

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 2045

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON URBAN AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: March 31, 2021 10:30 AM - or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted

Neil Thomas, Rev Dr

Cathedral of Hope United Church of Christ

Dallas, TX

I write in support of this bill. As a person of faith and the senior pastor of a congregation that has a long history supporting the LGBTQ community, it is imperative that support and special provision is offered to those who are aging. It is often a struggle for many to "come out", only to have to hide again in their aging years due to inadequate provisions in housing needs of our senior population. There are unique needs in this community that should be taken care of and the creation of a task force will both evaluate and alert us to those needs - thus, providing the appropriate care. Thank you.

bob browning

Self

PLANO, TX

Such a task force is not needed and will waste money. Please vote this down!!

Bruce Burton

Texas values

Austin, TX

Vote Against

Cindy Forson

Texas republicans

Georgetown, TX

Strongly oppose!

Aimee Barlow

self/engineer/housewife in family of 4 voters who agree

houston, TX

I am deeply concerned about multiple "Ban the Bible" bills, like HB 191 and HB 2045, that have been filed that would attack my right to live out my faith according to biblical beliefs and my conscience.

Hiding under the disguise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create dangerous government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially it's teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply would face fines, possible jail time, and other criminal charges. This is wrong.

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I ask that you oppose all bills that seek to criminalize the free expression of biblical values and give special protections based on "sexual orientation and gender identity."

Please support and publicly champion bills to protect religious freedom and biblical values.

Thank you for your time and service.

Brett Chancey

self

League City, TX

Why would you allow only members of this committee to be of a single community? Why can't everyone be involved?

Joe Rabalais

self

Baytown, TX

This bill seems to be an unwise use of money, created by a special interest group to expand and create favorable conditions for a very small group of the population, with Tax payer dollars. Using the "race" and "gender identity inequality" wording to create inflammatory sentiment if they don't get everything they want, no matter what it does to anyone else, or how much it costs.

Beth Banning

The Heart of a Woman

Carrollton, TX

Please dissolve this bill immediately. It clearly encroaches on the freedom of religion and free speech.

Dolores Guest

Self

Hewitt, TX

Please oppose HB 2045

Candice Linn

Self, Self-employed

Colleyville, TX

I am against HB 2045 and the use of taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191. Taxpayer dollars should NOT be spent this way. Please oppose this.

Suzanne Fisher

self - retired

Orange Grove, TX

Vote: NO

By defining a group of people -- it is DISCRIMINATING against everyone else. Every senior citizen has the right to have

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housing needs evaluated - not just those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning. If you truly want to be EQUAL then everyone should be considered - not a select group of people.

JEANNE HORN

self

Schertz, TX

I do not want my taxpayer dollars to go to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies. Their decision to follow in this lifestyle should not be funded by our tax dollars.

Colleen Fulkerson

'self' 'retired'

Brazoria, TX

As a concerned citizen of the state of Texas I strongly oppose HB 2045 by Rep. Ray Lopez. Hiding under the disguise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, this bill would create new government power to ban the free expression of Christian beliefs, especially biblical teaching on marriage and sexuality. HB 2045 would use mine and my fellow Texans taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191. This is appalling. I stand firm in my Christian beliefs and oppose anyone and anything that would diminish them.

Jamie Tomlinson

Self

Grapevine, TX

I oppose bill HB 2045 because hiding under the disguise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create new government power to ban the free expression of Christian beliefs, especially biblical teaching on marriage and sexuality.

Leon & Patsy Willingham

Willingham

MINEOLA, TX

The present housing law in Texas are adequate to address any needs of all citizens and there is no need to have a task force to evaluate SIN. Please defeat and kill this at once.

Jeanine Brazell

Self. Housewife

Mansfield, TX

Dear Committee,,

I am firmly in support of every person's free will to make their own life choices but I'm adamantly against trying to force it into our schools, government, private businesses, laws, etc. The VAST majority of Texans believe marriage is between a man and woman and there are only 2 recognized genders, men and women and they should be distinct.

Thank you for not trying to force values of a tiny minority on the overwhelming majority. We notice what you are doing and you represent us, not a political or social agenda.

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Thank you.
Jeanine. (Native born Texan)

Diane Winterboer
Self
Tolar, TX

Please oppose this bill.

VERONICA NAVON
Self
HOUSTON, TX

Sexual orientation should not prioritize who gets or doesn't get housing assistance. This is nonsensical.

Clifford Hogue, Lt Col, USAF (Retired)
Mr.
Cibolo, TX

Creating a task force made up solely of the LGBTQ community results in a task force that is not diverse within its structure and discriminates against larger non-LGBTQ community that has different standards concerning moral issues.

Tammy Kreif
True Texas Project
Fort Worth, TX

Hiding under the guise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create new government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially it's teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply could face fines, possible jail time, and other charges.

Norman Ellefson
A citizen for Christian values
Rowlett, TX

A bill even being introduced like this is immoral and someone like the senators should be recalled

Chris Kreif
True Texas Project
Fort Worth, TX

Hiding under the guise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create new government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially it's teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply could face fines, possible jail time, and other charges.

Sammye Mauney
Gorman High School

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GORMAN, TX

Please vote against this

Ian McKEE

Self

Alvin, TX

I am asking you not to support HB 191 and HB 2045

Ryan Lauderdale

Self

Cypress, TX

I object to HB 2045, due to violations of the First Amendment, US Constitution, and move for its dismissal.

Cole Etheredge

Self

Keller, TX

Religious freedom is a pillar of our great country. Our protected freedoms are explicitly listed in the Constitution Bill of Rights and have been solidified again and again by the blood of Americans who fought to defend our rights. House Bills 191 and 2045 are in opposition to religious freedom and should be soundly rejected by all freedom-loving Americans.

Andrea Elliott

Self

Wylie, TX

I totally oppose this bill. Stop making special laws for special groups and treat all the same!

Cynthia Frey

Self

Garland, TX

I'm sick of all this gender bull. VOTE NO!!

Kyle LEYENDECKER

Self - Educator

Nederland, TX

Texas opposes HB2045!

Firstly, by creating a special LGBTQ task force you discriminate against everyone who is not LGBTQ. Why should preferential treatment be given to this one group of people?

Secondly, Texas does not stand for the LGBTQ movement and does not support its agenda which seeks to suppress the truth of nature and of nature's God. (Since the institution of marriage is ordained by God, it cannot be changed by Man and sexuality is

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assigned by God through biology and is unalterable.)

It is imperative that this measure be opposed!

Aloys Notzon

self

San Antonio, TX

OPPOSE: AS a Senior, i believe that all Seniors should be treated equally regardless of sexual preference and this bill does not provide that equality but rather gives protected status, therefore not equal status and should be opposed

Leslie Robertson, MR

SELF

Pasadena, TX

Vote to kill this Abomination on common decency. VOTE NO!

Larry Simmons

Self

Georgetown, TX

While Texas may have broadbased requirements, especially in the large metro areas, for all types of housing needs, there is no merit or reasonable justification for the creation of any task force which would serve such a small demographic target of the state's population.

Darinda Powell

Self

Bedford, TX

I am against this bill. It us discrmatory. All seniors dhoildbe evaluated equally

Cynthia And Dennis Grubb

Mr. and Mrs.

Dallas, TX

Seriously?!

Honestly - we have never heard of anything this crazy or this stupid! Stop wasting time focusing on this effort. We do not need a task force to explore this issue and spending tax payer dollars!! Get out of the business of interfering in everyone's sex life!! Let them deal with whatever their needs are regarding housing. Why does everything with the Democrats have to do with these LGBTQ issues? There is plenty of housing for everyone to go around. Move on to issues that affect all Texans and stop this ridiculousness.

Richard Husek

Self

Carrollton, TX

I would like to express my opposition to HB 2045. This bill and other laws and ordinances like it are directly opposed to the First

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Amendment allowing the free practice of religion. Please vote against this bill.

Barry Rodges, Mr.

Self

Bedford, TX

This bill not only stands counter to the morals of the people of Texas, it stands counter to reality itself. Put an end to any bill that supports the idiotic ideas of gender identity & expression. Stop ignoring the science of sex in exchange for woke policies. Sex is not mutable, men & women are different. Texans are still Bible-believing citizens. We won't stand for this nonsense.

Leah Sessum, Mrs

Self, retired

Mineral Wells, TX

I ask you to reject this particular Bill. While I can appreciate the effort to end discrimination, this bill would infringe upon those who maintain Christian biblical beliefs, ultimately denying them the right to freely practice those beliefs. A state that forces its citizens to adhere to policies that defile their moral conscience or consequently face fines, jail sentences etc., is nothing short of religious persecution and a violation of the First Amendment of the US Constitution.

As a 7th generation Texan and descendant of several American Revolutionary patriots, I ask you to honor the traditional moral values established by my ancestors. These moral values when nurtured as the norm will maintain TRUE liberty for all.

Pamela Wilkerson

Me

Jacinto City, TX

Using tax dollars to only help the LGBTQ community is ignoring other needs. If a task force is created it should help all peoples to find affordable housing.

Roger WURTELE

Torchlight Energy

Plano, TX

Policies in the best interest of all citizens require balanced representation in an study. The State of Texas must not promote the isolated agenda of any one group. That would be discriminatory against all other citizens.

George Dawes, Cpt

Retired

Tomball, TX

I am opposed to HB2045.

Sommer Lapitsky

SELF; LICENSED PROPERTY TAX CONSULTANT

ARLINGTON, TX

As your constituent, I am deeply concerned about multiple "Ban the Bible" bills like HB 191 and HB 2045 that have been filed

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& would attack my right to live out my faith according to biblical beliefs & my conscience. Hiding under the disguise of "sexual orientation & gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create dangerous government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially its teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply would face fines, possible jail time & other criminal charges. This is WRONG! I ask that you oppose all bills that seek to criminalize the free expression of biblical values & give special protections based on "sexual orientation & gender identity." Please support & publicly champion bills to protect religious freedom & biblical values. Thank you for your time & service.

Dolores Taylor

self

MISSOURI CITY, TX

This bill would use my taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191. I oppose this bill!

Jamon Hamilton

Self

Houston, TX

I oppose. This bill is an insult and lacks any judgment or common sense. Why is this bill even being brought up?

richard dye

retired

Pasadena, TX

No Task Force is needed as that group is a minute % of the population. That is wasting funds.

Harold Holmyard

Holmyard

Dallas, TX

HB 2045 by Rep. Ray Lopez apparently would use taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like what is in HB 191. Please do not pass this bill. I do not want my tax dollars enabling a non-representative group of citizens to devise policy that is dangerous to society.

Lydia Miller

Myself

Austin, TX

Please do not ban the Bible. It teaches to love our fellow man the way Jesus did. He loves everyone regardless of gender, race or any confusion.

Patty Adams

Adams Automotive

Houston, TX

To have this task force made up of ONLY LGBTQ members is insane. We must have equal members or Christians & Jews. The morality of these people groups are not the same. We will refuse the mandates pushed on us but this people.

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Caryl Kane

Self

Wharton, TX

As your constituent, I am deeply concerned about multiple "Ban the Bible" bills, like HB 191 and HB 2045, that have been filed that would attack my right to live out my faith according to biblical beliefs and my conscience.

Hiding under the guise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create dangerous government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially it's teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply would face fines, possible jail time, and other criminal charges. This is wrong.

