

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. —Margaret Mead



Legislative Engagement Group Recruitment Packet

2020-2021

- Are you committed to building strong civic engagement in Texas?
- Do you get frustrated when people complain about laws but don't vote or talk to their representatives?
- Does your faith and conscience call you to advocate for justice, freedom, and peace?

If your answer to these questions is "yes," consider joining a Texas Impact Legislative Engagement Group!

Texas Impact's Legislative Engagement Groups (LEGs) are teams of individuals who live in the same state House district, and commit to work together to build a relationship with their representative (and their staff) by providing information, sharing ideas, inviting the representative to events, and showing hospitality.

Texas Impact Legislative Engagement Group Sign-Up Form

House District_____

Legislator Name_____

Your Name_____

Address_____

City, State, Zip_____

Email_____

Phone_____

Your congregation/faith community_____

Other groups you belong to (faith or non-faith)_____

What is your job, career, or vocation?_____

Previous experience with legislative engagement_____

Why do you want to be part of a Legislative Engagement Group?_____

What issues are most important to you?_____

Are you on any of the following social media or messaging platforms:

☐Twitter ☐Facebook ☐Instagram ☐GroupMe ☐WhatsApp?

How often do you check email:

☐ hourly ☐ daily ☐ several times a week ☐ once a week ☐ occasionally

Do you use Google Docs? ☐Yes ☐No ☐I don't know what that is

What "today" communication do you prefer:

☐ email ☐ "Messengers" like Facebook or WhatsApp ☐ text ☐ phone

How much do you drive:

☐ daily ☐ regularly ☐ less frequently ☐ never

Thanks for joining a Legislative Engagement Group! Someone from Texas Impact will follow up with you shortly.

What is the time commitment for a LEG member?

Much of the LEG's work can be done through phone and email, and should not take more than an hour a week at most. In most months, most LEGs will only do one activity, but during intense periods like the legislative session it could be more.

The primary activity for LEGs is to meet with your state representative or a member of their staff on a regular monthly basis. A "meeting" might be as simple as stopping by the district office to drop off a flyer, or it could be a longer, scheduled conversation. No matter how formal or informal they are, the meetings should achieve three key goals:

1. Inform the representative and their staff members about faith-based programs and services in your community that could be resources for the legislator's constituents
2. Provide consistent, reliable information about policy issues on Texas Impact's agenda
3. Build name identity for Texas Impact and the members of the team

How long is the commitment for?

LEGs commit to serving year-round, not just during the legislative session, and most of the activities are done locally, not at the Capitol. LEG members should commit to remaining active in the LEG through the upcoming legislative session.

What resources and support does Texas Impact provide LEGs?

Texas Impact staff members resource LEGs with timely information, suggested activities, assistance with logistics, and ongoing skill-building. Texas Impact provides printable handouts for LEG members to take to their monthly meetings; email and phone scripts to help smooth communication; sample agendas for meetings and events; and monthly conference calls to answer your questions and give LEGs a chance to share their experiences with each other.

Who will be in my LEG?

Texas Impact is recruiting LEG members from our active membership. In addition, group members can invite friends and associates to participate. LEGs can have as few as two members, and as many as they want.

Who is the LEG leader?

Each LEG needs at least one group leader, who commits to

- being the primary point of contact for Texas Impact staff and the other group members
- making sure the LEG is represented on a monthly conference call, and
- making sure the LEG turns in a one-page monthly activity report.

Legislative Engagement Group Monthly Activity Report

Month:	Person Completing Form:
House District:	Representative:

Team Leader:

Team Members:

For each of the following, place a mark if your team did the activity this month, and provide a sentence or two about how it went.

☐ Delivered handout

☐ Had a conversation or meeting with a staff member (if so, give the staff member's name and title)

☐ Invited the legislator or their staff member to an event

☐ Held an event the legislator or their staff member attended

☐ Other

For each of the following items, please mark if it happened this month and provide a little information about it.

Did any of your group members leave, or did you get any new team members? Y N

Did your group accomplish all its goals for the month? Y N

Did your group get any feedback from your representative's office? Y N

Did your group do anything you felt especially proud of? Y N

Did your group make any presentations or give any information to other members of your community to help them be more civically engaged? Y N

Comments: