



CAPITOL Action Report

Texas Actions for the Week!

Public Education ACTION!

SB 3, the Voucher bill was stopped in the House by an amendment to the budget! It is a great week to call your House Representative and thank them for supporting Texas Public Schools and Opposing Vouchers!

[Here is the list of 103 Representatives who voted Yea or and 44 who voted Nay on the amendment.](#) Thank the Yeas! Texas is not funding Vouchers this session!

Women's Health ACTION!

FIVE bills that effectively limit or make more burdensome women's access to safe, legal abortions have now passed the Senate and been sent to the House where they will be considered in Committees. If you are outraged at this onslaught, contact your state representative NOW and express your opposition to these bills and ask the representative to focus on enacting measures that actually improve the lives of women and children instead of putting further restrictions on women's private medical decisions and options. Call your Representative and tell them to OPPOSE ALL bills that limit access to safe, legal abortions and quality health care!

[Click here for details of bills.](#)

Pay Day & Auto Title Loan ACTION!

Over 40 Texas cities have passed city ordinances regulating payday loans and auto title loans. These hard-won ordinances meant to protect consumers are now under threat. This coming Tuesday, April 11th, two bills (**[HB 3018](#)** Capriglione and **[HB 3947](#)** Laubenberg) will be heard in two separate committees that would gut the ability of cities to rein in these predatory practices. Click here for: **[Who to call and what to say](#)**

LWVUS ACTION for the spring recess! We need to send a strong message over the next few weeks to **[#ProtectOurCare](#)**: Do not take away our care. Stop trying to repeal the Affordable Care Act. **[Use the LWVUS 2017 Spring Recess tools to support health care!](#)**

Support the Capitol Action Report!

News from The Capitol
By Grace Chimene, Vice President

Good News! Read what happened when... **[Dan Patrick asked for a House vote on school choice. He got it.](#)**

It might be raining in Texas! The House included some Rainy Day funds! [The Brief: It took 15 hours, but the House passed a budget.](#)

Bad News! Just say No! to a constitutional convention! [HJR 39](#) (Miller) and [HJR 44](#) (Workman) Two bad bills promoting a constitutional convention are being heard on Thursday at 8:00am in the State & Federal Power & Responsibility, Select Committee.

Social Media Actions!



SUPPORT WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE

LWVTEXAS.ORG



What to Say

Women's Reproductive Choice

- Abortion is a safe medical procedure.
- There is nothing more private to a woman than the right to regulate her own fertility. Politicians should not dictate her reproductive choices.
- The vast majority of women who have an abortion do so in their first trimester.
- Medical abortions have less than 0.5% risk of serious complications and do not affect a woman's health or future ability to become pregnant or give birth.
- Without access to safe, legal abortions, women and girls will obtain them illegally in back-alley facilities where their lives will be endangered.
- People who oppose abortions based on religious grounds do not have the right to impose their religious views on others



SUPPORT WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE SAFETY NET

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What to Say

Women's Healthcare

- Ensure funding for women's preventive healthcare, including contraception, can fully meet the need among low-income, uninsured women.
- Identify areas with a shortage of qualified family planning providers and develop strategies to increase provider participation in the state's women's health programs.
- Ensure women have access to the full range of FDA-approved contraceptives of their choice, including the most effective forms of contraception – implants and intrauterine devices (IUDs).
- Increase continuity of care for women by eliminating barriers to preventive healthcare access.
- Maximize the ability of the women's healthcare safety net to reach more women and save Texas taxpayer dollars.

Download and share these graphics on social media - encourage your friends to share also!

LEAGUE PRIORITY ISSUES:

Click on the links below to learn more about issues you are interested in.

Voter Rights and Election Laws in Texas: Let your representative know by a personal call, letter, or email that you **support Online Voter Registration**. Ask your county officials to contact their representatives and share the impact passage would have on their budgets and operations, as well as the integrity of the voter registration rolls.

Women's Health and Reproductive Choice: see Texas Actions!

Public Education: See Texas Actions!

OTHER UPDATED TEXAS ISSUES:

Air Quality/Climate Change Keep up with the bills!

Behavioral Health We are finding many BH bills to support and oppose!

Child Abuse and Neglect April is National Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month! Find a list of statewide activities to promote the protection of our State's most precious assets: our children.

Drug Laws and Policies Find out where the drug law bills are in the legislative process.

Financing State Government: The Budget and Taxes Find out about the Budget fun and amendments here! Lots of important decisions are made.

Human Trafficking Today SB 128 was passed with only Yea votes in the Senate. SB128 is .Relating to the inclusion of education and training regarding human trafficking in the curriculum of commercial driver's license training programs offered by public junior colleges and career schools and colleges and to certain requirements for commercial driver's licenses.

Land Use CONTINUING ACTION NEEDED: PROTECT WATER QUALITY IN THE HILL COUNTRY. **Click here to sign the petition** to stop discharge of wastewater over the Edwards Aquifer.

Open Government The Texas Senate passed two major bills on March 28 that would restore public access to government records.

Payday & Auto Title Loans in Texas Has actions!

Transportation Read about a great bill to put election information on highway messaging signs.

Water Today's update is on the bills concerning less common sources of water: rainwater, treated effluent, desalination, and stormwater. Rainwater harvesting is a very valuable conservation tool, especially in the drier parts of the state, and League policy supports conservation of our water resources.

Other issues we are following...

Hey, Texas Political Nerds!

Watch and share our weekly LWV-TX: **One Minute Capitol Action YouTube videos!**

View the budget process live! **The House live broadcasts & Senate live broadcasts.**

Find more budget fun at the **Texas Tribune** or the **Center for Public Policy Priorities.**

Capitol Calendar

April 22 - **March for Science**

April 29 - **Austin People's Climate March & Rally**

June 11 - **LGBTQ March**

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