I ask that you oppose all bills that seek to criminalize the free expression of biblical values and give special protections based on "sexual orientation and gender identity."

Please support and publicly champion bills to protect religious freedom and biblical values.

Thank you for your time and service.

Paul Deaver

Self, as a minister for the church of Christ

Denton, TX

I oppose this absurd bill, which promotes homosexuality and wastes money. Do Texas legislators not know what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 19? Anything that promotes the influence of the homosexual movement is a slap in the face to morality and a danger to society.

Mark Calabrese

Self / Fincial Svcs Mgr

Tomball, TX

I strongly oppose HB 2045! It provides taxpayer money to provide exclusive benefits to one group based upon sexual orientation or identity.

Clay Ashley

Self

Bryan, TX

I am against this bill. There is no need for such a task force and is a waste of tax payer time and money. Regardless of sexual orientation it is not the governments job to assess housing needs of anyone based on the sexual preference. This task will be unbalanced in belief and will create more legislation that favors a very small percentage of the population.

Marcos Simpson

Self

Overton, TX

No such task force is needed.

Carolyn Simmons

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Individual Texas Citizen

San Antonio, TX

Please do not pass this bill that would use my tax dollars. This violates my religious beliefs.
Thanks!

Deborah Rose

self, small business owner

Moody, TX

I strongly oppose

Lizabeth Poche

Self/Bus Driver

Joshua, TX

The Fair Housing Market already exists to do what it seems this bill is for. We do not need to add any more red tape. Simply use the bills/laws, already on the books.

Jerry Teer

Pastor of Landmark Missionary Baptist Church

Texarkana, TX

This would be a waste of taxpayer dollars to appoint such a radical group to bring other radical legislation and lobby legislators that should represent their voters.

Diane Edwards

Self

San Antonio, TX

As your constituent, I am deeply concerned about multiple "Ban the Bible" bills, like HB 191 and HB 2045, that have been filed that would attack my right to live out my faith according to biblical beliefs and my conscience.

Hiding under the guise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create dangerous government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially it's teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply would face fines, possible jail time, and other criminal charges. This is wrong.

I ask that you oppose all bills that seek to criminalize the free expression of biblical values and give special protections based on "sexual orientation and gender identity."

Please support and publicly champion bills to protect religious freedom and biblical values.

Thank you for your time and service.

Diane Edwards

Rena French

Self

Bullard, TX

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Again! It is maddening to me that we the people of Texas have to take time to comment on such absurdity. Do I understand that the task force would be made up of LBGTQ people?! What about the majority 90%+ of people who are NOT that? Why should the small minority of these make decisions for everyone?? Let a private group create housing for these folks if they do not want to live in the quarters of their sex assigned at birth and do not make the tax payers of Texas pay for such nonsense. At the very least let the committee be compromised fairly : 90%+ of heterosexuals AS IS THE RATIO IN America and Texas.

Crystal Mcknight

Self

LINDALE, TX

This is a non-issue and it shouldn't be forced on the public.

Rebecca De Angel

Self

Austin, TX

Opose.

Joanne Mullins

Texas Values Action

Bellville, TX

I don't want my taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191. The first thing they will do is try to do away with our religious freedoms and force us to go against our conscience. LGBTQ have tried to force florists, bakers and wedding planners to go against their religious beliefs and create services for the LGBTQ clients. They have taken them to court just to force them out of business and to bankrupt them, just because they believe they can. This is a radical movement that we don't need in these critical times, a time when we are dealing with the pandemic. Hard times that are bankrupting normal Americans already. We have to work together to get through these hard times and not force our opinions on each other to force them out of work and home. Vote NO to HB 2045 and stand up for your fellow Texans.

Betty Guth, Mrs

Self retired

Midlothian, TX

Please vote no on HB 2045 because we do not need to put any more money into task forces! Our government waste has enough money without wasting more, it only puts more money into pockets that are already stuffed full with hard-working citizens money!

Tamara Beck

Mrs.

Wimberley, TX

STOP this bill ! This bill does nothing for the average Texan except waste our tax money.

Veronica Nettles

Self

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Diboll, TX

As a Christian I believe that homosexuality is a sin. I do not believe people who oppose this life style should be penalized for their beliefs just like I do not believe homosexuals should be rewarded. I believe everyone should show the love of Christ.

Rhonda Bone

self

The Woodlands, TX

HB 2045 by Rep. Ray Lopez (D) would use our taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191. Personally, I am tired of my tax dollars being spent by special interest groups. We need less (not more) government intervention into matters such as this. The more government intervenes, the less freedom each of us have. A private foundation would be a better solution to such a quandary. If government creates a "task force to evaluate" every need in society, we are **DOING IT WRONG!** Should I lobby for a task force to tell me how to best clean my house? Should a task force be created to evaluate the best playground equipment for the local elementary school? (Have I made a point?) This is not even sane, in my opinion.

Harold Tanner

Self / Retired production supervisor

Odessa, TX

This bill is discriminatory toward any person of high moral fiber or a true believer in the teachings of the Bible. This is also a bill which would open another door for lawyers to make more money with lawsuits..

David Letersky

Self

Tuscola, TX

Gays should be under the same laws as everyone else. No special treatment by the law.

Nancy Schwab

SELF

Brownwood, TX

OUR COUNTRY WAS FOUNDED ON RELIGIOUS BELIEFS. WHEN ANYONE TRIES TO CHANGE THIS, OUR NATION IS IN MORE TROUBLE THAN ANYONE CAN IMAGINE!! STAND UP FOR WHAT IS OBVIOUSLY THE RIGHT THING TO DO. WHEN WE GO AGAINST GOD, WE CANNOT WIN!!

Leslie Pickett

self

Kerrville, TX

Vote NO on this bill. Do NOT use taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191.

Christiana Keeler

Self

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Austin, TX

I do not agree with this bill because; It is discriminatory to require persons to serve on the committee based on sex, race or orientation. (A)Athree appropriately qualified individuals whoarerepresentativesofthelesbian,gay,bisexual,transgender, queer,orquestioningcommunity;

Jesus Gonzalez

Self/Electronic Design Engineer

Austin, TX

I am opposing this bill, it is unfair to have and especial committee for a particular group of people, why not treating all seniors equally? Why the difference? Why discrimination over the other senior that don't fall on that category. As I said I am opposing that bill it will cost my taxes for an unfair initiative.

SASHA THOMAS

self

Richardson, TX

More task forces to waste more money, all using sexual orientation as a driver on why a senior needs housing. They need housing help for all the same reasons anyone needs housing, shouldn't take a task force to figure that out.

Linda Jenkins

self

Cedar Park, TX

This bill goes hand-in-hand with HB 191 and must not pass.

Katrina Svandrik

Self / stay at home mother

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill and encourage a vote against HB 2045

Victor Guajardo

Self

Dallas, TX

This must be blocked do not use our tax dollars to support such a bill.

John Jackson

Self, retired

Southlake, TX

NO

Maria Cecilia Cordova Guller

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Individual

PLANO, TX

The more luxuries, facilities & comforts provided to those who are not heterosexual, the more they will ask for. Their aim is NOT equality, but superiority to heterosexuals. Our taxes, talents and efforts need to go to the sick, homeless, the naked, the hungry, the mentally ill, senior citizens. To spend money on this segment of our population is to ignore the needs of those God commanded us to care about and to provide for. Do not pass this proposed legislation.

Janie Singleton

Self

Amarillo, TX

No task force should be made up of all LBGT. The task force should be represented by LBGT and straight members 50/50 %. I am tired of everything being crammed down America's throat with only the liberals point of view.

Linda Turnbough

Self

San Antonio, TX

I am against all that is in this bill. Please vote NO on the passage of HB2045.

Stacy Rauchwerger

Self. Realtor/Rancher

Bonham, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. Our country was built on principles that you are trying to erase.

Linda Wilson

None

Palestine, TX

Do not allow to pass as is

Pamela McDonald

Self

Dallas, TX

I am opposed to this bill

Mary Lou Tazelaar, Mrs

Self, retired

Spring, TX

I am asking you to reconsider introducing HB 2045 which would allow my taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force. I feel, that my tax dollars would better benefit organizations such as helping with human and/or sex trafficking issues seen in this state and all over the country. This bill would allow the creation of radical policies in the future like seen in HB 191. Please

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reconsider, thank you.

Loretta McDonald

self

BELLEVUE, TX

opposition to Ban the Bible bills

Barry Waller

Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging

Austin, TX

I want to support HB 2045. This task force is needed to look at safe and affordable housing. Many Senior LGBT persons are afraid of how they will be treated in current programs. Will their sexual orientation bring on neglect and abuse? There is a need to discuss safe and quality housing for this population.

Patricia Kohler, Ms

Self

Livingston, TX

I say NO! This LGBQ is very offensive to me. The Bible says ONE MAN, ONE WOMAN, is a marriage. God doesn't make mistakes. Where in the world did we get such outrageous ideas?

REBECCA HAMNER

self

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Mr. Lopez,

Why should a housing bill for seniors not be more inclusive of all seniors with housing needs? I am opposed to singling out a particular group for benefits.

Jim Pickens, Dr

Self

Houston, TX

I strongly oppose this bill which disrespects the beliefs of Christians in the state of Texas.

Eric Graf

Self

Ivanhoe, TX

I am strongly opposed to each of these bills. The language would prohibit selection of participants based on religious convictions.

Alice Pena

Self

Austin, TX

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What are you doing? You want to segregate this population from the rest so they can be sitting ducks for harm on a large scale? Since when do they need you to decide where they will live? After trying to become part of the culture they will be isolated. You are not their parent. GET OVER IT!

Paul D. Arthur
The Body of Christ
Waco, TX

I strenuously object to these bills especially as to religious and bible freedom

Sharissa Schwenke
self marketing assistant
Amarillo, TX

While all people should have access to housing, no one's speech or beliefs should be censored. Freedom of speech and religion should be upheld. No government law should legislate opinions, beliefs, or speech of any kind.

Liz Paulette
self
New Braunfels, TX

Our tax dollars should not be wasted on a "questioning." Texas has been so supportive of the LGBTQ community and we are all trying to understand them, but don't insult us by adding "questioning" If a Texan doesn't know what gender they choose to be then they need mental help.

Gloria Istre
Self
Baytown, TX

I believe the radical policies enforced by LGBTQ task force using taxpayer money goes against all religious christian rights. No LGBTQ should be allowed to enforce their beliefs against christian beliefs.

Lori Schusterman, Ms.
Self/ 8th Grade English Teacher
Katy, TX

Please oppose the Ban the Bible Bill. Our Founding Fathers, who sacrificed all they had to make tangent the idea of self government and liberty, focused on the Bible to write the DOI and our US Constitution.

It is anti-American to oppose it.
Also, oppose HB 191

Thank you, Lori Schusterman

Becky Swaim
self
WICHITA FALLS, TX

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This is just a way to get the LGBT into the lives of Christians. The Bible strictly prohibits homosexual relations, which would include everything in this bill. Then when a preacher preaches against homosexuality, he could be arrested. This is a very, very bad bill, as many of the other bills are, also. Please protect Christian rights. We do not want to kill homosexuals, or discriminate, but having a bill like this is harmful in so many ways! Do not pass this bill!

