

# ★ 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.*

## **Bills in Calendars as of May 8, 2017 at 9 AM**

### **SUPPORT**

#### **HB 2395 by Collier**

*Testing for lead contamination in public school drinking water  
Filed with Committee Coordinator on May 2*

#### **HB 209 by Canales**

*Voter registration application cards at high schools  
Sent to Calendars May 1*

#### **HB 3324 by E. Rodriguez**

*Grocery access investment fund. Creates incentives for grocers to open in "food deserts."  
5/5/17*

### **Oppose**

#### **HB 1911 by White**

*Unlicensed carry. Houses of worship would have to buy new signs. Reduces criminal penalty.  
Sent to Calendars on April 26*

#### **HB 3081 by Capriglione**

*Prohibits and overturns local ordinances municipalities have passed to regulate payday and auto title lenders  
Sent to Calendars on May 1*

## **Bills on House Floor**

### **SUPPORT**

#### **HB 1864 by S. Thompson**

*Creates training programs for police and drivers on proper traffic stop procedures.  
On General State Calendar for May 9.*

### **Oppose**

#### **HB 3859 by Frank**

*Allows foster care providers to opt out of contracts provisions if the provider asserts a "sincerely held religious belief."  
E.g. – a foster parent could refuse to vaccinate a child, and have no legal duty to inform the state.  
General State Calendar for May 8.*

# Weekly Witness Call Scripts

Attached is a list of toll free numbers for Committee members referenced on the Action Alert. The full list of House and Senate members is at [www.texasimpact.org/action](http://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.

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## 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?*

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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](mailto: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*
- *Central Texas MFSA on behalf of Austin Region Justice for our Neighbors*

**For updated information, visit [www.texasimpact.org](http://www.texasimpact.org), follow us on Facebook or Twitter or contact [engagement@texasimpact.org](mailto: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>

<b>House Calendars Committee</b>	
Rep. Todd Hunter	(877) 338-8391
Rep. Donna Howard	(877) 251-2872
Rep. Roberto Alonzo	(877) 352-0220
Rep. Trent Ashby	(877) 431-9843
Rep. Byron Cook	(877) 431-7693
Rep. Sarah Davis	(877) 855-3443
Rep. Charlie Geren	(877) 686-9751
Rep. Helen Giddings	(877) 207-1547
Rep. Kyle Kacal	(877) 398-7905
Rep. Ken King	(877) 478-0875
Rep. Linda Koop	(877) 746-7561
Rep. Poncho Nevarez	(877) 382-6278
Rep. Chris Paddie	(877) 814-2492
Rep. Dade Phelan	(877) 879-6026
Rep. Toni Rose	(877) 440-7198