



Background on the Second Special Session

On August 15, 2025, Governor Greg Abbott called a second special session of the Texas legislature. This followed an unsuccessful first special session that ended early due to House Democrats' departure, preventing a quorum in the House. As a result, no legislation passed and was pushed to the second special session. RAC-TX is organizing against SB 8/HB 52, anti-transgender legislation which would require people to use restrooms that match their birth gender and fine violating institutions up to \$25,000. As of August 19, SB 8 passed the Senate and HB 52 is awaiting a committee hearing. We are calling on elected officials to reject the legislation.

How to Use this Resource Guide

RAC-TX developed this resource guide to help Texans petition their elected officials to vote against the anti-transgender bathroom bill. You can take part in our efforts with this resource guide.

Tell the House Committee on State Affairs to vote NO on HB 52. You can use our letter template below to submit a comment on HB 52 when it is scheduled for a hearing at this [website](#). You can also email or call committee members directly whose votes are critical with the contact information below. These are the representatives we recommend reaching out to because we anticipate they are currently supportive of HB 52.

Letter Template

Dear Representative [NAME],

My name is [YOUR NAME]. I am a member of [YOUR CONGREGATION] and live in [YOUR CITY]. I urge you to oppose HB 52. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed “inspectors” to harass those who don’t fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

The dangers of this legislation are clear. Research shows that bathroom restrictions harm transgender people through harassment and violence. Particularly among transgender and nonbinary youth, this legislation puts them at risk of depression and suicide.

This bill failed when it came before the legislature in 2017. When Odessa passed a similar measure last year, it was abandoned after they found the legislation cannot be enforced. Entertaining this bill distracts your attention from more pressing issues while escalating the risk of severely violating the bodily autonomy of Texans.

The Jewish tradition teaches that every person is created *b’tzelem Elohim* – in the image of God. That belief calls us to respect each person and celebrate the beauty of each person as their full self. HB 52 seeks to marginalize and demonize, rather than cherish and uplift.

Texans have made it clear that they oppose this legislation. Please oppose HB 52 and do not vote it out of committee.

Sincerely,
[NAME]

State Affairs Committee Contact Information

Rep. Ken King: ken.king@house.texas.gov | (512) 463-0736

Rep. Drew Darby: drew.darby@house.texas.gov | (512) 463-0331

Rep. Charlie Geren: charlie.geren@house.texas.gov | (512) 463-0610

Rep. Ryan Guillen: ryan.guillen@house.texas.gov | (512) 463-0416

Rep. Lacey Hull: lacey.hull@house.texas.gov | (512) 463-0727

Rep. John W. McQueeney: john.mcqueeney@house.texas.gov | (512) 463-0608

Rep. Will Metcalf: will.metcalf@house.texas.gov | (512) 463-0726

Rep. Dade Phelan: dade.phelan@house.texas.gov | (512) 463-1000

Rep. John T. Smithee: john.smithee@house.texas.gov | (512) 463-0702