Mike Manning
SELF. Retail Sales
Magnolia, TX

I am against any verbiage included in this bill that reduces access to the Holy Bible, its teaching or speech

Merri Michaels
60+ years Texas resident
Houston, TX

I strongly object to HB 2045 that Ray Lopez filed with intent to attack my right to live out my faith according to biblical beliefs and my conscience.

Hiding under the guise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, HB 2045 seeks to create dangerous government power to ban free expression of personal and biblical beliefs, especially it's teaching on marriage and sexuality.. This bill is clearly wrong as it is a violation of my constitutional rights.

I ask that you oppose HB 2045 seeking to criminalize the free expression of biblical values, my personal religious values, and which attempts to give special protections based on "sexual orientation and gender identity."

Laura McDonald
self/retired
Mansfield, TX

HB 2045 by Rep. Ray Lopez (D) would use my taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies that often discriminate against women and religious groups. I am opposed to such favoritism in public policy. Let us respect each other without endangering some.

Judy Hulsey, Mrs.
Self / retired
Lindale, TX

Any bill for consideration should not be limited to one identifying group. Please vote against this bill.

David Martinez
Self
San Antonio, TX

I spoke with your aid this afternoon expressing my outrage with HB 2045. First, when ask about the details of this bill your aid simply said that this bill was to create a task force to evaluate housing discrimination towards the elderly. It wasn't until I asked her about discrimination against elderly LGBTQ was when she disclosed that part. If I was a conspiracy theorist I would think your office is trying to mislead your constituency.

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In any regards it would seem we have more important issues to spend time and money on things that are already unlawful.
It would seem border security like HB 2862
or election integrity, or keeping girls sports for biological girls only.

Harriett Massey

Self- Analyst

LA MARQUE, TX

I do not support this bill. It would be a biased committee. Even do I support equal housing, this committee is not the way to do it.

Deb Wells

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

please vote against

Lisa Weber

self

Katy, TX

HB 2045 by Rep. Ray Lopez (D) would use your taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191.

(HB 191 by Rep. Diego Bernal (D) would have the effect of forcing religious homeless shelters to allow biological men to sleep next to women in abuse shelters.)

Katherine Listi

self

Dallas, TX

Evaluation of housing needs for senior citizens is a noble cause. And a requirement for the needs of those with same sex attraction, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning really has little to do with architectural plans for a place to live. The physical facility needs the basic requirements for living: living room, bedroom, kitchen and bath. Evaluation of housing needs for those who are not those with same sex attraction, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning should be implemented as well. The physical facility needs the basic requirements for living: living room, bedroom, kitchen and bath. Hopefully, this task force will not forcibly create and demand ways and means of living that risk opportunity for sexual harassment, embarrassment, and unwanted sexual encounters. This task force seemingly lacks purpose for its existence unless the point is to create difficulty and confusion for non LBGTQ+. Is there discrimination for LBGTQ+ or non-LBGTQ+ that we are not aware of?

I spent most of my life in show business knowing people from both sides of the fence and haven't heard of anyone not being able to buy or rent real estate in their latter years.

Alma Hallworth

Self

Round Rock, TX

Please oppose: HB 2045

Despite overwhelming opposition from Texas citizens to 'Ban the Bible' bills last legislative session, Democratic state legislators

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are pushing these highly controversial bills yet again during the current Texas Legislative Session.

Hiding under the guise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create new government power to ban the free expression of Christian beliefs, especially biblical teaching on marriage and sexuality.

The Democrat-led Texas House Urban Affairs Committee will hear two #BantheBible bills (HB 191 and HB 2045), TOMORROW, March 31 at 10:30 AM in room E1.026.

HB 191 by Rep. Diego Bernal (D) would have the effect of forcing religious homeless shelters to allow biological men to sleep next to women in abuse shelters. HB 2045 by Rep. Ray Lopez (D) would use your taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191.

Joy Gautney

Self / Home Health Aide

Mesquite, TX

Honorable Legislators,

I do not support HB 2045 and ask that you vote no/against it. I believe this bill would use my taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191 which I do not support. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Linda Steininger, Mrs.self retiredvteacher

Self , retired teacher

Deer Park, TX

I oppose HB191 HB2045. I believe that the ruler of heaven and Earth doesn't make mistakes. The Bible is his handbook or guide for living, governing providing justice, raising your children. If you are not familiar with many books of Bible you need to consult a clergyman. I know the words of God would not approve of these bills. Disapproval is in Bible about same sex marriage and such. We are living in times that God is sending justice on our country for not living with Biblical principals. Your first job is governing by following God's principles. By doing that you will be serving your constituents in the best way..By not governing by Biblical principals you will only bring down anger and justice from a higher power.

H Spears

self

Austin, TX

Under no circumstances should this bill be passed!!

There has been significant opposition to this bill by the Texas public.

Please do NOT ignore the voice of the people who are in the majority on this matter & who oppose this bill.

This bill would create dangerous government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, opening up Texans to face fines, possible jail time, and other criminal charges -- this is wrong!!

Any & every bill, such as this bill, that seeks to criminalize the free expression of biblical values and give special protections to other specified groups, should be vehemently opposed & thrown out!

Thank you for your time.

Toby Johnson, Dr.

Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging

Austin, TX

I am in support of HB 2045. I am a member of the Steering Committee of the Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging, a volunteer

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group of gay community members and leaders who are working to ascertain the gay-friendliness of existing senior services, especially residential services and housing alternatives, and to encourage all such agencies and service providers to do staff and personnel training in LGBTQ issues in order to make all these agencies LGBTQ-friendly. This issue is important as the community ages not only to us, but also to the senior care industry in general. How residents behave towards staff and one another affects everybody in these settings. The assistance of the state of Texas in understanding and finding solutions to problems would be greatly appreciated and helpful.

Sharon Hopkins

self - AA Customer Service Representative

Keller, TX

I oppose this bill and use of my taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community. This is racist against those outside of the LGBTQ movement. All views are required to have balanced decision making.

Mike Smith

Self

Jacksonville, TX

I oppose HB 2045.

Allan McClelland

self

Waxahachie, TX

I oppose the passage of this bill 2045.

Trinity Caver, Pastor

Self, Trainer

Belton, TX

This bill is hiding in the guise of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and/or gender identity or expression, but is really about limiting and outright banning people from having objections based on faith and the freedom to express their objection because of their faith. This bill would ban people of faith from stating their objections and severely limiting their freedom of speech, if not nullifying it. No one group should be allowed to nullify another group's freedom of speech or religion or lack of religion, that is a God-given right backed by the United States of America's Constitution. A task force is not needed to evaluate LGBTQ+ senior citizens, this would further burden the citizens of Texas with taxes and regulations that are unnecessary. Using senior citizens as a shield in this bill is reprehensible all to try to force the state to pass it and others to have sympathy and look passed the real issue. The real issue is not about LGBTQ+ senior citizens rights or discrimination, the real issue is putting forth legislation that will silence Christians and anyone else who objects to this task force or other LGBTQ+ laws and regulations.

Rae Campbell

self

Bastrop, TX

As your constituent, I am deeply concerned about multiple "Ban the Bible" bills, like HB 191 and HB 2045, that have been filed that would attack my right to live out my faith according to biblical beliefs and my conscience.

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Hiding under the disguise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create dangerous government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially it's teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply would face fines, possible jail time, and other criminal charges. This is wrong.

I ask that you oppose all bills that seek to criminalize the free expression of biblical values and give special protections based on "sexual orientation and gender identity."

Please support and publicly champion bills to protect religious freedom and biblical values.

Thank you for your time and service.

Vickie Wilde

Self

Garland, TX

This is not where my tax dollars belong! NO!

Zephra E Reinitz-Brown, Ms

self, Office Manager/Payables Manager

La Porte, TX

Another bunch of liberal bull. I vehemently oppose this. I'm a senior citizen and I don't have anyone making special provisions because I'm a conservative, Christian, straight woman.

VOTE NO

Rae Cardenas

Self

Corinth, TX

This bill does not represent the majority of Texans and would ultimately be discriminatory against those not in the LGBTQ community. What does housing needs have to do with sexual activity? The mere suggestion of it is discriminatory to this not in the LGBTQ community.. Do not pass this bill.

Sherry Schlaudt, Mrs.

Self/taxpayer/teacher/wife/mother/homemaker

Lufkin, TX

The creation of a task force to determine distribution of government taxpayers money should by definition be comprised of a representative sampling of ALL sectors/segments/sexual orientations of the population-NOT just members of one minority group. This is the only way to prevent biased findings and leveraged opinions.

Carol Hull

Self CPA

Midlothian, TX

I am writing to register my opposition to HB 2045.

Gary Farmer

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myself, my wife and family and my church

Houston, TX

The LGBTQ community represents less than 5% of the US population. To create such a task force would actually cause the other 95% of the population to be discriminated against. Preferring one SMALL sector of the people inherently gives them preference over the other sectors.

Nelda Meyer

Self/Retired

Farmers Branch, TX

I am unalterably opposed to this special, preferential treatment of those who choose unnatural lifestyles.

Denise Gallucci

Self- retired teacher

College Station, TX

The passage of this bill will open the door for a select group of people (Only LGBTQ) to make decisions that impact everyone. Exclusivity is wrong and this will amount to a small group holding sway over everyone else. That is not the way our government should work. Majority opinions must be respected. This task force needs to be inclusive of others, especially Christians, who are not given an opportunity to have their opinions heard.

David Atherton

Self Deacon

CONROE, TX

We, the taxpayers, highly object to using tax dollars to be used for ANY type of abhorrent lifestyles. These people are continually and progressively being forced on the public.

Waymon Culp

Self

Whitney, TX

Leave religion alone!!! Freedom of Religion is a Constitutional Right!!!! Banning the Bible is Not Freedom of Religion!!!!

Lawone Heismeyer

Self / retired

Diana, TX

Disagree with this

David Hogan

Self

Fort Worth, TX

I as a Texas citizen do not stand behind this legislation. It will strip away religious freedom from our citizens. Freedom of religion

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is NOT the same as the freedom to worship. Freedom of Religion is the freedom to practice your religion in your daily life including proclaiming it. Just as no one would dare to restrict how Muslims practice and proclaim their faith the same restrictions cannot be placed on Christianity.

Latricia Jacobs, Retired

Self retired

Nacogdoches, TX

Waste of taxpayer money.

Lisette Amador-Engel, Ms.

Self retired

Rowlett, TX

Strongly, strongly oppose. Every one of these pro-LGBTQ+ bills end up punishing anyone with a contrary viewpoint and sacrifices the First Amendment on the altar of political correctness. This bill isn't about fixing any serious problem. Rather, it's about controlling and punishing anyone who disagrees.

James Embry

self/retired

Farmers Branch, TX

The membership of this "task force" should be as diverse and inclusive as possible. Any other plan should be defeated.

Sandy Corder

Myself / retired teacher

Del Rio, TX

I am totally opposed to any taxpayer funds being used to further any programs that support LGTB issues!

Debi Abney

Self-employed massage therapist

Austin, TX

I respectfully ask you to vote against this bill it's very very dangerous but harmful for you and all you love and all we loved and for our beloved state of Texas! If you vote for this bill you will not have my vote!

Thank you

Merrie Cardin, Sr.Pastor

Self

Granbury, TX

Say no to the expenditure of my tax dollars for this.

Ellie Klipp

self - retired school teacher

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Cedar Park, TX

All persons should be respected regardless of their ideology but in public facilities the safety and dignity of biological women and girls should prevail over the claims and desires of biological men.

