

TEXAS IMPACT

Texas Impact was established by Texas religious leaders in 1973 to be a voice in the Texas legislative process for the shared religious social concerns of Texas' faith communities. Texas Impact is supported by more than two-dozen Christian, Jewish and Muslim denominational bodies, hundreds of local congregations, ministerial alliances and interfaith networks, and thousands of people of faith throughout Texas.

Support Good Bills in Committee This Week!

Food and Health Care

HB 1533 by Farrar

Exclude certain savings and family vehicles when determining SNAP eligibility
House Human Services Committee hearing Monday, April 10

HB 3151 by Sheffield

Streamlining Medicaid and CHIP eligibility
House Human Services Committee hearing Monday, April 10

SB 725 by Miles / SB 755 by Menendez

Donating leftover school cafeteria food to students at that school
Senate Agriculture, Water, and Rural Affairs Committee hearing Monday, April 10

Death Penalty

HB 3080 by Rose

Prohibit the death penalty for individuals with serious mental illness
House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee hearing Monday, April 10

Voter Empowerment

HB 3285 by J. Rodriguez

Requiring a report by the Secretary of State on voter education activities
House Elections Committee hearing Monday, April 10

HB 209 by Canales

Ensuring voter registration forms are available in high schools
House Public Education Committee hearing Tuesday, April 11

Climate Change

HB 3175 by Reynolds

Would establish a "greenhouse gas emission fee" and use the proceeds to fund low-income energy efficiency programs
House Environmental Regulation hearing Tuesday, April 11

Keep These Bills Moving! Report from Committee ASAP!

HB 1535 by Farrar (protecting honeybees)
03-29-17 H Committee action pending House Agriculture and Livestock

HB 1927 by Rodriguez (toxic alert system)
03-28-17 H Committee action pending House Environmental Regulation

HB 239 by Collier (safe school drinking water)
04-04-17 H Committee action pending House Public Education

HB 773 by Johnson (climate change preparedness)
03-22-17 H Committee action pending House State Affairs

HB 337 by Collier / HB 1734 by Coleman (continue Medicaid after jail release)
03-28-17 H Committee action pending House Public Health

HB 1314 by Israel (release pregnant accused on personal bond)
03-27-17 H Committee action pending House Criminal Jurisprudence

AMEND OR OPPOSE

HB 3859 by Frank
Creating special “rights of conscience protections” for foster care providers without establishing adequate oversight to prevent abuses and without clarifying that the provider’s religious views cannot trump the foster child’s civil rights.
03-29-17 H Committee action pending House State Affairs

Weekly Witness Call Scripts

Attached is a list of toll free numbers for Committee members referenced on the first page. The full list of House and Senate members is at www.texasimpact.org/action. Using the toll free numbers allow Texas Impact staff to track how many calls are going in to each office.

It's especially helpful if your own senator or representative is a member of the committee; however, even if you don't live in the district of any committee members, you still should call all the members of the committee and let them know how you feel about the bill.

Sample Script

Hello, my name is _____ and I live in _____. I am calling to thank Representative/Senator _____ for his/her service and to let you know that I and members of my congregation are praying for the Representative/Senator and his/her staff.

I'm calling about HB/SB _____ by _____. That bill is in _____ (name of the committee the bill is in). I support/oppose the bill and here's why:

I want to urge the Representative/Senator to support/oppose HB/SB _____. Can you tell me how the Representative/Senator plans to vote on the bill, and if there is any information she/he needs to help make a decision about how to vote?

Don't forget to thank the staff member you are talking to at the end of the call, even if you disagree with their boss on the issue or bill—they are working hard and appreciate being appreciated!

In the past members have occasionally blocked our toll free number because of high call volume from people of faith. We want them to hear your voice, so if you call twice and received busy signals, email engagement@texasimpact.org and we will update the number.

This week's Weekly Witness sponsored by:

- *Platinum Sponsor: Rev. Dr. T. Randall Smith and Rev. Sandra W. Smith*
- *Platinum Sponsor: Members of Friends Congregational Church, College Station*
 - *Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church, Houston*

For updated information, visit www.texasimpact.org, follow us on Facebook or Twitter or contact engagement@texasimpact.org

