

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Homeland Security & Public Safety
For HB 71

Compiled on: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 5:20 PM

Note: Comments received by the committee reflect only the view of the individual(s) submitting the comment, who retain sole responsibility for the content of the comment. Neither the committee nor the Texas House of Representatives takes a position on the views expressed in any comment. The committee compiles the comments received for informational purposes only and does not exercise any editorial control over comments.

Hearing Date: March 28, 2023 2:00 PM - or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted

Lauren Larson
self / educator
Liberty Hill, TX

I urge you to vote AGAINST HB 71. We must preserve privacy and autonomy for Texans. Implementing a digital ID is a dangerous precedent that can be used to control and coerce, much like a "vaccine passport" or "green pass" implemented in other countries during lockdowns. Please protect Texans' right to freedom of movement, freedom to use cash, freedom to liberty and free commerce. A digital ID can be a method of implementing a digital control grid that we must resist. Thank you!

Erika Alvarez
Self
Dripping Springs, TX

I am against digital identification.

Julie Gosh
3450 Elder Hill Rd, Driftwood, tx. 78619
Driftwood, TX

I am opposed in every respect to this bill!!!!

Philip Belz
self
Arlington, TX

I strongly oppose the creation of digital drivers licenses as it will be used as part of the creation of the digital police state ushering in global ID. It is important that we maintain restraints on the digitization of our personal identities as our information is bought and sold and used to track us and violate our freedoms more and more every year. I strongly oppose digital IDs and ask that you kill this bill and not allow it to the floor.

Eric Larson
self / Technology Leader
Liberty Hill, TX

Please vote AGAINST HB 71. No digital system is secure, and forcing Texans to adopt a digital system pertaining to legal identity is an unreasonable demand that makes possible the utter destruction of a person's life, not to mention incurring an immense cost to both the state and Texans. Beyond the practical challenges of creating a secure and effective system, using any 3rd party to implement this system will require constant auditing to ensure bugs in the system are addressed and not exploited. Executing on this sort of system would require multiple RFPs that would be a continual expense for the state. A team of 10 people is not an unreasonable estimate, costing nearly \$2 million/year, with no guarantees around quality.

Lastly, we must preserve privacy and autonomy for Texans. Any requirement to leverage a Digital ID means that the state or associated parties can easily limit a person's freedoms and coerce behavior. A Digital ID could be invalidated unless the person is injected with an unwanted vaccine. This could prevent someone's ability to travel or garner critical services. In short, a Digital ID enables oppression and tyranny, eliminating Texans' right to freedom and liberty. Thank you for voting AGAINST HB 71 and working to stop this legislation from taking effect on Sept 1, 2023.

Peggy Rometo
Self
Spicewood, TX

I vote NO

Robert Rometo
Self
Spicewood, TX

Vote NO

Aditi Mukherjee
Self, homemaker
Pflugerville, TX

This Bill, HB 71, is a clear violation of Texans' belief in privacy and autonomy. The representative who proposed the bill clearly doesn't represent "We The People" of Texas. I strongly object to passing of this bill.

JEROME YOUNG
self
THE WOODLANDS, TX

OPPOSE

Jennifer Canady
Self
Austin, TX

I object to the establishment of a digital driver's license or any other form of digital identification, which I view as a violation of my freedom as a citizen of Texas and the USA. I view this as a step toward tyranny. Just say no!

Thomas Fabry

Grassroots America We The People

Tyler, TX

I strongly oppose HB71. Like all proposals for "digital IDs" the underlying technology and potential data gathering becomes the predicate for the surveillance and tracking of otherwise innocent citizens. "Big data" is an existential threat to freedom and digital drivers licenses are the proverbial camel's nose under the tent - the gateway for marrying our freedom to freely travel with other legs of a social scoring system. Rep Canales has even written into his bill the use of "third parties" to provide said services with all the security and privacy risks incumbent with delegation of personal information. The State should not be engaged in such activities let alone provide an external organization with such license. Refect HB71 and vote FOR Freedom!

Jennifer ADAMS

Self retired

JOSEPHINE, Texas, TX

This bill is detrimental for American citizens. It will further a police state and allow a global agenda to easily be attained. We are counting on this committee to do the right thing and vote no to all attempts at digital identification for American citizens. Thank you for your time and efforts to stop HB 71 from ever becoming a possibility.

jule stupfel

Happy Face Day Spa

Austin, Tx 78749, TX

I am AGAINST bills HB71 AND HB3573. Digital Identification systems, including Digital Drivers licenses may seem innocuous but they can store personal data and are required to present for a wide variety of our basic needs (renting/buying home, setting up utilities, proof of ID for insurance and medical data, etc..). Digital identifiers remove any potential for anonymity and privacy and

introduce a HUGE risk of security and commingling access to sensitive data from financial to medical records. Digital Identifiers are the way in which governments and corporations can discriminate based on any number of political, economic, or even social metrics. Society does not need warlords and politicians with agenda's surveilling us!