Haiyan Liu

self

cedar park, TX

I am deeply concerned about this "Ban the Bible" bills, , that have been filed that would attack my right to live out my faith according to biblical beliefs and my conscience.

Hiding under the disguise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, the bill would create dangerous government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially it's teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply would face fines, possible jail time, and other criminal charges. This is wrong.

Dennis Starnes

Self

McKinney, TX

HB 2045 by Rep. Ray Lopez (D) would use your taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191. Our taxpayer dollars should not be used to fund any task forces which is exclusively for one group only to advance their personal agenda. Wrong use of taxpayers money.

Jacqueline Tashenberg

Self - Retired

Stafford, TX

Homosexuals, bisexual, transgender (anyone who is not heterosexual) should be housed in their own housing away from heterosexuals, however, the tax payer should not need to pay for it!

Robert Strahan

Self

Lumberton, TX

This country was founded on Christian principles and we do not need to move further from the Bible. I oppose this bill.

Elizabeth Strahan

Self

Lumberton, TX

This country is founded by our nation's father's who protected our freedom to worship. I oppose this bill.

Sheila Domstead

Self

Ovilla, TX

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I oppose HB 2045. This bill would use your TAXPAYER DOLLARS to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191.

Frances Banks, Citizen of Texas

Self

Spring, TX

I oppose HB 2045. Also I oppose the Band the Bible Bill. I oppose erasing gender and allowing men who identify themselves as female to sleep next to women in shelters; use women public;; private, schools, or any restrooms that there should be a distinction by gender. Separation should be by birth/biological gender not what a person identifies with.

Catherine Grigg

Self - Women's Pastor

SAGINAW, TX

I am deeply concerned about multiple "Ban the Bible" bills, like HB 191 and HB 2045, that have been filed that would attack my right to live out my faith according to biblical beliefs and my conscience.

Hiding under the disguise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create dangerous government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially it's teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply would face fines, possible jail time, and other criminal charges. This is wrong.

I ask that you oppose all bills that seek to criminalize the free expression of biblical values and give special protections based on "sexual orientation and gender identity."

Please support and publicly champion bills to protect religious freedom and biblical values.

Thank you for your time and service.

Candis Castle

self

Montgomery, TX

I strongly object to this bill. It is not in the best interest of women, and it is actually racial in that it discriminates against people who are not LGBTQ.

Peggy McClain

Self

Bridge City, TX

Each person has the right to exercise their religious beliefs and these rights are guaranteed by the US Constitution because it recognizes that our first allegiance is to our God. Any laws that would infringe on our rights to behave according to our deeply-held religious beliefs should be rejected. HB 2045 is a thinly-veiled assault on Christian beliefs and, as such, should be rejected.

Jan Rigotti

Sekf

Waxahachie, TX

I respectfully request that you stop this bill. It would create a world where Christians could not live our life according to Biblical principles. It impedes our freedom of religion and its free exercise. Thank you for your consideration.

Patti Feder

Self

Conroe, TX

Spend your time and our money working on worthwhile bills that have to do with our energy grid, our water supply , things that really matter to Texans! Please oppose this one!

Dale Fessenden

self

Conroe, TX

HB 2045 would use my taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies. HB 2045 must never leave the committee. A LGBTQ task force would support ideologies contrary to true science and that endanger Texas girls & women. No legislator with clear thinking would vote for this bill. Vote NO on HB 2045!

Dennis & Tawanna Jenkins

our family

Terrell, TX

We strongly object to the creation of any such task force created for one sector of the state's population in preference to all other segments.

Charles Curry

self/retired

Austin, TX

I am writing in support of HB 2045. As a member of the Austin LGBTQ community I consistently hear personal stories of the concerns and fears of LGBTQ seniors as they face the dilemma of how and where they will age. Many don't have the support of their family, they have no children, they have accumulated fears rather than resources because of the discrimination they have endured and they don't know where to turn. These are folks facing a bleak future instead of a happy retirement and they need our help.

One strategy that we organized in Austin to work on with the help of the North Texas Coalition on LGBT Aging is working with existing housing facilities to help them make their services more LGBTQ affirming. We recognize this as a stop gap measure but it is what we are able to do with sweat equity instead of dollars. What is a challenge today will become a crisis tomorrow if we don't recognize the issue and work to address it.

Your support of HB 2045 would be a wonderful gift to the LGBTQ community today and a step toward a better tomorrow for all of Texas.

Rebekah Durham

self - mother

Temple, TX

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This kind of task force is not necessary.

Charles Curry, Steering Committee Chair
Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging
Austin, TX

The following resolution is submitted in support of HB 2045 on behalf of the members of the Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging:

Whereas the Community Conversation that resulted in the formation of the Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging identified housing as a major concern facing our community, and

Whereas, while the senior population in our country increases, the lack of senior housing as well as the services to support aging in place as an alternative continue to drive the cost of this care beyond the means of those most in need, and

Whereas, numerous studies and surveys including the 2018 survey conducted by AARP and published as “Maintaining Dignity” have outlined the unique challenges of the LGBT senior community such as the lack of family support that contribute to additional difficulties in obtaining affirming housing and appropriate support as they age, and

Whereas, we continue to receive calls for assistance from LGBT seniors on how to find supportive care and affirming and affordable housing, and

Now therefore be it resolved that the Steering Committee of the Austin LGBT Coalition on Aging fully supports the establishment of a task force to consider the needs of the LGBT senior community and in the State of Texas and how best to address them as proposed in HB 2045.

Sommer Carlin
Carlin family
Aledo, TX

Oppose this bill!!

Shirley Curry
Self - Retired
Conroe, TX

I am asking you to oppose the use my taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies.

Patrick Titterington
Quali-T Farms Too
MARSHALL, TX

This is certainly a waste of time and money. Housing needs have nothing to do with orientation with the exception of not forcing any one to share a bedroom with someone of opposing genders or orientation. It would make more sense to just look at housing needs of seniors PERIOD.

DONALD CAMPBELL
Americans for Freedom

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Magnolia, TX

The guide lines should be the same for all humans. They can chose to be what they want but should not get special treatment. for choosing to be want they think they are. Spending my money on your pet project only creates more high paying no productive government jobs.

Nancy Woodall

The Woodall Family

Poetry, TX

Please vote against this bill.

Rudell Bratcher

Self / Retired

Amarillo, TX

Despite the fact that similar bills were rejected during the last legislative session, there are, once again, more bills being submitted to accomplish the same motives -- to eliminate the rights of Christians to exercise their rights that are guaranteed under the U.S. Constitution and Bill of rights and infiltrate Texas with LGBTQ and anti-Christian values. I strongly urge all members of the Texas legislature to reject all attempts to "Ban the Bible," including the current bills : HB 191 and HB 2045.

Eunabeth Williamson

Self/Educator

Amarillo, TX

The passage of this bill, and using taxpayers' dollars to fulfill its demands, many of which would put others in danger, would be an affront to all Texans. In a misguided effort to prevent discrimination toward one group, you effectively discriminate and strip the rights of another. THIS MUST NOT BE!! This bill would not serve us well. It should NOT be passed.

Elizabeth Dempsey

Self/Sales

Shenandoah, TX

This bill is very disturbing & does not represent the citizens of TX values. Please do not pass this bill.
Thank You

Mona Hook

Self

Montgomery, TX

Please vote AGAINST this bill.

Leonard Elbon

self

Magnolia, TX

I don't want my tax dollars spent on, or government resources put toward radical efforts that will result in moor poor, short

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sighted bills like HB 191. As a concerned tax payer I want this voted down with a resounding NO. With the state recovering from COVID and the recent winter storms this money can be better spent on that recovery effort.

Isela Arnett, Mrs

Self

Grand Prairie, TX

Why is this task Force needed and how can it be lawfully managed?

Julia Russell

Self, homemaker

Austin, TX

I oppose HB 2045. LGBTQ seniors should not get special treatment that is different from all senior citizens. Senior Citizen facilities must not be forced to house or care for LGBTQ seniors preferentially nor should they be forced to accept or celebrate these lifestyle choices if those lifestyle choices violate the Biblical views of the facility. A task force would be created to seek out those who chose to live by their Biblical convictions and force them to violate these convictions. This bill is unneeded and harmful.

Denise Daniels, Mrs

Self - Proud House Wife

Conroe, TX

This bill is stupid. A task force to evaluate the housing needs of PEOPLE. What they are is unimportant. ARE THEY PEOPLE? Do they have needs? What or who they are should never come into question unless you are preparing people for segregation based on age, sex, religion and or whatever they chose to be. I do not support this bill and my tax dollars should not be apart of it. Apparently, segregation has been forgotten. This is the very blue print to start it again.

Delora Jarrett

Self

Rowlett, TX

Please vote against this bill as it goes against Christian beliefs.

Cynthia Gorin

self

Conroe, TX

I oppose this Bill. We have no need for such radical policies.

Monica Ortiz

Self

Cleburne, TX

HB191 and HB2045 are bills that go directly against the Word of Almighty God, the One that founded and blessed this country to be a beacon of light for the world and in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. God created man and woman. Placing men in shelters where abused women are supposed to feel some form of safety is unacceptable. If a man wants to call himself a woman

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that is his business and should not be pushing for the rest of the population to accommodate him. Placing religious freedom under this law is a direct attack on God Almighty and as His Prophets have already spoken, He will NOT allow the demonic agenda to continue and Woe to the ones that are pushing and supporting them, it's time to repent because the hammer is swiftly coming down, take a look at what has been happening around the world and the United States. God Almighty is not delaying. Please listen and do not pass these bills.

Betty Garcia

Self/Retired

Leander, TX

Please remember the Godly principles upon which our nation was founded. We were all granted certain inalienable rights, but this bill goes far beyond that in granting favoritism to certain groups while suppressing others. Please represent ALL of us, not just the ones who are determined to erase God in our nation, state & local governments.

Linda Gilbride

self

Conroe, TX

WE DO NOT NEED A TASK FORCE FOR THIS! THEY ARE NO DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER SENIOR CITIZEN AND ALREADY HAVE RIGHTS. THIS IS MORALLY WRONG AND I ASK YOU TO VOTE AGAINST THIS BILL. THIS IS GIVING THEM SPECIAL TREATMENT AND THEY DO NOT DESERVE TO BE TREATED ANY DIFFERENTLY THAN ANY OTHER SENIOR CITIZEN. WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR COUNTRY???

Lydia LARBERG, Mrs.

Private citizen

Cypress, TX

Task force should have a balance of LGBTQ and non-LGBTQ persons in order to have balanced viewpoints.

Zach Baker

Self, software developer and business owner

San Marcos, TX

Not okay with using taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191 which seems perfectly fine with suppressing everyone's religious liberty and ignoring abuse factors relating to the service that religious shelters provide.

Joanne Hillman

Self

Spring, TX

Please vote against this bill. Our tax dollars do not need to be spent in this frivolous way.

Mabel Mahfouz, Ms

Self

Magnolia, TX

Please stop this bill. Vote No

Janice Deets

Myself

Corsicana, TX

I strongly oppose this bill

Sharon Freeman

Self / Retired

Houston, TX

As your constituent, I am deeply concerned about multiple "Ban the Bible" bills, like HB 191 and HB 2045, that have been filed that would attack my right to live out my faith according to biblical beliefs and my conscience.

