LGBTQ+ Rights & The 89th Session

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★ TEXAS IMPACT PEOPLE OF FAITH WORKING FOR JUSTICE

Previous Sessions

BILLS SPECIFIC TO TRANSGENDER PEOPLE

- SB 14 (2023) Banning gender-affirming care for minors
- SB15 (2023) Extends the ban on athlete participation to public colleges and universities
- SB 162 (2023) Would have required that all official documents bear a person's sex assigned at birth (FAILED - DE FACTO)
- SB 250 (2023) Sought to prohibit the use of public funds for gender-affirming care
- HB 25 (2021) Mandates that K-12 students in public schools play on the teams of their sex assigned at birth SB 1646 (2021) and HB 1399 (2021) - Would have classified the provision of gender-affirming care as child abuse (FAILED)

BILLS, LAWS, & CODE BROADLY IMPACTING THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

- HB 900 (2023) Removal of "sexually explicit" books from school libraries and suppresses discussion of LGBTQ+ topics
- **SB 12 (2023) -** Prohibits "sexually oriented" performances in public spaces where minors may be present, targeting drag shows
- SB 17 (2023) Abolishes Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) offices at public universities, impacting support for LGBTQ students.
- HB 3859 (2017) Allows child welfare providers to deny services, including adoption and foster care placements, based on "sincerely held religious beliefs."
- SB 2065 (2015) Allows religious organizations and clergy to refuse to perform marriages that conflict with their beliefs, including same-sex marriages
- Texas Religious Freedom Restoration Act (1999) -Allows individuals, including healthcare providers, to refuse to act in ways that "substantially burden" their free exercise of religion, unless the government can demonstrate a compelling interest.
- Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code (1973) -Criminalizes "homosexual conduct," specifically consensual same-sex sexual activity (UNCONSTITUTIONAL BUT NOT REMOVED)

THE MOST RECENT PRO-LGBTQ+ LEGISLATION

- The James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Act (2001) This law enhanced penalties for crimes motivated by bias, including bias based on sexual orientation. It does not specifically protect against violence based on real or perceived gender identity or expression.
- Various cities, counties, and municipalities have stated protections for some or all of the LGBTQ+ community in things such as employment and housing.

Where we are now

PRO-LGBTQ+ BILLS

- **HB 450** Honorable discharge
- **HB 607** Prohibits discrimination from healthcare providers
- HB 634 LGBT Seniors Housing Task Force
- HB 715 Prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity
- HB 729 Prohibits housing discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity
- HB 894 Mandates training about accepting ID of transgender voters
- **HB 903** Repeals the offense of homosexual conduct
- **HB 1111** Prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression
- **HB 1164** Prohibits public accommodation discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status
- HB 1193 Allows for some marriage license information to be held as confidential
- HB 1273 Human sexuality education in public schools to include affirming information regarding gender identity, expression, and sexual orientation
- HB 1365 Attempts to convert a child's gender identity or sexual orientation are marked "unprofessional conduct" and subject to discipline
- HB 1470 Task force to study legal/societal barriers to equality for transgender persons
- **HB 1559** Mandate of child's consent in intersex surgeries on minors

BILLS THAT IMPACT THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

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- **HB 167** DEI Initiatives Ban
- HB 186 Social media ban for minors
- **HB 229** Attempts to define a binary of male and female
- **HB 239** "Private Spaces" must align with sex designated at birth
- **HB 370** Removes event funding for athletic events that allow transgender people to compete in their gender rather than sex designated at birth
- **HB 403** Housing and placements of inmates and children must align with sex designated at birth
- HB 436 Bans DEI training, preference in hiring
- **HB 437** Housing and placements of inmate children must align with sex designated at birth
- **HB 477** Requires a sex marker on birth certificates to be filled as designated at birth
- **HB 497** Prevents school district employees from discussing human sexuality without the parents' written consent
- **HB 506** Bans educational contracts with organizations that are organized around issues of race, privilege, oppression, patriarchy, slavery, etc.
- HB 571 Lobbyist restrictions
- **HB 717** Right of public school employees to engage in religious speech or prayer
- **HB 778** Requires health insurance companies to cover reversals of gender-affirming care for transgender persons.

BILLS THAT IMPACT THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

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- **HB 789** Requirement of parental consent for psychiatric testing in schools
- **HB 796** Establishes a committee to review the ways that the federal government challenges the sovereignty of Texas
- HB 843 Binary sex definitions broadly for government code
- **HB 847** -Prohibits the use of public funds for gender reassignment
- HB 855 Penalizes pharmacists for dispensing drugs for off-label use
- **HB 938** Minors who view drag shows are able to seek damages against drag queens
- **HB 976** -Civil penalty for instructing on sexual orientation or gender identity in public schools
- **HB 980** Requires a sex marker on birth certificates to be filled as designated at birth and in a binary fashion
- HB 1009 Ten Commandments displayed in public schools
- **HB 1012** Removes conditions on sale, distribution, or display of harmful content to a minor
- **HB 1014** Public school bathroom ban, bathroom selection determined by sex designated at birth, no accommodations
- **HB 1015** Public school bathroom ban, bathroom selection determined by sex designated at birth, no accommodations
- **HB 1016** Public school bathroom ban with criterion for accommodations
- **HB 1075** -Minors who view drag shows are able to seek damages against drag queens
- HB 1084 IVF restrictions

BILLS THAT IMPACT THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

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- HB 1088 Statute of limitations for gender-affirming care liability
- **HB 1106** Refusal to acknowledge a child's sexual orientation, gender identity, name, pronouns, etc. are not considered abuse or neglect
- **HB 1123** Requirement for physical examination and biological testing of interscholastic athletes to confirm designated sex
- **HB 1137** Parents Rights Handbook
- HB 1158 Written consent of parents required for human sexuality instruction
- HB 1521 Prohibition on DEI initiatives and hiring
- HB 1655 Public schools employees prohibited from assisting students with social transition, honoring name/pronouns
- **HJR 92** Constitutional amendment for parents rights regarding their children's' education
- HCR 16 Affirms that fatherhood is essential to child development
- SB 80 Texas sovereignty act
- SB 84 Defines binary sex for government documents
- SB 93 Texas Medical Board complaint process changes
- SB 113 Public school parental consent for psychological testing
- SB 115 Civil liability for gender modification procedures
- SB 116 Statute of limitations for liability related to gender mod drugs
- **SB 126** Prevents studies of child sexual behavior in public schools
- SB 240 "Private Spaces" must align with sex designated at birth
- SB 689 DEI office ban in governmental entities

The 89th - Advocacy

What is our strategy?

1. Watching where/if bills get referred

Committees

Senate

- State Affairs
- Criminal Justice
- Education



Committees

House

- State Affairs
- Public Education
- Higher Education
- Health and Human Services
- Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence
- Youth Health & Safety, Select
- Criminal Jurisprudence
- Juvenile Justice & Family Issues

What is our strategy?

- 1. Watching where/if bills get referred
- 2. Show up & Testify

What is our strategy?

- 1. Watching where/if bills get referred
- 2. Show up & Testify
- Register our opposition to bills - do it early and when it is being heard
- 4. Timing is everything

Good vs. Bad

96% did not pass

Good Bills - 145

Bad Bills - 160

