

**From:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Action Needed! Indivisible TX Lege Weekly Action Newsletter  
**Date:** Sunday, April 18, 2021 10:47:46 PM

---

Hi y'all,

There is a full on attack on trans' rights, abortion rights, and voting rights in our state government. We need you to take action as often as you can this week to push back. The longer we can delay these awful bills, the better chance we have of stopping them during the regular session (which you may remember ends on May 31).

Thankfully, there are some good bills gaining traction too, so it's not all negative calls to make this week!

We've added a [copy of our bill tracker on the website](#), and it's still [available on google docs](#) if you prefer that. Hope to see you at our Action Banking this week on [Tuesday](#) and [Thursday](#) at 1PM-3PM and looking forward to seeing all of the actions you've taken this week after you log them on our [CTA tracker!](#)

#### **1. Monday - Testify and Call to SUPPORT HB 321**

**Call and testify in writing or at the House Ways and Means Committee hearing on MONDAY 4/19 at 10 AM to SUPPORT HB 321 that would repeal the luxury tax on menstrual hygiene products.**

Last week we asked you to call and push for a hearing on this bill. Now this week the hearing is happening! [Everything you need including background, phone numbers, links for written testimony, and scripts can be found on our website.](#) Let's push this bill and end period poverty!

#### **2. Tuesday - Testify and Call to SUPPORT Redistricting Reform**

**Call and testify in writing or at the House Redistricting Committee hearing on TUESDAY 4/20 at 8 am to SUPPORT HJR 0127 and HB 3094 that would create an Independent Citizen Redistricting Commission**

Take hyperpartisanship out of redistricting! The House Redistricting Committee will be reviewing redistricting reform legislation on Tuesday 4/20 at 8 am. Virtual testimony is being accepted, but individuals must register 24 hours in advance - so register by Monday morning at 8 am! In person and written testimony are also accepted, as are calls to committee members. Let's put the push on all fronts.

**For more:** [lvv.org: Voters Should Choose Their Representatives, Not the Other Way Around](http://lvv.org: Voters Should Choose Their Representatives, Not the Other Way Around)

**Sign up:** [Provide virtual testimony](#)

**Write:** [Provide Written Testimony](#)

**Call:** [House Redistricting Committee](#) (in the "House" tab, scroll down until you

find Redistricting. Rows are organized by Committee, alphabetically)

**Say:** "Hi, Rep \_\_\_\_\_. I'm calling today to ask you to vote for HB 3094 and its creating legislation HJR 0127. Together, these two bills would create a non-partisan, independent transparent commission that respects all Texans' needs in their representatives. Legislators who stand to benefit from districts gerrymandered to their favor should not be drawing the maps. I also favor HB 0282 and HJR 121. and HB 1025 and HJR 0059 both as sets. My zip code is \_\_\_\_\_. Thank you for working for Texans!"

### **3. Tuesday - Testify and Call to OPPOSE attacks on Trans Youth**

**Testify at the House Public Ed Committee 4/20 at 8 AM to stop attacks on Trans kids, and Call the House Calendar Committee to DELAY HB 1399**

SB 29's (anti-trans athletes) House companion HB 4042 has a hearing in the [House Public Education Committee Tuesday 4/20 at 8 AM](#). Show up to testify in person, provide written testimony, and call committee members to urge them to OPPOSE HB 1399. HB 1399 (bans healthcare providers from providing gender-affirming medical care) passed out of committee last week. Please call every member of the calendar committee plus your State Rep and urge them to DELAY scheduling HB 1399 for floor debate. These anti-trans bills do nothing but hurt an already vulnerable population in our state. If they pass, Texas kids will be hurt.

**Comment on 4042:** [Provide written testimony to OPPOSE HB 4042](#)

**Call on 4042:** [House Public Education Committee](#) (in the "House" tab, scroll down until you find Public Education. Rows are organized by Committee, alphabetically)

**For more:** [Our Previous CTA on SB 29, Companion to HB 4042](#)

**Call on 1399:** [House Calendar Committee](#)

**For more:** [Our Previous CTA on HB 1399](#)

### **4. Join us and Learn! Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday**

**Join us for a great, informative Youtube and Facebook Live event Tuesday, 4/20 7 PM and 4/21 at 9 AM and 7 PM to learn more about The Budget, then Watch Budget Night Live with us on Thursday night 4/22**

Follow the money. Budgets might sound boring, but money is power. We'll share an overview of what the budget is, what "Budget Night" is and how it works, and how the budget impacts issues important to you. We'll be joined by several legislators to cover topics such as criminal justice (4/20), natural resources (4/20), health and human services (4/21 AM), and public ed (4/21 PM). On Thursday night, join us at our Budget Night Watch Party live on Facebook and [Youtube](#) to follow along the Texas House's Budget Night. We promise we'll explain what's going on!

