

Texas Legislative Update

May 5, 2025

ACTIONS Needed to Finish the 89th Texas Legislative Session Strong

There are only 4 weeks left in the Texas Legislative session, and important work must be done to protect our children and families. 2 weeks remain to successfully pass a bill in both the House and Senate.

We need your help with critical ACTION points on some of the bills we have been working on in accordance with our [priorities](#).

Protecting Life and Orphan Care:

1. **HB 2216 – OPPOSE:** This bill will apply the same standards (and more) as outlined in the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) to all Texans. These new standards (plus more) go beyond ICWA and will cause negative consequences. Children will be left in serious abusive situations longer, have difficulty obtaining permanency and stability as they languish in and out of the foster care system, and reunification efforts are set-up for failure due to a lack of requirements for parental responsibility.

ACTION: This bill passed the Texas House and has a Hearing in the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services on Wednesday, 5/7/2025, at 8am in the Senate Chamber at the Capitol. If you would like to come testify, please contact Cindy Asmussen, Public Policy Advisor, casmussen@sbtexas.com.

Please email or call the Senate committee members and Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and tell them you are opposed to HB 2216 for the reasons stated above. If you are unable to contact all of the committee members, it is important to at least contact Lt. Governor Dan Patrick – (512) 463-0001, dan.patrick@ltgov.texas.gov, and Chair Lois Kolkhorst, (512) 463-0118, [click here to e-mail](#).

- Senator Charles Perry: (512) 463-0128, [click here to e-mail](#)
- Senator Kelly Hancock: (512) 463-0109, [click here to e-mail](#)
- Senator Bryan Hughes: (512) 463-0101, [click here to e-mail](#)
- Senator Bob Hall: (512) 463-0102, [click here to e-mail](#)
- Senator Kevin Sparks: (512) 463-0131, [click here to e-mail](#)
- Senator Borris Miles: (512) 463-0113, [click here to e-mail](#)
- Senator Molly Cook: (512) 463-0115, [click here to e-mail](#)
- Senator César Blanco: (512) 463-0129, [click here to e-mail](#)
- Senator Lois Kolkhorst (Chair): (512) 463-0118, [click here to e-mail](#)

2. **SB 2880 / HB 5510 – SUPPORT:** Hold websites, distributors, advertisers, and more accountable if they break the law through contributing to sending deadly abortifacient drugs to women.

ACTION: SB 2880 passed the Senate but is stuck in House State Affairs Committee. Please contact the Chairman, Representative Ken King, and ask him to hold a hearing on SB 2880 immediately and pass out of committee so that companies cannot send women deadly abortion drugs: (512) 463-0736, <https://www.house.texas.gov/members/2455/email>.

3. **SB 33 – SUPPORT:** Prohibits cities or any government entity from assisting in the travel expenses or any other transaction for an abortion related service.

ACTION: SB 33 will have a Hearing in House State Affairs Committee on Wednesday, 5/7/2025, in the JHR 140 building at 8am. Please contact Cindy Asmussen at casmussen@sbtexas.com if you would like to come testify. If you cannot come, you can submit written comments online expressing your support for banning all government entities from assisting in travel expenses for abortion by submitting your comments [here](#).

Gender and Sexuality:

1. **SB 240 – SUPPORT:** Amends state government code to define biological sex and prohibits individuals from using state-funded facilities such as jails, shelters, public bathrooms and changing rooms, and other private spaces that are designated for use by the opposite sex.

SB 18 – SUPPORT: This bill will defund municipal libraries that host drag queen story times for children or events where persons presenting as the opposite sex read books to children for entertainment.

ACTION: These two bills both passed the Senate. SB 240 is stuck in the House State Affairs Committee and needs a hearing. SB 18 will have a hearing on May 5. Please contact the Chairman, Representative Ken King, and ask him to hold a hearing on SB 240 and immediately pass both SB 240 and SB 18 out of committee: (512) 463-0736, <https://www.house.texas.gov/members/2455/email>.

2. **SB 406 – SUPPORT:** Prohibits an individual from changing their “sex” on their birth certificate, also not allowing a “reassignment” of sex on a child’s birth certificate.

ACTION: SB 406 passed the Senate and needs a hearing in the House Public Health Committee. Please contact the Chair Representative Gary VanDeaver, at (512) 463-0692 or <https://www.house.texas.gov/members/2540/email>.

Sexually Explicit Materials, Abuse and Trafficking:

1. **SB 1212 / HB 3231 – SUPPORT:** Increasing a criminal penalty relating to the prosecution and punishment for the offense of trafficking of persons, including children and the disabled.

ACTION: Both of these bills had committee hearings.