Texas Impact is a membership organization. Join Texas Impact and be part of Texas' oldest and largest interfaith action network! For more information, visit <http://texasimpact.org/join>

| House Human Services Committee | |
|---|----------------|
| Rep Richard Raymond | (877) 882-3837 |
| Rep James Frank | (877) 889-9761 |
| Rep Mark Keough | (877) 694-8287 |
| Rep Stephanie Klick | (877) 638-6346 |
| Rep Rick Miller | (877) 541-8939 |
| Rep Ina Minjarez | (877) 828-8145 |
| Rep Toni Rose | (877) 440-7198 |
| Rep Valoree Swanson | (877) 872-0534 |
| Rep Gene Wu | (877) 243-4531 |
| Senate Agriculture, Water, & Rural Affairs | |
| Sen Charles Perry | (877) 278-2015 |
| Sen Jose Rodriguez | (877) 278-2016 |
| Sen Brandon Creighton | (877) 526-7235 |
| Sen Bob Hall | (877) 404-3553 |
| Sen Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa | (877) 398-4710 |
| Sen Lois Kolkhorst | (877) 419-2794 |
| Sen Borris L. Miles | (877) 300-4601 |
| House Criminal Jurisprudence | |
| Rep. Joe Moody | (877) 448-9221 |
| Rep. Todd Hunter | (877) 338-8391 |
| Rep. Terry Canales | (877) 872-0760 |
| Rep. Barbara Gervin-Hawkins | (877) 667-9123 |
| Rep. Cole Hefner | (877) 722-4632 |
| Rep. Mike Lang | (877) 628-4694 |
| Rep. Terry Wilson | (877) 872-0540 |
| House Elections Committee | |
| Rep Jodie Laubenberg | (877) 653-2197 |
| Rep Celia Israel | (877) 269-4491 |
| Rep Rodney Anderson | (877) 789-1283 |
| Rep Pat Fallon | (877) 790-4933 |
| Rep Lyle Larson | (877) 754-8247 |
| Rep Ron Reynolds | 877-211-7526 |
| Rep Valoree Swanson | (877) 872-0534 |
| House Public Education Committee | |
| Rep Dan Huberty | (877) 830-5875 |
| Rep Diego Bernal | (877) 816-4734 |
| Rep Alma Allen | (877) 426-6745 |
| Rep Dwayne Bohac | (877) 331-5296 |
| Rep Joe Deshotel | (877) 879-6158 |
| Rep Harold Dutton, Jr. | (877) 643-0137 |
| Rep Lance Gooden | (877) 669-2103 |
| Rep Ken King | (877) 478-0875 |
| Rep Linda Koop | (877) 746-7561 |
| Rep Morgan Meyer | (877) 250-5263 |
| Rep Gary VanDeaver | (877) 251-1761 |

| House State Affairs Committee | |
|--|----------------|
| Rep Byron Cook | (877) 431-7693 |
| Rep Helen Giddings | (877) 207-1547 |
| Rep Tom Craddick | (877) 270-4551 |
| Rep Jessica Farrar | (877) 786-3597 |
| Rep Charlie Geren | (877) 686-9751 |
| Rep Ryan Guillen | (877) 264-5827 |
| Rep Ken King | (877) 478-0875 |
| Rep John Kuempel | (877) 887-7926 |
| Rep Morgan Meyer | (877) 250-5263 |
| Rep Rene Oliveira | (877) 846-8715 |
| Rep Chris Paddie | (877) 814-2492 |
| Rep Eddie Rodriguez | (877) 230-7937 |
| Rep John Smithee | (877) 414-2072 |
| House Public Health Committee | |
| Rep Four Price | (877) 438-2392 |
| Rep J.D. Sheffield | (877) 484-9224 |
| Rep Diana Arevalo | (877) 626-6793 |
| Rep Cindy Burkett | (877) 508-2458 |
| Rep Garnet Coleman | (877) 750-1031 |
| Rep Nicole Collier | (877) 682-4102 |
| Rep Philip Cortez | (877) 633-0421 |
| Rep R.D. Guerra | (877) 872-4661 |
| Rep Stephanie Klick | (877) 638-6346 |
| Rep Tom Oliverson | (877) 847-9374 |
| Rep Bill Zedler | (877) 731-6711 |
| House Environmental Regulation | |
| Rep Joseph Pickett | (877) 498-5677 |
| Rep Ed Thompson | (877) 209-1331 |
| Rep John Cyrier | (877) 701-4974 |
| Rep Tony Dale | (877) 217-2628 |
| Rep Kyle J. Kacal | (877) 398-7905 |
| Rep Brooks Landgraf | (877) 265-2739 |
| Rep J.M. Lozano | (877) 885-6267 |
| Rep Ron Reynolds | 877-211-7526 |
| Rep Eddie Rodriguez | (877) 230-7937 |
| House Agriculture and Livestock Committee | |
| Rep. Tracy King | (877) 526-7231 |
| Rep. Mary Gonzales | (877) 411-3437 |
| Rep. Charles Anderson | (877) 426-8895 |
| Rep. Dustin Burrows | (877) 272-4476 |
| Rep. John Cyrier | (877) 701-4974 |
| Rep. Matt Rinaldi | (877) 589-6812 |
| Rep. Lynn Stucky | (877) 762-6303 |