Hiding under the guise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, these bills would create dangerous government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially its teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply would face fines, possible jail time, and other criminal charges. This is wrong.

I ask that you oppose all bills that seek to criminalize the free expression of biblical values and give special protections based on "sexual orientation and gender identity."

Please support and publicly champion bills to protect religious freedom and biblical values.

Thank you for your time and service.

Clifford Sewell, Licensed and ordained minister

Faith Christian Church Johnson City Texas

Johnson City, TX

This bill is also leading to infringement on religious freedom as it will be discriminating against Christians and their ability to call homosexuality sin as the Bible. I also believe it is a bill leading slowly to the elimination of the Bible, giving a little foothold toward that the Bible says not to give the devil a foothold.

Rene'e Haynes

Self

Johnson City, TX

I Please vote AGAINST this bill !!

This task force could be used to push radical agendas!!

Funded by our tax dollars!

This is a very potentially dangerous bill!! Please vote AGAINST!!!!

Jaisson Louis

Self, Uber Driver

Houston, TX

I DO NOT want my taxpayer money going towards funding ANYTHING LGBT+ . There are laws in place that help them at

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Federal, State, & Local levels. That are being enforced might add. And have been for decades. They're LIFESTYLE SHOULDN'T BE FORCED ON US NOR OUR CHILDREN! If you don't believe me that this was PURPOSEFULLY PUSHED ON US then READ THE BOOK CALLED AFTER THE BALL. Quoted from Wikipedia, "After the Ball: How America Will Conquer its Fear and Hatred of Gays in the 90s is a book published in 1989 about LGBT rights in the United States." But IT IS A BLUEPRINT ON HOW TO TURN OUR NATION FROM GOD AND PLUNGE US INTO SEXUALLY IMMORAL PEOPLE. The BIBLE SAYS The Lasts Days are going to be worse than Sodom and Gomorrah. Not many fans this book is in print anymore BUT someone somewhere has one.

Kyndra Yamaguchi

Self

Conroe, TX

I am requesting a vote against HB 2045. Developing a "task force" made up of LGBTQ members of our community would push on the public narratives and a lifestyle that is not agreeable by most. It will create hostility, division and discrimination. My tax dollars should not go to an area that is firmly against my faith.

Please vote no on HB2045

Cody Haynes, Pastor

Christian Churches and Self

Johnson Cuty, TX

Please vote AGAINST this bill!!

A very dangerous bill for all Christians, and all society.

This would potentially be a tax dollar funded radical task force designed to push their agenda!!

The effects of this could be detrimental to religious freedoms for all Christians and freedoms for non LGBTQ everywhere!

Please consider the long lasting effects of this dangerous bill!! Please vote AGAINST

THANK YOU!

Joyce Bills

Joyce Bills/ retired photographer

Spring, TX

Government has enough radical policies, we do not need this one! PLEASE DO NOT VOTE FOR THIS!!!

Johnny Nail, Major USAF, 5 Gen Texan

Self

Splendora, TX

Thieve bills are forcing LGBTQ religion on others. Government is Constitutionally bound to keep it hands off of religious activities. We have each of us right to practice our religion as we feel. Most sane religions know that there are only 2 sexes and they are not to be mixed.

Cindy McIntyre

Self

Conroe, TX

This bill does not align with moral values & is not in Texas' best interest.

Charles Fletcher, Mr

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Self

Marion, TX

Disapprove of this bill. If this type person is having housing issues it is their own fault. Queers are detestable in Gods eyes and should likewise be the same to all Texans. Don't turn Texas into another California. The city of Houston has already shown us how God feels about queers. There is a reason Houston has the issues, floods, and other disasters. Texas should make it illegal to display any kind of queer act in public and certainly not give them any power at all in governing this great state.

Carolyn Lux

Self

Fredericksburg, TX

I am against this bill.

Joyce Peterson

Self

Spring, TX

Wrong! We need to reinforce Christian family values and protect normal people from gender confused people in need of mental care.

Connie Haedener

Self, dance teacher

Magnolia, TX

Please vote NO on this bill. Please DO NOT pass this bill. We do not need this task force.

Rebekah Hulin, Ms

self

Willis, TX

This would use taxpayer dollars. Please do not let this go through.

Merri Michaels

Myself, Texas resident 60+ years

Houston, TX

I strongly oppose HB 2045 filed by Ray Lopez on three counts: 1) This is an attempt to foist an experiment in social engineering on Texans. 2) It is a violation of my constitutional right to exercise my personal beliefs relating to religious philosophy, and 3) It compromises my right to support (financially through donation or otherwise) social relief programs in which I hold confidence of how my support will be used, without violation of the purpose intended, which I would consider fraud.

R Bingham

self

Frisco, TX

Please oppose this bill. Thank you!

Gerald Kieschnick, Rev. Dr.

Self--CEO of Legacy Deo/Lutheran Foundation of Texas

Georgetown, TX

My family, organization, and I are strongly opposed to this Bill. Why should special housing be considered based solely on the self-declared gender of an individual? The logical conclusion would be also to create a task force to evaluate the housing needs of senior citizens who are male. Or female. LGBTQ individuals represent a very small demographic of the state of Texas, which has larger fish to fry, like the crisis on the southern border.

Jim Young

Self / business owner

Conroe, TX

Vote NO on this bill.

Leslie Isbell

Family

Conroe, TX

We STRONGLY OBJECT to HB 2045 by Rep. Ray Lopez which would use our taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191.

Lucia Teinert

self retired

Conroe, TX

This bill HB 2045 contains language that threatens religious freedom, as a Texas constituent that believes I represent a majority of my fellow Texans, I ask that you vote against HB 2045.

Joel Leaver

JMLUSA1 Racing

Gatesville, TX

I believe it is Absolutely Essential the Core Values found in the Bible Should Be Available to EVERYONE Especially to Teachers and Students in Every place in the World. More Specifically, any Language Banning the Bible, from which come OUR NATIONAL Core Values is ABSOLUTELY Unconstitutional, and Flies in the Face of the FREEDOM We Enjoy in this Country that each person has the right too Choose these Core Beliefs this Wonderful Country was Founded upon! No body has the right to force their beliefs upon anyone else!

VOTE NO on ANY Legislation Banning the Bible, It's Values and Beliefs.

These are The Values And Beliefs I Fought to Defend, Along with Your Right To Choose!

Do NOT FORCE YOUR CHOICES Upon ANYONE ELSE!

Please, VOTE NO on HB 191, and HB 2045.

Warmest Regards and GOD BLESS YOU, GOD BLESS AMERICA And GOD BLESS TEXAS!

Joel Leaver

Kimberly Brezik

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Self

Conroe, TX

A task force is not necessary to assure housing to anyone. It would only open the door for people to be required to allow anyone and everyone into their facilities even if it goes against what their facility was set up to accommodate.

Sharon Davis

Christ the King Church/Mercy Ministries

Conroe, TX

I strongly object to HB 2045 and respectfully request that this NOT be passed. Thank you.

Whitney Pent

Myself , a citizen of what was the best country in the world

Fort worth, TX

Please do not let this bill pass. This it truly awful.

Linda Blount

Mrs.

Round Rock, TX

I do not believe in elevating one group of people based on their sexual preference above other groups in society. I do not think that their needs for senior housing would be different than other senior citizens. This type of legislation goes against Christian values and seems to seek criminalization of the free expression of biblical values. It could also give special protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity. I would rather have our state champion bills which protect religious freedom and biblical values. I oppose this legislation.

Sammye Mardis

Self

Cleveland, TX

As a senior citizen and a taxpayer in Texas, I oppose HB 2045. I oppose the use of my tax dollars to fund a task force that panders to a select minority segment of our society allowing only representation from that select group on the task force. This bill does not allow any voice or provide any benefit to the senior citizen community as a whole. I urge the members of this committee to oppose this bill

Barbara Maseberg, Attorney

Barbara J. Maseberg, self, Attorney

Houston, TX

HB 2045 would use my taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191. Why is a special classification being made for the needs of those seniors who have sexual identity problems, etc? This is a waste and an abuse of time and money. People are people and seniors are seniors. Those senior citizens need to further classification to determine their housing needs. The woke crowd has become comatose to common sense. I oppose this Bill.

Heather Stahlman

Printed on: May 4, 2021 3:44 PM

Self/ Stay At Home Mom

Willis, TX

Representative Lopez,

As a fellow Texan, I am very concerned about your proposal of HB 2045 and the effects that it would have on all Texans. I oppose this bill in all of its measures. This bill defies God and His laws concerning all people. We were made in the image of God, and He creates both male and female. Science proves that we are either male or female. To go against God and the science of gender, would bring a curse on those who choose to do so. Allowing men or women who “identify” as the opposite sex to have access to the opposite sex in various housing arrangements allows for gross opportunity for that person to take advantage and harm those surrounding them. Also, using my money to go against My God and His commandments would violate my conscience and my beliefs. Repent and remove this bill or fall under God’s wrath.

Sincerely,
Heather Stahlman

Kara Trissel
self- self employed
Jonestown, TX

Please oppose this bill as it is an unnecessary use of tax payer dollars. It is not all inclusive in the needs of all Texas senior citizens and therefore ostracizes and neglects the needs/concerns of the majority of the senior citizens of Texas.

Diane Nielsen
CareForce Ministries (CareScout)
The Woodlands, TX

I am against this. As a land lord of rental properties I don't CARE about any of this. I care that that have the money to pay rent and be good renters. This is a waste of taxpayer dollars. Stop the insanity and use the money to finish the border wall. There we 13 illegals dumped in our county yesterday. This makes me feel unsafe. Vote NO on 2045

Connie Towle
Self
Willis, TX

I am against this bill

Sherry Welch
Retired
Paris, TX

Why do these groups require specialized treatment? Who rents an apartment by sexual preference? Let everyone act like decent human beings and get lodging based on the fact that they will pay their rent, take care of the property, and not disturb the neighbors!

Nancy Colvin
Self- retired
The Woodlands, TX

Printed on: May 4, 2021 3:44 PM

I am not in support of this bill

Victoria Croston

Self. Commercial pilot and dental hygienist.

Willis, TX

Do not pass. Not a needed project.

Linda Tisdale

Self Office Administrator

Victoria, TX

There should be no state money to use for the formation of a governmental Task Force for any purpose.

Patricia Liepke

self

fairview, TX

This should NOT be made up of LGBTQ members only to make a decision for themselves.

Charlene Kuprel

Prosperity Hidalgo

Edinburg, TX

We do not need more government, we already have too many agencies now. We need to look at our citizens as people, not races or special interests.

Carolyn Lyon

Self

Spring, TX

As I understand this bill, it would use our taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191. I strongly oppose this bill. Please vote against HB 2045.

Thomas Meador

self

The Woodlands, TX

I strongly oppose the content and intent of HB2045. HB2045 does is not consistent with the values for the citizens of Texas. Please do not support or pass HB2045

Reese Mitchell

Self, retired

The Woodlands, TX

Printed on: May 4, 2021 3:44 PM

My wife and I oppose this proposal as it is not necessary and a waste of taxpayer's funds. This is not something the State of Texas needs.

Jamie Swearingen

self

The Woodlands, TX

NO, The taxpayers don't want to pay for a task force like that! It will be made up solely of people from the LGBTQ community with only their opinion in mind. They won't care how the rest of us feel about any of it!
Stop wasting taxpayer money!

