

From:
To:
Subject: Indivisible TX Lege Weekly Actions
Date: Sunday, February 7, 2021 9:07:24 PM

Hi y'all,

If it feels like the [session is off to a slow start](#), well, relative to most years, it is! Now that House Committee assignments have been made and Governor Abbott has specified his emergency priorities, work will start to pick up. And just because the pace seems slow, that doesn't mean that bad bills won't need our attention and pushback. We'll [keep you posted](#) on what you need to know and when! Don't forget that Senate Redistricting Committee Hearings are still underway. There are only a few more weeks left to [sign up to provide testimony!](#)

1. Read and Respond

Read Governor Abbott's 5 Emergency Priorities, share them with your friends, and let your Rep and Senator know what your priorities are. During session, only emergency priorities designated by the Governor can be voted on within the first 60 days of session. Those priorities, announced last Monday, had no mention of COVID-19 relief, the recession, racial justice reform, or access to healthcare, making me wonder, "What world is he living in?"

Read the priorities [here](#); and an editorial version [here](#)

Make a list of what you think the priorities should be

Share them with friends and your [Rapid Response 5](#)

Call or write your [Rep, Senator](#), and [Governor Abbott's office](#) (512-463-2000) to share your priorities

2. Call

Call your State Rep, Senator, Governor Abbott, and Texas Education Agency Commissioner Mike Morath and urge them to cancel STAAR testing in 2021. Kids and teachers have been through the ringer this year. Requiring in-person STAAR testing this year is not only irresponsible, but may be dangerous for some students and educators.

Click [here for a full CTA including phone numbers and scripts](#)

3. Review

Review the recently announced State House Committee assignments. Last week, Speaker Phelan announced the committee assignments. You might remember that bills first get assigned to committee, and then committees have the power to pass bills through, vote them down, or sit on them until the session ends. Committees have a lot of power! And in the TX Lege, we are encouraged to reach out to committee members, even if we are not a constituent. Given the priority to "election integrity", and that the chair of the [Elections Committee](#) is Briscoe Cain, we suggest you **save those numbers** in your phone. We will need a full court press to protect and improve voting rights in Texas! [Redistricting](#), [Public Health](#), and [State Affairs](#) committees look to have high priority bills in front of them also.

Review: [2021 State House Committee Assignments](#)

Read: [Texas Tribune: Speaker Phelan shakes up Texas House leadership with new chairs on key committees](#)

For more: [Texas Civil Rights Project: More on Briscoe Cain, a twitter thread](#)

Watch: [Indivisible TX Lege Live Reactions to House Committee Assignments](#)

4. Donate

Donate to Indivisible TX Lege to help us improve our work in Texas. Our group is run fully by volunteers across Texas. Help us change the narrative and help educate more Texans about the importance and power of our state government. Your donation will help fund things like our paid zoom account, one-pagers for Rep and Senator office visits, and an upgraded Action Network so we can improve the formatting of this email!

[Donate here!](#)

That's it for this week. Thanks for reading and sharing this newsletter!

Much love,
Marieke
Indivisible TX Lege

Action Network



Sent via Action Network, a free online toolset anyone can use to organize. [Click here to sign up](#) and get started building an email list and creating online actions today.

Action Network is an open platform that empowers individuals and groups to organize for progressive causes. We encourage responsible activism, and do not support using the platform to take unlawful or other improper action. We do not control or endorse the conduct of users and make no representations of any kind about them.

You can unsubscribe or update your email address or change your name and address by [changing your subscription preferences here](#).