Combine Digital ID's with Central Bank Digital Currencies, which are unlike private digital currency that maintains anonymous transactions, have limited counter party risk, and have a public/ethical ledger of transactions, CBDC's are programmable and can be used to discriminate (with a Digital ID) based on location, purchase type, or any other subjective political reason.

Additionally, CBDCs have no commodity backing their value and will result in unlimited inflation resulting in a continual reduction in the value of our time and labor. PLEASE START REPRESENTING WHAT THE PEOPLE WANT, NOT BIG CORPORATIONS!

Terri Hall, Founder/Director
Texas TURF, Texans for Toll-free Highways, PAC
San Antonio, TX

Digital ID moves data from behind the server to the user device. If it contains any other data, it could and likely will be used as a mechanism for discrimination.

1) No app on a phone will be secure for very long - Data on phones is ultimately hackable.
2) TxDOT/ DMV have already proven they will violate our privacy by selling our data AND the CIO of TX has been on record saying there are other government agencies that could benefit (meaning the digital ID could be used to access other parts of data).

3) Digital ID can store personal data, and a drivers license is required to be presented in many places (air travel, rent or buy home, utilities, accessing bar, etc.)

Digital Identification is not a path we want to go down - security is not convenience and,

4) Digital ID is the central technology that could be used for businesses to discriminate if personal information becomes stored on Digital ID

Digital ID should never be used to access personal medical or financial data. Regardless of what gets written into statute, that data could more easily be accessed through hacking by any number of nefarious parties leaving EVERY Texan vulnerable in ways they aren't today with a plastic ID card issued by the state. We strongly oppose this bill.

Bonnie Wallace
self; retired
LLANO, TX

I am AGAINST this bill as it is an invasion of privacy.

MaryBeth Farrar
Self
Paige, TX

KILL THIS BILL!!! This is yet another way to control humanity on the planet and take our freedoms away. How about reinstating our CONSTITUTION and enforcing it? KILL THIS SATANIC HB 71. Thank you.

Adriana Krueger
Self
Austin, TX
Against this bill

Boris Stojanovic
self
Leander, TX

Absolutely against it

Jon Callahan
self
Austin, TX

I am strongly against this. This poses a huge security and privacy risk to each of us regarding our financial, medical and personal records. I think this is short-sighted and has many more risks than benefits.

Wendell Norwood II

Self / Finance

Austin, TX

I see this as a continuation against the peoples privacy. Please vote against this. It may seem innocuous at first take but it is another step towards taking control of the people lives instead of giving people control of their own futures.

Nicole Duncum

self/family

Austin, TX

Please do not move forward on digital identification. We are already having problems this year on plagiarism in our schools due to Chat GPT and other tools. There is too much room for stealing of identity. Not a safe way to go at this point. I don't support moving forward on digital identification. Thank you, Nicole Duncum

Stephanie Reed, Ms

Self

The Hills, TX

Preserving our basic human right of privacy and autonomy is crucial, and we must take action immediately to protect it.

The government has demonstrated beyond a doubt they are dedicated to tracking, monitoring, and controlling people via a digital prison.

James Newell

self, Medical Device Distributor

San Marcos, TX

Vote no

Kelly Wolf

self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill as it erodes our fundamental right to privacy. I urge you to vote against this bill!

Peter Rehme

Self - self employed

Spicewood, TX

I am against the issuance of digital identification.

Harper Rehme

Self

Spicewood, TX

I strongly disagree and urge the house to not pass a program issuing digital identification in Texas.

Digital identifiers remove any potential for anonymity and privacy and introduce a huge risk of security and commingling access to sensitive data from financial to medical records.

Digital identifiers are the way in which governments and corporations discriminate based on any number of political, economic, or even social metrics.

Brandon Bozarth

Self

Austin, TX

I am here to vote against this Bill as well as bill HB3573

Janice Newell

Self retired flight attendant

San Marcos, TX

I oppose any kind of digital identification to preserve my personal sovereign autonomy.

Franklin VanOs

Self- self employed

Stonewall, TX

I oppose HB71. Digital Identification systems, including Digital Drivers licenses store personal data and remove any potential for anonymity and privacy. They also introduce a huge risk of security and commingling access to sensitive data from financial and medical records. Digital identifiers represent a serious risk of discrimination based on political, economic, and social metrics. The risks outweigh any potential benefits.

Torrie VanOs

Self- Self Employed

Stonewall, TX

I oppose HB71. Digital Identification systems, including Digital Drivers licenses store personal data and remove any potential for anonymity and privacy. They also introduce a huge risk of security and commingling access to sensitive data from financial and medical records. Digital identifiers represent a serious risk of discrimination based on political, economic, and social metrics. The risks outweigh any potential benefits.

Joan Fawell-Scaff

Self - Interior Designer

Houston, TX

I and my family are fervently against both of these bills. Please vote against these bills to preserve our independence. We must stop the over reach from the government. Its terrifying!

Lynnette Mathias, Ms

Self Registered Nurse

Austin, TX

Strongly OPPOSE. This bill has no place in a fee state, in a free country.