Tom Nobis

self - retired

Houston, TX

I am against this bill. With the onslaught of Covid, elderly people are being hurt and isolated and some have given up and died. So now you are going to focus on a small portion of the population.

Tax dollars and focus would be better spent on the entire elderly population. Please leave this bill pending and do not vote it out of committee.

Misty Odenweller

America Today: What can I do?

Spring, TX

Please note that it is not missed that this bill is an anti-Bible or ban the Bible bill. In addition, There is no reason for your hidden agenda here and we do not have a housing issue for "senior citizens who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning. If you really knew and understood the people of Texas, you would know that whether we agree with someone's choices (Biblical or not) we love all people as Jesus loves them and we do not discriminate based on any of these issues. Therefore, your only goal is to ban the Bible. Your constituents will not stand for this and neither will Texas. Drop this bill!

Elizabeth Tomlinson, Mrs

Self

Henderson, TX

We currently have laws that cover housing needs. Why continue to set apart a segment of the population to be covered independently? A law is a law the problem seems to be an enforcement issue of existing laws.

April Galvin

Myself /texas

amarillo, TX

There are already laws in place for human beings and housing to meet senior needs. Someone's lifestyle doesn't change or make a difference in the need of someone who's chosen a different lifestyle it doesn't change them being a person. What this does it make a difference between people who don't live these lifestyles and other people who don't. This only creates division, this is not ok to change for Certain lifestyle choices

Debra Collins

Self retired

Printed on: May 4, 2021 3:44 PM

New Braunfels, TX

I oppose this bill. Do not pass this bill. Enough!!

Tom COBB

SELF

Colleyville, TX

No public funds should ever be used to fund a task force formed for the benefit of any special interest group whether LGBTQ or any other. There is no end to the number of special interests groups who would seek such preferential standing. It would expose the state to being sued by potentially every group who would seek equal status/treatment. I do not believe it lawful under existing law. Texas should only advocate/fund for the general welfare of its citizens and only to the extent allowed under the state constitution. As a Christian I also oppose the LGBTQ lifestyle because it violates God's Word and harmful to our society. But let me be clear, I do not hate those in the LGBTQ community but oppose their destructive lifestyle choice. God loves every person but hates their sin because it destroys lives and left unchecked, our culture.

Mariann Siegert

Self

Spring, TX

This bill will take away many many more AMERICANS religious rights than THOSE OF the LGBTQ COMMUNITY.

Dianne Shannon

Self

Georgetown, TX

I would be opposed to any bill that required individuals or companies or religious entities to be forced to hire or employee in anyway or service in any way anyone that was acting in a way contrary to their moral/religious principles.

Even in times past when we had a draft, people with conscientious objection were allowed to serve in another way. Certainly we haven't come so far as to not recognize and honor, in this land of the free, people's religious beliefs.

Kelli Noriega

Self

Willis, TX

Representative Bernal,

As a fellow Texan, I am very concerned about your proposal of HB 2045 and the effects that it would have on all Texans. I oppose this bill in all of its measures. This bill defies God and His laws concerning all people. We were made in the image of God, and He creates both male and female. Science proves that we are either male or female. To go against God and the science of gender, would bring a curse on those who choose to do so. Allowing men or women who "identify" as the opposite sex to have access to the opposite sex allows for gross opportunity for that person to take advantage and harm those surrounding them. Using taxpayer money to create this task force would violate mine and many many others religious convictions.

Sincerely,
Kelli Noriega

Jonie Ochoa, Physical Therapist Assistant - FFS

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Self-Employed PTA Contractor - home health services

Spring, TX

Please OPPOSE the creation of this task force which will be limited to one segment of the community. Such a task force should be embodied of a broad range of community leaders and a diverse group of individuals familiar with the specific needs of the geriatric and senior population, with considerations of ADA compliance, not just consideration of sexual orientation. Seniors need appropriate housing that will facilitate success with their activities of daily living, despite their different medical circumstances.

Ginger Russell

self

MAGNOLIA, TX

This bill has nothing to do with housing discrimination at all. It has everything to do with removing God's moral standards for the public domain.

God's Word will never change and he claims Homosexuality a sin. Sadly some will deny his word but will find out on judgement day.

Judith G Jones

Glory of Zion Intl, THEHUBDFW, THE FTW EAGLES, DFW Prayer Force, IFA

FORT WORTH, TX

This preferential treatment of the 2% against the majority moral will of the people had got to STOP. Our Constitution & Bill of Rights & current law provides for a safe environment for its citizens. When people choose to alter their God- given sexuality that is their choice. That does not allow them to force their choice on the moral majority. Vote NO!

Robert Lannon

self

Austin, TX

I am against using taxpayer money to promote the LGBTQ agenda. Let them pay for it themselves if the less than 2% of the population they are feels they are inadequately represented.

William Elmer

ADHOC

Huntsville, TX

Being a Christian, believing in the bible as the authentic Word of God, I ask you to vote AGAINST this awful bill.

Regis Giles

Self

Austin, TX

Dear representatives,

Let it be known your constituent strongly opposes this task force.

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Your intentions infringe on my religious rights and freedoms; which is incredibly racist and misogynistic of you.

I'm a religious woman, who only wishes to have her rights upheld and respected, but you, Representative Lopez, would be happy to walk all over me and my beliefs.

Shame on you.

Your concerned constituent,

Regis Giles

Daniel Boehm

Express Employment Professionals/Self

Plano, TX

I am against this as it goes against christain values that are in the Bible. We will never accept this even if it is passed. Quit trying to change things based on your SIN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

MARKLIN JONES, BSN,RN,CWON

GZI, THEHUBDFW, FTW EAHLES, DFW Prayer Force

FORT WORTH, TX

Vote NO! Legitimizing immoral behaviour at the expense of the moral majority brings consequences. Do not legalize this.

Julie Skotak

self - administrative assistant

Irving, TX

I am opposed to this bill because it creates new government power to ban the free expression of my Christian beliefs. It takes away my freedoms and elevates those who don't share my beliefs and values to a higher status of freedom.

Gladys Havel, Mrs.

Self, retired teacher

Austin, TX

I oppose this bill because it would use taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies.

Ronda Read

Huntsville ISD

Spring, TX

Texans and Americans with Biblical views should not have to comply with a law that this bill could bring. My mother in law was in Assisted living and had a roommate and she should not have to deal with sharing a room with someone who would possibly bring sexual behavior that she she feels is morally and Biblically wrong. We do no need special housing for any group.. Let's all be citizens and not label and give special benefits to certain groups.

Nubia Devine, Mrs.

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ESTHER COUNCIL

Austin, TX

Dear Representative,

Protecting women rights and their safety should be a priority to you and all elected officials. Biological males do not belong in women's bathrooms much less in women shelters, where the majority of the women are there because of physical abuse. It is insensitive and a prejudice to allow biological males to endanger women and little girls and boys to more abuse. I am asking you to please protect the majority of women and children from a small minority of men that should be placed on mental health facilities to get the help they need.

Please say NO to HB 2045 and HB 191

Edward Scruggs

self

The Woodlands, TX

This bill makes a mockery of decency and promotes abuse of the rights of citizens to protect themselves from sexual predators. DO NOT pass this bill out of committee. Your reelection hangs in the balance.

Jorge Lorenzana, Pastors

Self, minister

Arlington, TX

I oppose this bill because will use tax dollars to create an exclusive task force formed with members of the LGTQ community giving them complete control of the agenda with no input from other groups in the community.

John Day, Mr & Mrs.

Self & Family, Retired

Abilene, TX

The Bible is the living word of God, I Am, you allowed the Bible to be taken out of our schools. Now the schools in Texas and across America are cesspools of liberal bull shit. Enough is Enough.

Don't let the dimz sneak this by any Republicans in the House. If there are any true Conservatives I shouldn't have to say anything about this, Dam.

Vote NO on HB 191 AND HB 2045

Dianne Smith

self retired

The Woodlands, TX

Against HB2045 No task force should be made up of members of the LGBTQ community exclusively or even a majority. They do not represent the majority of people and their thoughts and ways should not be forced on others.

Rebekah Adams

Self

McKinney, TX

As a Texan, I oppose HB 2045. I DO NOT want taxpayer dollars spent to create an LGBTQ task force, made up exclusively of

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members of the LGBTQ community. LGBTQ seniors are Texans like every other Texan and their housing needs considered alongside ALL Texans...not as a protected class.

William Pritchett

Self

Houston, TX

Supporting HB2045 by Lopez.

LGBTQ+ seniors face additional barriers to housing from lack of support systems to increased prejudice due to their status as members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community. There currently exists only 1 LGBTQ+ senior center in the state of Texas and a study identifying the needs of LGBTQ+ seniors would help identify steps necessary to ensure secure housing for seniors in parts of the state where current LGBTQ+ senior centers do not exist.

Marc Wedding

Self

Dallas, TX

As a Texan, I am deeply concerned about multiple "Ban the Bible" bills, particularly HB 2045, that have been filed and would attack my right to live out my faith according to biblical beliefs and my conscience. Hiding under the disguise of "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI) language, this bill would create a dangerous government power to ban free expression of biblical beliefs, especially its teaching on marriage and sexuality. Texans who do not comply would face fines, possible jail time, and other criminal charges. Seeking to criminalize the free expression of biblical values and give special protections based on "sexual orientation and gender identity" is wrong.

Thank you for your time and service.

Renee Speck

Self

Mansfield, TX

Why is this a need?? I don't understand why there has to be a separate group. Senior Citizen should be all that's needed! When we start creating separate classifications based on desires then you better start creating a need for all desires, including the ones that are against the law, now doesn't that sound stupid.

Rachel Hill

Self - community outreach

Dallas, TX

Dear members of the Committee,

I strongly support HB 2045 (Lopez). LGBTQ+ seniors, like all Texas seniors, deserve dignity and to live free from the fear of discrimination in their golden years. For LGBTQ+ Texans, there are no state or federal level protections for housing discrimination. This is valuable time and money spent to ensure that our elders, grandparents, mentors and more get the same opportunities to live and provide for their communities as their peers. Thank you for your time and I urge you to vote this bill out of committee.

Thank you,
Rachel Hill

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Sarah Cox-Walker

Self

Austin, TX

I am in favor of this bill! LGBTQ+ Seniors deserve all the support they need!

Benjamin Steele

Self, Healthcare Worker

Austin, TX

The governor has, over the last year, raised many concerns about housing for all Texans. In demanding an end to public camping, he has given us two options, and only two: to jail these people or to house them. This is a significant step towards the latter option, as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and questioning (LGBTQ+) people are more prone to housing crises.

Here in Texas, we say we believe in family values and understand that family units and government recognition of families is a key part of ensuring the dignity of Texans throughout their lifetimes. However, LGBTQ+ Texans lived--and many still do live--without these protections. Because of a lack of support for families of LGBTQ+ individuals, we have a group especially prone to lack of support in old age. On top of this, in the fourth decade of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, the LGBTQ+ community is still reeling from a loss of community members and loved ones. These place LGBTQ+ seniors in particularly dangerous straits when it comes to ensuring their housing and health needs into old age.