Call and email Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and ask that the Senate ensure the passage of SB 1212: (512) 463-0001, dan.patrick@ltgov.texas.gov.

Call and email Speaker Dustin Burrows and ask for help passing HB 3231 through the House: (512) 463-1000, <https://house.texas.gov/members/3055/email>.

2. **HB 1443 – SUPPORT:** This bill allows for prosecution of certain criminal offenses prohibiting sexually explicit visual material involving an anatomically correct doll, mannequin, or robot that has the features of a child.

ACTION: HB 1443 was passed in House committee, but needs to go to the House floor. Please call and email Speaker Dustin Burrows and ask that he help pass HB 1443 through the House: (512) 463-1000, <https://house.texas.gov/members/3055/email>.

3. **HB 748 – SUPPORT:** This bill will prohibit the misuse of non-disclosure agreements (“NDAs”) in civil settlements for child sexual abuse, trafficking victims, and survivors of childhood crimes.

ACTION: HB 748 passed the Texas House of Representatives unanimously on April 8, 2025 but has yet to receive a Senate hearing. Call and email Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and ask for an immediate Senate Hearing on this bill: (512) 463-0001, dan.patrick@ltgov.texas.gov.

Education:

1. **SB 400 – SUPPORT:** Requires school districts to obtain written consent from a child's parent prior to any psychological or psychiatric exam or test designed to elicit certain information about a child presented in the form of a survey, check-in, screening, or embedded in an academic lesson.

SB 371 – SUPPORT: Reinstates a previous requirement for a parental opt-in for sexual education for children in public schools.

SB 1396 – SUPPORT: Amends current law relating to prohibiting the adoption or use of national sexuality education standards in public schools.

ACTION: These three bills passed the Senate and have been awaiting a hearing in the House Public Education Committee. Please contact Chairman Brad Buckley and ask for an immediate hearing on SB 400, SB 371, SB 1396 and for these to pass out of the committee: (512) 463-0684, <https://www.house.texas.gov/members/3585/email>.

2. **HB 4623 – SUPPORT:** Public schools and professional school employees would be held liable for failure to report certain injuries to students, such as sexual abuse or any violent injury.

ACTION: This bill was passed in House committee but is stuck. Please call and email Speaker Dustin Burrows and ask that he help pass HB 4623 through the House: (512) 463-1000, <https://house.texas.gov/members/3055/email>.

Religious Liberty:

1. **SB 619 – SUPPORT:** This bill protects a health care professional's right of conscience from being forced to participate in a procedure that violates their deeply held religious convictions such as in the case of an abortion or gender reassignment procedure, or dispensing a medication that is an abortifacient, etc.

ACTION: SB 619 passed the Senate and needs a hearing in the House immediately. Please call and email Speaker Dustin Burrows and ask that this bill receive an immediate hearing and help passing through the House: (512) 463-1000, <https://house.texas.gov/members/3055/email>.

2. **SB 2713 – SUPPORT:** This bill prohibits trade and professional associations from denying access, membership, or participation to individuals based on the lawful exercise of their First Amendment rights and disallows them from using internal bylaws or codes of conduct to justify viewpoint-based exclusion and discrimination. Professional advancement should be based on merit and conduct, not on ideological conformity.

ACTION: SB 2713 passed through the Senate committee and now needs to pass the Senate floor and receive a hearing in the House immediately.

Call and email Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and ask that the Senate ensure the passage of SB 2713: (512) 463-0001, dan.patrick@ltgov.texas.gov.

Call and email Speaker Dustin Burrows and ask that SB 2713 receive an immediate hearing and help passing through the House: (512) 463-1000, <https://house.texas.gov/members/3055/email>.

3. **SB 1073 / HB 2969 – SUPPORT:** These bills ensure that no attorney is excluded from seeking or renewing a law license based on their faith, nor loses their law license based on their sincerely held religious beliefs.

ACTION: SB 1073 and HB2969 both had hearings but need to come to the Senate and House floor for a vote.

Call and email Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and ask that the Senate ensure the passage of SB 1073: (512) 463-0001, dan.patrick@ltgov.texas.gov.

Call and email Speaker Dustin Burrows and ask that HB2969 or SB 1073 passes through the Texas House: (512) 463-1000, <https://house.texas.gov/members/3055/email>.

4. **SB 11 – SUPPORT:** The right to pray or engage in religious speech while on duty for public/charter school employees with parental written consent for their child to participate.

ACTION: SB 11 will have a Hearing in House State Affairs Committee on Wednesday, 5/7/2025, in the JHR 140 building at 8am. Please contact Cindy Asmussen at casmussen@sbtexas.com if you would like to come testify. If you cannot come, you can submit written comments online expressing your support for prayer in public schools with parental written consent by submitting your comments [here](#).