

★ 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.

Action Alert! Support HB 3027, HB 2948, HB 773

HB 3027: Regional Water Planning Group Meetings Subject to Open Meeting Rules

Requires that all regional water planning group meetings be subject to Texas open meeting and public information laws.

Texas Impact supports an open and transparent water planning process. All Texans need to understand Texas' water needs and challenges. Our regional planning process is intended to involve all stakeholders, but it can be challenging for everyday Texans to participate. Water policy often is technical and complex. Maximizing the transparency and clarity of the process and the information planners are considering will help more Texas water stakeholders participate effectively.

Action Steps: Call or write members of House Government Transparency and Operation and urge them to pass the bill out of committee.

HB 2948: Development of an Interregional Water Planning Council (IWPC)

Requires that each regional water planning group nominate one or more members for appointment to the IPWC during each five-year water planning cycle. The council will improve coordination among the sixteen regional water planning groups, facilitate dialogue regarding water management strategies, and share best practices regarding the operation of the regional water planning process.

Texas Impact supports the creation of the IPWC because collaboration between water planning regions can help to prevent conflicting priorities as they develop their respective five-year plans. Each region has unique water needs, demands and supply issues, but increasing communication between regions will go far in preventing parochial concerns from undermining the goals of the state water plan. Regions that may be far apart geographically may influence one another positively with pertinent information and best practices.

Action Steps:

Call or write members of House Natural Resources and urge them to report the bill out of committee.

HB 773: Climate Change Effects in State Agency Strategic Planning

Requires information on the impact of climate change to be included in the strategic plans of a number of state agencies. The information will include projected changes in weather, water availability, and climate variability.

Texas Impact supports this bill because it is vital for state government and its agencies to plan for the realities of global climate change. This bill would improve Texas' ability to meet human needs in times of natural disaster. It would add tools to the Legislature's toolbox, and increase coordination among researchers and practitioners. State agencies need to incorporate climate science in their planning to help those communities that rely most on state government.

Action Steps: Call or write members of House State Affairs and urge them to pass the bill out of committee.

House Government Transparency & Operations	
Rep Gary Elkins	(877) 861-2372
Rep Giovanni Capriglione	(877) 852-6423
Rep Larry Gonzales	(877) 400-2783
Rep Eddie Lucio	(877) 861-6898
Rep Matt Shaheen	(877) 863-2668
Rep Tony Tinderholt	(877) 754-0462
Rep Tomas Uresti	(877) 639-5204
House Natural Resources Committee	
Rep Lyle Larson	(877) 754-8247
Rep Dade Phelan	(877) 879-6026
Rep Trent Ashby	(877) 431-9843
Rep DeWayne Burns	(877) 445-7779
Rep James Frank	(877) 889-9761
Rep Kyle Kacal	(877) 398-7905
Rep Tracy King	(877) 526-7231
Rep Eddie Lucio, III	(877) 861-6898
Rep Poncho Nevarez	(877) 382-6278
Rep Four Price	(877) 438-2392
Rep Paul Workman	(877) 215-6324
State Affairs	
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