This task force ensures that a particularly vulnerable population is properly understood so that Texas and its local governments can adequately respond to their needs, particularly for housing, after decades of these Texans' neglect at our state's hands. To support the governor's desire to end the crisis of homelessness in our community and to respect the needs of LGBTQ+ Texans, I urge all members of this community to vote for this bill and continue to push for the production of this necessary study group in the Texas House of Representatives. Together, with better understanding of our community, we can ensure a dignified life for all Texans.

Sarah Chavez

self, nonprofit professional

Fort Worth, TX

I support HB 2045. All Texans, including LGBTQ+ seniors, deserve to live their golden years with dignity and love. Since this taskforce has no fiscal note and could help provide us with data to best serve our elder adults, I think it's a no-brainer.

Heather Allison

Self - Policy Associate for Jane's Due Process and Avow

Austin, TX

HB 2045 would create a task force to evaluate the housing needs of senior LGBTQ+ individuals. Because this is a vulnerable population with specific housing needs, I support legislation that will help lead to support for these individuals.

Blair Wallace

ACLU of Texas

Houston, TX

Dear Chairperson and Urban Affairs committee,

We are strongly in favor of the creation of this task force! Please address the needs of our LGBTQ+ Senior community.

Thank you.

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Gordy Carmona, MX

Self

Plano, TX

I support HB 2045. All Texans, including LGBTQ+ seniors deserve to live their golden years with dignity and love. Since this taskforce has no fiscal note, and could help provide us with data to best serve our elder adults I think it a no brainer.

John Day, Mr. & Mrs.

Self and Family, Retired

Abilene, TX

If you people give rights to one "class" of Texas citizens it should be given to all classes of Texans. Better yet treat ALL Texans the same. Treat others, ILLEGAL ALIENS & OUT OF STATERS DIFFERENT. What is wrong with you people? Dammit to hell. Treat others the way you want to be treated unless you are an illegal alien, like our dam vpostus. She is an illegal, What you should be doing is helping POTUS45 regain the POTUS that was stolen.

Greg Harrop, Mr.

self/ retired

LIBERTY HILL, TX

I strongly disagree with using tax dollars to finance a task force exclusively made of the LGBTQ community to create policies such as has been proposed in the HB 191 bill. This is totally and completely discriminatory against those of us who are not a part of their community, therefore should not be financed by our tax payer dollars unless those of us who are not part of their community are also on the committee 50/50, an equal representation.

Ana Rodriguez

Self, Social Worker

Houston, TX

My name is Ana Rodriguez and I am a social worker. I urge the committee to vote in favor of HB 2045 which would simply create an LGBTQ senior taskforce. People who identity as LGBTQ face unique barriers and challenges due to discrimination - from healthcare to housing. Because of this, our state should identify how to best serve our LGBTQ neighbors and community members especially as it relates to housing. Please support HB 2045.

Eva Guzman

Self

San Antonio, TX

Relating to the creation of a task force to evaluate the housing needs of senior citizens who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning. Vote for!

Nick Buitink

Self, housing finance

Manor, TX

This group of senior residents needs proper representation

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Jason Guidangen

Equality Texas

Austin, TX

I support HB 2045. All Texans, including LGBTQ+ seniors deserve to live their golden years with dignity and love around them. Since this taskforce has no fiscal note, and could help provide us with data to best serve elderly folks who are less likely to have family support in their later years, I think this is a no brainer.

Lynda Harrop, Mrs.

self/retired

LIBERTY HILL, TX

I feel very strongly that if a task force is to be created re: housing needs of senior citizens, it should be created to evaluate the needs of ALL senior citizens, not just those of the LGBTQ community. And should be equally comprised of members who are not of their community. If all tax payers will be paying for this there must be equal representation of all citizens on the committee as well, or this would be discriminatory, and should not be financed by the tax payer dollars who are not part of the creation of policies.

Steve Atkinson

Self and Equality Texas

Dallas, TX

I am a 6th generation native Texan. I support HB 2045. All Texans, including LGBTQ+ seniors deserve to live their golden years with dignity and love. The Texas LGBTQ Community is a one that a wonderful part of our state, and its needs are deserving of the passage of this bill.

Danielle Skidmore

Danielle Skidmore Consulting, PLLC

Austin, TX

I wholeheartedly support HB 2045. All Texans, including LGBTQ+ seniors deserve to live their golden years with dignity and love. Since this taskforce has no fiscal note, and could help provide us with data to best serve our elder adults I think it a no brainer.

Lisa Hartman

self

HOUSTON, TX

No SOGI laws are necessary in Texas. Anti-discrimination laws are to be followed. Freedom of thought and practice is to be allowed to the many Christian Texans, and other Texans of faith. There are unintended consequences to this type of law that end up discriminatory, just to a different group.

Adri Perez

Self

El Paso, TX

In Support.

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Patrick Hanley, Public Policy and Advocacy Lea

Resource Center

Dallas, TX

Dear Member of the Committee,

On behalf of Resource Center, the primary LGBTQ community center serving North Texas, we submit this testimony in strong support of HB 2045 by Rep. Lopez. Resource Center serves LGBTQ seniors in North Texas through THRIVE, a group that brings together LGBTQ adults age 50+ through social engagement, community involvement and support to create a sense of belonging, positive mental health and a thriving community.

The Resource Center is also in the midst of a capital campaign to construct an LGBTQ friendly, 84-unit housing development for adults age 55+. The development will be the first of its kind in North Texas, and one of only a handful nationwide, to address the housing gaps that LGBTQ seniors face.

LGBTQ seniors face unique challenges relative to their non-LGBTQ peers. Many have experienced decades of discrimination in housing, employment and other areas. As a result, they are at greater risk of physical and mental illness and other conditions, such as chronic diseases, depression, disability, poor nutrition, high premature mortality and social isolation. The fear and social stigma they have experienced has disrupted their lives, their connections with their families of origin, their lifetime earnings and their opportunities to save for retirement.

Many find themselves without a traditional family on which to rely. According to studies by SAGE, LGBTQ seniors are more than twice as likely to live alone. According to AARP, 76% of LGBTQ people over age 45 are concerned about having adequate family and social support as they age. LGBTQ elders often come to rely on chosen family and the community at large as their own support networks dwindle.

The number of LGBTQ seniors is expected to double in Texas in the next ten years and the number of adults 65 and over is expected to triple by 2050. Meanwhile, we face a 20,000-unit shortage of affordable housing in Dallas alone. The rapidly aging population will only compound this shortage and LGBTQ seniors, who are more likely to live in poverty, find themselves at the margins in this affordable housing crisis.

Providers in Texas, such as Resource Center, working to address this crisis are sorely in need of data and resources from the state. The task force created by HB 2045 would go a long way to identify and create solutions to address the housing gaps confronting LGBTQ elders in our state.

We strongly support this bill and urge the committee to report it favorably.

Deborah M. Bell

sELF

Houston, TX

Subject: In Support of HB 2045

Submitted by: Deborah Moncrief Bell

Houston, TX

I am a resident of Houston, TX. In January of this year I was able to move into a Senior Housing facility that was made possible by the Montrose Center, a non-profit that provides service to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender population, and their allies. This affordable housing has provided me with my own housing after years of living in other people's homes and uncertainty. It also allows me to feel safe and have a much improved quality of life. Many do not have seniors that identify as part of this community, do not have family connections, or are estranged from family. Many are faced with being isolated from their community, or put in a position to seek housing where they may not be treated with the respect they deserve and suffer from discrimination. I think it is well worth the investment by the state of Texas to examine ways to allow more projects to be created and provide vulnerable seniors with stability as they live the final chapters of their lives. Please support HB 2045 and HB191.

Deborah Moncrief Bell

Leah Huddleston

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Self

Austin, TX

I fully support the establishment of a task force to consider the needs of the LGBT senior.

Lauren Rodriguez

Self/ social worker

Uhland, TX

I am writing in support of this bill. HB 2045 will help our homeless population greatly with finding a safe place to live. The LGBTQIA population is disproportionately left without safe housing and this is especially true for our senior citizens. Please pass this bill and help our community thrive at any age and feel loved and welcomed and safe.

Doyne Elliff, Dr.

self--retired public school superintendent

Corpus Christi, TX

This legislation would help provide valuable information to state lawmakers for development of policy and legislation to ensure that LGBTQ Senior Texans can live their later years with dignity, respect, and proper living arrangements. As the bill seeks to establish a task force for the purpose of making recommendations, there is no fiscal note attached. Please support HB 2045.

Aimee Arrambide, Executive Director

Avow

Austin, TX

I am in favor of this bill.

Conor Tantau

self - Social Service Worker

Austin, TX

Housing has been a huge ticket item of debate here in Texas, particularly from our governor. In demanding an end to public camping, he has given us two options, and only two: to jail those that face homelessness or to house them. This is a significant step towards the latter option, as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and questioning (LGBTQ+) people are more prone to housing crises. Here in Texas, we say we believe in family values and understand that family units and government recognition of families is a key part of ensuring the dignity of Texans throughout their lifetimes. However, LGBTQ+ Texans lived--and many continue to live--without these protections. Because of a lack of support for families of LGBTQ+ individuals, we have a group especially prone to lack of support later in life. On top of this, in the fourth decade of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, the LGBTQ+ community is still reeling from a loss of community members and loved ones, placing LGBTQ+ seniors in particularly dangerous circumstances when it comes to ensuring their housing and health need are met into old age. This task force ensures that a particularly vulnerable population is properly understood, so that Texas and its local governments can adequately respond to their needs after decades of neglect at our state's hands. To support the governor's desire to end the crisis of homelessness in our community while respecting the needs of our LGBTQ+ elders, I urge all members of this community to vote for this bill and support the push to develop a taskforce to survey the needs of LGBTQ+ Texans. Together, with better understanding of our community, we can ensure a dignified life for all Texans.

Rachel Carneglia

self

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AUSTIN, TX

Hello, My name is Rachel and I am a concerned Texan writing you today to wholeheartedly support this bill. We desperately need to understand the barriers to housing access for LGBTQIA+ Texans. Housing is a key component in leading a fulfilled and productive life, and the housing crisis we are currently in is affecting the most marginalized to a much greater extent than many imagine. Please help elderly and LGBTQIA+ Texans, and support this bill!

Rita Adelman

Self, Retired

Palacios, TX

This bill violates Christian belief by evaluating housing through sexual preference. It should not be passed.

Tom Tagliabue

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

I support Rep. Lopez's legislation that would help provide valuable information for the development of policy and legislation to ensure that LGBTQIA+ senior Texans can live their later years with dignity, respect, and proper living arrangements. The senior LGBTQIA+ community is less visible and faces numerous challenges for safe and secure housing not currently met by the public or private sector. The task force created by HB 2045 will provide answers and provide a roadmap to serve this under-served population.

Laquitta DeMerchant

Organizing for Action

Sugar Land, TX

Thank you for supporting the creation of a task force to support the LGBTQ+ community.

Enrique Lobo

Equality Texas

Laredo, TX

I support HB 2045. All Texans, including LGBTQ+ seniors deserve to live their years with dignity and love.

Kris Stevenson

Self/Homemaker and part time retail in a small business

Plano, TX

All seniors need to be protected and housed safely. Please make sure they're not discriminated against based on sexual orientation or any other reason that does not impact the safety of the community

Nikki Krueger

Self

Austin, TX

I am in favor of this measure.

