gov/home](http://wrm.capitol.texas.gov/home).