



CAPITOL Action Report

Texas Actions for the Week!

Empowering all Texans to engage in a more responsible and responsive democracy

Women's Health ACTION!

Tell the members of the House Calendars Committee to **STOP the "Liar's Bill"!** Do not advance HB 434! Use this [link](#) to send emails directly to Calendars Committee members. Check out social media actions and share the the [Capitol Action Minute](#) video.

HB 434 (Simmons), a dangerous bill that eliminates the “wrongful birth” cause of action and allows health professionals to withhold information from patients about the health of the fetus, thus imposing unreasonable restrictions on a woman’s right to make an informed decision, in consultation with her health care providers and family, about whether to have an abortion – has been reported favorably, as substituted, out of the House State Affairs Committee and will now go to the Calendars Committee. (NOTE that **SB 25 (Creighton)**, the companion bill to HB 434 has passed the Senate and been sent to the House.) See [Action Alert](#) and for more complete information check out the [Women's Health and Reproductive Choice advocacy blog](#) on the [LWV-TX website](#).

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!

LWVUS ACTION for the spring recess!

The Affordable Care Act is more popular than ever. Call your representative and tell them to [#ProtectOurCare](#) Call: 866-426-2631.

[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!

Why are we pumped up and exhausted? Last week we provided **14 testimonies** on **six different Issues** and registered on **44 bills!** Give a great big cheer to the Issue Chairs and Capitol Corps volunteers who work so hard supporting League positions.

YTD Advocacy work: 47 Testimonies, 184 bills acted on, 159 legislative visits

Way to go! Keep on taking action!

Bad News!

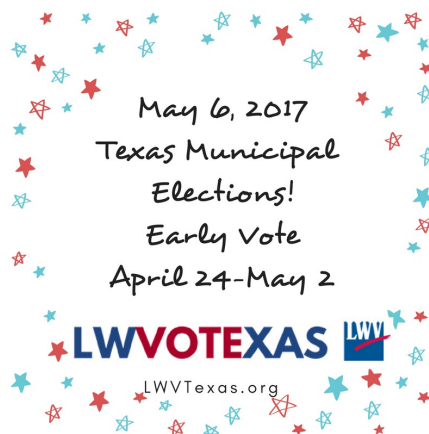
What the heck is going on with the Anti-Sanctuary City bills? [House committee advances scaled-down "sanctuary cities" bill.](#)

Why we support the U.S. Constitution and Oppose the Article V Constitutional Convention Bills? Federal powers are used to protect our right to vote, to advance civil rights, to provide for labor and environmental regulations. Want more? See our [testimony.](#)

Why does financing Public Education cost some cities so much more? See Ross Ramsey's explanation of the Robin Hood system which pays for our public schools in Texas. [Analysis: A state school finance system that can choke a city's growth.](#)

Social Media Actions!

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



**Oppose Bill
Allowing Health
Care Providers to
Lie to Pregnant
Women**

LWVTexas.org



What to Say

STOP HB 434!

- A woman has the right to the accurate, truthful advice and counsel of her doctor when it comes to decisions about her pregnancy and birthing options.
- HB 434 jeopardizes the doctor-patient relationship by allowing doctors to omit critical medical information from conversations with their patients.
- Eliminating the "wrongful birth" claim deprives parents of a child born with severe defects of the right to sue for monetary damages to cover the lifetime costs of caring for such a child.
- The 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees freedom of religion. Those who oppose abortion do not have the right to impose their religious views on others.

Tweet: Stop HB 434 - The Liars Bill! Do not allow healthcare providers to lie to pregnant patients! [#txlege](#).

Facebook: Take ACTION TODAY to Stop HB 434 - The Liars Bill! Do not allow healthcare providers to lie to pregnant patients! A woman has the right to the accurate, truthful advice and counsel of her doctor when it comes to decisions about her pregnancy and birthing options.

YouTube: Share this week's [Capitol Action Minute video!](#)

LEAGUE PRIORITY ISSUES:

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

[Voter Rights and Election Laws in Texas:](#) Where was the League Voting Rights Issue Chair when the Corpus Christi US District Court ruled Texas intentionally discriminated with the 2011 voter ID law? Sitting in the House Elections Committee in a public hearing on the

current Voter ID bills with other voting rights advocates and others not so supportive of voting rights.

Women's Health and Reproductive Choice: See Texas Actions! What is going on with SB 1599 (Miles) that addresses the alarming rate of maternal mortality in Texas?

Public Education: What bills are we following?

OTHER UPDATED TEXAS ISSUES:

Air Quality/Climate Change What is going on with the bills?

Behavioral Health Which bills do the LWV Texas support?

Child Abuse and Neglect What is your community doing for National Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month?

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

Financing State Government: The Budget and Taxes What happens when the Senate and the House budget committee meets for reconciliation?

Land Use SIGN THE PETITION to stop discharge of wastewater over the Edwards Aquifer!

Transportation Why have 80% of House Transportation bills that the Issue Chair is following not yet been scheduled for a hearing?

Other issues we are following...

Capital Punishment

Child Health

Drug Laws and Policies

Early Childhood

Equal Opportunity/Income Assistance

Gun Safety

Hazardous Waste

Human Trafficking

Immigration:

Juvenile Justice

Open Government

Payday & Auto Title Loans in Texas

Redistricting

Natural Resources

Transportation

Water

Hey, Texas Political Nerds!

Watch and share our weekly LWV-TX: **[One Minute Capitol Action YouTube videos!](#)**

View committee meetings 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 20 - **[Texas Impact Interfaith Advocacy Day](#)**

April 22 - [March for Science](#)

April 29 - [Austin People's Climate March & Rally](#)

June 11 - [LGBTQ March](#)

Support the Capitol Action Report!