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Robert Salcido
Pride Center San Antonio
San Antonio, TX

Texas State House - Urban Affairs Committee
Testimony in Support of HB 2045
Wednesday, March 31, 2021

Hello Chair, and members of the committee, my name is Robert Salcido, Jr., I'm from San Antonio and I'm here to testify in support of HB 2045. I have the privilege of serving as the executive director at Pride Center San Antonio, our local Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer-plus community resource center. While our resource center is located in the heart of San Antonio, we serve the greater Bexar County and surrounding areas. Among the thousands of calls and walk-ins we receive each year, the highest percentage are from LGBTQ+ identified people seeking resources where they can be their authentic selves, be treated with dignity, respect, and compassion, without fear of discrimination and harassment.

Secure, stable and affordable housing is a necessary component for healthy aging. With the aging boomer population — and more than 3 million people age 50 and over identifying as LGBTQ+ — the demand for low- and moderate-income LGBTQ+ welcoming housing could not be greater. As the first generation to be open about their sexuality and united around being authentic to themselves, many are estranged from family and never had or have lost a partner. Unfortunately, this security is denied to many LGBTQ+ older adults. Many of these older adults' experience fear, intimidation and harassment in their private homes and often have to go back into the closet in nursing homes or assisted living facilities, making their living situations physically and emotionally unhealthy. In addition, prejudice may have meant fewer work opportunities over their lifetime, resulting in meager, if any, savings. Due to higher levels of financial insecurity and lack of affordable housing, many LGBTQ+ elders find that they cannot afford homes in the communities they may have lived in for years making finding welcoming senior housing a challenge.

Recognizing this need, one way that LGBTQ+ advocates, municipalities, nonprofits, developers and others are responding is to create affordable supportive housing like those in Houston and one soon to be Dallas as well as other cities across the US. Reports from SAGE, a national Advocacy & Services group for LGBTQ+ Elders, estimates that the population of LGBTQ+ seniors in the United States by 2030 will be upwards of 7 million. HB 2045 would create a task force that would bring these important conversations and challenges concerning LGBTQ+ senior housing to the forefront. I urge this committee to consider our elders and support HB 2045. Thank you and have a great day!

In community,

Robert Salcido, Jr.
Executive Director
Pride Center San Antonio

Michael Briones, Retired
Self

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Corpus Christi, TX

Please support HB2045 since there's no cost for this legislation and the results of the committee would provide essential information to alleviate a current and future problem of suitable housing for seniors that are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning.

Rita McClure

Self - Retired

The Woodlands, TX

I strongly oppose this bill as it would allow taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies - not what our country needs and not what our tax dollars should be spent on. Thank you.

Terry Reed

Self / Purchasing

Sealy, TX

Opposed to this bill as it is not necessary and would be a waste of taxpayers earnings.

Ingrid Hamilton

self retired

The Woodlands, TX

Against creation of such a task force

Xiaojuan Warren

None

Houston, TX

This bill would use our taxpayer dollars to create an LGBTQ task force made up exclusively of members of the LGBTQ community to create radical policies like seen in HB 191. It is wrong and an ineffective way to use taxpayers' money. There are a lot more important issues that need our attention, time and money. Please don't use the so called "Task Force" to avoid responsibilities, waste time and taxpayers' money.

Maria (Meta) Rousseau

self

The Woodlands, TX

Please do NOT pass this bill! It will not promote equality but actually use our tax dollars to elevate certain groups above others. I do not wish my tax dollars to build inequality.

Bill Hoelscher

Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation - Corpus Christi, TX

Corpus Christi, TX

This legislation would help provide valuable information to state lawmakers for development of policy and legislation to ensure

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that LGBTQ Senior Texans can live their later years with dignity, respect, and proper living arrangements. As the bill seeks to establish a task force for the purpose of making recommendations, there is no fiscal note attached. ALL Texans deserve access to health and wellness initiatives, including safe housing. Please support HB 2045.

Rachele Merliss

Self, Social Worker

Austin, TX

I am writing to support HB 2045 and ask my representatives to vote yes on this bill. I am a queer woman who works in housing services, so this topic is both personal and professional for me. As a social worker in housing services, I know that Texas is in a housing crisis, and that LGBTQIA+ individuals are more likely to be experiencing homelessness. I strongly support efforts to provide housing and services to LGBTQIA+ senior citizens, and all vulnerable populations.

Sandra Becker

self retired

Houston, TX

Opposed to this bill

Elliott Beck

Self

Austin, TX

Hello,

My name is Elliott Beck. I am the former president of the LGBT Law Section of the Austin Bar and the former chair of the LGBT Law Section of the State Bar of Texas. I am also a practicing attorney in Austin. I represent myself and I am strongly in favor of this bill. LGBTQ+ senior citizens are at a significantly higher risk of experiencing homelessness because they are far more likely to be alone in their later years. It is no secret that members of our community are often ostracized from their jobs, families, churches, and communities. As such, more they are often left with no support system late in life. I cannot imagine how lonely it must be for many of our older LGBTQ+ Texans to have no one to turn to for help when they need it most, but I know we should do more to support them.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and attention to this bill.

Sincerely,

Elliott Beck

John Peyton

Self

The Woodlands, TX

There is much better use of taxpayers money than to build a biased group of people to legislate anything. LGBTQ should not be given any special privileges more than any other group. Very opposed to this bill

Janet Grigsby

Self, retired

San Antonio, TX

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As a straight ally to the LGBTQ community, I fully support this bill and it's efforts to address safe and nondiscriminatory housing for this disenfranchised community.

Janet Hilton
self: retired teacher
Corpus Christi, TX

This legislation would help provide valuable information to state lawmakers for development of policy and legislation to ensure that LGBTQ Senior Texans can live their later years with dignity, respect, and proper living arrangements. As the bill seeks to establish a task force for the purpose of making recommendations, there is no fiscal note attached. Please support HB 2045.

Gregory Oertel
Self - Nonprofit Manager
Dallas, TX

I support HB 2045. All Texans, including LGBTQ+ seniors deserve to live their lives with dignity and love. Since this task force has no fiscal note and could help provide us with data to better serve our elder adults, I think it is an obvious choice to support HB 2045.

Scooter Burns
Self
Merkel, TX

I strongly urge you to vote against this bill. It has the potential to limit the use of the Bible Thanks for your consideration.

Karri Bertrand
self, attorney
Richardson, TX

I support HB 2045. HB 2045 will create a task force to identify ways to improve housing situations for LGBTQ+ seniors. LGBTQ+ seniors need affordable and safe housing options in their golden years, as many are facing discrimination and limited housing options. This creation of this task force has no budgetary ask and will not cost the State of Texas anything.

Delhi Ekambo
Self
Irving, TX

I do not want my tax dollars to be funded for this cause. Thank you.

Harold Hardaway, Dr.
Self - Consultant
Austin, TX

I support HB 2045. All Texans, including LGBTQ+ seniors deserve to live their golden years with dignity and love. Since this taskforce has no fiscal note, and could help provide us with data to best serve our elder adults I think it a no brainer.

Matt Stuckey

self

San Antonio, TX

I am deeply concerned about the inherent prejudice in this proposed legislation. This Bill would criminalize the free expression of biblical values on sexuality, a direct violation of 1st Amendment rights. It would grant special protections based on "Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity" and thereby undermine the status of all other Texans in the process. I ask that the Texas Legislature deny this Bill, and instead champion bills that protect the religious freedom and biblical values that have made Texas the fine state that it is.

Joan Yates

Self, Homemaker

Valley View, TX

This bill is completely unnecessary and racist! If you believe a task force is needed, it should be for the evaluation of ALL senior citizens' housing needs.

Joan Yates

Self, Homemaker

Valley View, TX

I adamantly oppose this bill. Why are you singling out and favoring only certain senior citizens? If you want a task force to evaluate housing needs for senior citizens, it should be for ALL senior citizens. As written, this bill is unconstitutional.

Katherine Gorman

Self/elementary school principal

Corpus Christi, TX

This legislation would help provide valuable information to state lawmakers for development of policy and legislation to ensure that LGBTQ Senior Texans can live their later years with dignity, respect, and proper living arrangements. As the bill seeks to establish a task force for the purpose of making recommendations, there is no fiscal note attached. Please support HB 2045.

Erika Galindo

Lilith Fund for Reproductive Equity

Austin, TX

My name is Erika Galindo and I am in favor of House Bill 2045. I am sharing support today on behalf of The Lilith Fund for Reproductive Equity. Lilith Fund helps people seeking abortion in Texas with financial assistance, and our work is rooted in the framework of reproductive justice. Reproductive Justice states plainly that all people deserve access to the resources they need to build safe and nurturing homes for themselves and their family. This includes queer and trans Texas seniors.

A creation of a task force would greatly benefit our state by gathering meaningful information about the housing needs of LGBTQ seniors, who are particularly vulnerable due to their unique circumstances of being estranged or disconnected from family members that can support them.

Armando Sanchez

Self

Austin, TX

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The State has a responsibility to house Texans who experience homelessness in a responsible and effective way. Homeless LGBTQ+ senior citizens have needs that need to be understood and met with intentionality and dignity. This is why I'm in favor of HB 2045.

David Pounds, Mr.

n/a

Goliad, TX

Please vote no to this bill. Thank you.

Ali Ramos

Self - Social Worker

Amarillo, TX

I support HB 2045 as our LGBTQ+ seniors deserve the best possible care as it relates to their housing needs.

Aiden Beckert

Texas Tech University

Lubbock, TX

Our elders are the holders of our history, and LGBTQ+ elders are especially valuable and deserve to be granted the housing stability they need and deserve.

Michelle Hernandez

Self

Borger, TX

Why do you need to spend taxpayer money specially for this group? All seniors should be treated equally and I do not support a special interest task force for just this group!

LAURA PEREGRIM, Mrs.

Self - Retired

LEANDER, TX

I strongly oppose this bill! The majority of Texans DO NOT want their taxes being spent on a task force made up exclusively of LGBTQ members so they can enforce radical, political laws and policies that do not necessarily improve anyone's life, but these policies and laws will eventually mandate the loss of religious freedom to those who choose to follow Biblical teaching. Many times physical safety and emotional peace and well being is compromised for the majority through these policies. Or rights and current wonderful programs, as in the biological women's sports programs, are demolished by allowing biological men to compete in women's sports. It is all part of the LGBTQ community's agenda to "normalize" the sexual lifestyle which should be private and not dictating to or removing freedom of religion to the vast majority of Texans.

Ronald Christian

Christian Cowboys and Friends

Blanco, TX

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I am against HB 2045. It would make Texas a less safe place. The blessings we have enjoyed would be destroyed.

Sandra Burdick, Ms.

Self

Copperas Cove, TX

Part of my religious rights are being able to express my beliefs. If someone doesn't want to hear them they have the right to ignore me but do not have the right to shut me up.

K. Theiss

Self

Conroe, TX

If passed then once more the groups that do not fall into this groups are having our rights thrown away! Vote No. do the right thing for everyone, not a select few, and stomp on rest of Americans.

Jack Sheehy

self

Arlington, TX

"....creation of a task force to evaluate the housing needs of senior citizens who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning".

HB 2045 is another attempt to usurp current solid laws already implemented in Texas, and add a task force to do what? Totally subjective, political, and a waste of time, effort, and money.

Nothing is needed to evaluate these housing needs, and we need to keep our current biblical and moral statutes in place. No amendments are needed. Texas has solid values that need to remain in place. Texans know how to treat their fellow Texans without "special" task forces like this.