**Tuesday and Wednesday Night Discussion:** [Budget Night Preview! 4/20 and 4/21 at 7 PM](#)

**Wednesday Morning Discussion:** [Budget Night Preview - Focus on Medicaid Expansion 4/21 at 9 AM](#)

**Budget Night Watch Party:** [4/22 at 6 PM](#)

## **5. Call to SUPPORT Medicaid Expansion**

### **Call Speaker Phalen at 512-463-1000 to push for him to Expand Medicaid**

Last week, the Biden Administration rescinded a Trump-era waiver of 1115 that did not comply with the rules. As far as I understand it, this action should push Texas to expand medicaid sooner, and while the Lege is still in session this year. Join [Sick of it Texas](#) in calling the Speaker to push Medicaid Expansion through the Texas House this session. Medicaid Expansion will have a huge savings in the Texas budget if it gets passed, so lets make as much noise as we can ahead of Budget Night on 4/22.

**More info and a script:** [Our Previous CTA on HB 1741 and HB 3871](#)

**Read:** [stateofreform.com: Senator Nathan Johnson Explains the 1115 Waiver Decision](#)

## **6. Keep Calling to SUPPORT the George Floyd Act - HB 88**

### **Call the House Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee to Call for a Hearing on the George Floyd Act - HB 88**

[This CTA is ongoing](#), but with everything going on in the country right now: the [trial on the responsibility in George Floyd's death](#), [Daunte Wright and Matthew Williams' deaths at the hands of police](#), and the [pepper spraying of Lt. Caron Nazario](#), it's past time for change to happen in Texas. How many more Texans have to die before we pass legislation to stop police brutality? Even if we don't pass the bill this session, we can make enough headway to pass it in the following session. So for this week, and every week until the end of session, when you hear people discussing recent, tragic events like the ones listed above, ask them if they've heard about HB 88, the George Floyd act. And then ask them if they've called their State Rep to SUPPORT the bill. If they haven't, help them make the call!

**For more:** [Our CTA to SUPPORT HB 88 The George Floyd Act](#)

## **7. Call to PROTECT Safe, Legal Abortion Access**

### **Call the House Calendar Committee to DELAY Anti-Abortion Bills HB 1515, HB 3218, HB 2313, and HB 2337**

A whole slew of anti-abortion bills passed out of committee in the House last week. Many of these bills are the same bills that already passed out of the Senate, so our window to stop these bills is getting very narrow. HB 1515 is the Heartbeat Bill that would essentially make abortion illegal since most people don't know they're pregnant by the time a heartbeat can be detected (6 weeks). HB 3218 requires a pregnancy to go to term even if it's not viable. HB 2313 creates a database of people who have had an abortion. HB 2337 restricts providers from providing drug-induced abortions. These bills will result in Texans resorting to unsafe, back alley abortions, putting their health and very lives at risk for no good reason. Floor debate may start later this week, so call early and often for a delay! More information and scripts are in [our previous CTA](#). Keep an eye on our website for more actions this week.

**Call:** [House Calendar Committee](#)

## **8. Call to SUPPORT HCR 65**

**Call your State Rep to SUPPORT HCR 65 that would support a statewide network of walking and biking trails**

A 2018 study by TXDOT presents a compelling case to invest in a statewide network of paths which would provide both economic and social benefit. Here is a chance for our state government to support an initiative that will improve both our lives and our economy. [Read more about the study and find a script you can say to your Rep developed by our fantastic Environment Huddle](#). Remember, if you have personal stories to add while you're calling about a bill, that helps make your call even more impactful!

**9. Call to SUPPORT HB 2465 and HB 2954**

**Call your State Rep to SUPPORT HB 2465 and call House Public Education Committee to SUPPORT HB 2954**

Both of these bills are geared at addressing mental health needs for students, specifically expanding mental health support services to elementary schools. HB 2465 is out of committee already, so please call your State Rep for a YES vote. HB 2954 had a committee hearing last week, but has not been voted out of committee yet. Please call the committee and encourage them to vote it favorably out of committee. [Everything you need to know about the bill can be found on our website thanks to our Education Huddle!](#)

**10. Call to OPPOSE HB 1927**

**Call your Senator to OPPOSE HB 1927 that allows permitless carry in Texas**

Y'all, after a rash of mass shootings in the US, I cannot fathom how our State House of Representatives thought that passing HB 1927, a bill that allows people to carry a gun without a license, was the right thing to do. But they did. Since the bill is already out of the House, the only places we can stop it are in the Senate and then at the Governor's desk. Both will be tough to persuade, but we have to try. Or again, more Texans will die. (Notice a theme?)

**For more:** [Houston Public Media: Texas House Gives Initial Approval to Allow People to Carry a Gun without a License](#)

**Say:** "Hi, I'm a constituent of Senator \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling today to urge them to oppose HB 1927. We've seen so many people who shouldn't have guns in the first place kill others or kill themselves. Why in the world would we make it even easier for people to get guns? [Tell your personal story here] Texas Police also oppose this bill. If the Senator claims to back the blue, I hope they'll do the right thing and vote NO on this bill. Thank you for helping to protect Texans and our law enforcement officers by stopping this bill. My zip code is \_\_\_\_\_."

Don't forget to check on our [website](#), [Facebook page](#), [twitter](#), and [instagram](#) for new calls to action throughout the week. It's busy season at the lege! And please remember to thank all of the great issue huddles who develop content for each of the actions that you see in this newsletter, and our Comms Team who edits and posts CTAs. They are selfless heroes who volunteer to keep track of all of the bills that will impact our lives and tell us what we can do about them. It's great knowing there are people fighting the good fight with you. Together we WILL make a positive impact on our state. We must!

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](#).