Lauren Bohart

self

Dallas, TX

Digital identifiers remove any potential for anonymity and privacy and introduce a huge risk of security and commingling access to sensitive data from financial to medical records. I do not want this bill passed and neither do many Texans. Preserving our basic human right of privacy and autonomy is crucial, and we must take action immediately to protect it.

Thanks,

Lauren Bohart

Margaret Bullitt
Self
Fredericksburg, TX

As a proud Texan who values my God-given freedoms, I strongly oppose the proposed government intrusion of digital ID's.
Please vote against HB 71.

ADAM STEVENSON
Self- Manager of others
Austin, TX

Thank you for offering a way to oppose

Jeff Brantley
Self
Austin, TX

I am against this bill. We should not introduce any form of digital ID as it is easily compromised and will have too many connections to other sensitive personal data. It matters not what kind of assurances you have that this will be secure, the risk is too great and you cannot guarantee it will not be compromised. This data needs segregation and protection from aggregation because this will be used against us. In most cases the tendency is for the government to use it against us. There are already many market-based ways that a person can choose to share his data and create their own digital ID as desired. There is no reason to force this on the people.
Thank you and I urge you to vote "No" on HB 71

Barbara Ditlow
self
Austin, TX

HB 71, VOTE NO to this bill that permits the creation of digital driver's licenses.

Sandy Nemeroff
Volunteer/ Children's Health Defense
Austin, TX

I urge you to vote AGAINST HB 71 because it's establishment would violate the basic human rights of privacy and autonomy.

Carol Montgomery, Mrs.
Self
Dripping Springs, TX

As a American citizen & resident of Texas, I would like to Vote Against HB71 regarding the creation of Digital Driver's Licenses. Digital licenses can store personal data for a variety of our basic needs from renting or buying a home, utility payments, proof of ID for medical insurance and medical data, etc. Digital ID's will remove any and all anonymity & privacy & will introduce a huge security risk to one's personal, financial and medical records. Digital ID's are just another way the gov't & corporations can & will discriminate on the basis of political, economic and social metrics.
The gov't is elected by the People and therefore works for the People.

Diane Willenberg
--select an item-- Retired
The Hills, TX
against HB71 and HB3573 CBDC Bank Bill

Mark Godfrey
Self
Kingsland, TX

Digital ID is required step to implement a central bank digital currency (CBDC) which will be the end of our freedom. You must not create a digital driver license. I and all freedom loving Texans will not tolerate this theft of our freedom.

Julie Williams
Self
Lakeway, TX

Vote NO on this privacy shredding and government control over our money bill. This is the camels nose under the tent and it must be stopped. I will never agree to or accept digital currency in the form of cdbc's which can disappear at the flip of a switch if the govt doesn't approve of me or my purchases or if they choose to ration any part of our economy for their own purposes

Julie Williams
Self
Lakeway, TX

Vote NO on HB 71 for digital Texas drivers license. This is a further attempt at government control and intrusion into our privacy. Computer glitches in the system can also mis-identify individuals and/or be used as tools for spying.

Rachel Mills
Self- Private Business Owner
Lakeway, TX

Please do not let digital ID happen in the state of TEXAS. With the ease of digital hacking, photoshopping, anything electronic and various countries having easy access and the corruption within THOSE governments, we as Americans and TEXANS need to protect ourselves sometimes in an "archaic" way. As a Mother, I ask of you to please secure our identities along with my children, generations to come and our hard earned monies by NOT passing these types of bills; our state's independence and as TEXANS depends on it. We must continue to be the leaders without regret, while others look to us as leaders. We are always thankful after the fact that we held our ground, as it is too early for this type of a decision. There is A LOT on the table once we go in this direction.

Kindest Regards, Rachel M. Mills, Lakeway, TX

Monica Garcia
Self
Dripping Springs, TX

Privacy is our right as citizens.

Julie Minnis, Mrs
Self/family Health Advocate and Researcher
Austin, TX

I strongly urge all to vote against HB71

Digital identification systems like this one remove any potential for anonymity and privacy and introduce a huge risk of security.

Please vote NO!

Steven Klayman, Dr
Self
Austin, TX

I strongly opposed both of these bills. Texas stands for freedom not slavery.

JULIE DAHLBERG

Self

LA VERNIA, TX

OPPOSED TO HB 71. Digital ID can be too easily exploited and abused and can be a threat to our freedom and privacy. Please vote against HB 71.

Claudine Auge

Myself

Dripping Springs, TX

I oppose this bill

Jeanette Zimmerman

Self

VICTORIA, TX

Digital Identification systems, including Digital Drivers licenses may seem innocuous but they can store personal data and are required to present for a wide variety of our basic needs (renting/buying home, setting up utilities, proof of ID for insurance and medical data, etc..).

Digital identifiers remove any potential for anonymity and privacy and introduce a huge risk of security and commingling access to sensitive data from financial to medical records.

Digital identifiers are the way in which governments and corporations discriminate based on any number of political, economic, or even social metrics.

Combine Digital ID's with Central Bank Digital Currencies, which are unlike private digital currency that maintains anonymous transactions, have limited counterparty risk, and have a public/ethical ledger of transactions, CBDC's are programmable and can be used to discriminate (with a Digital ID) based on location, purchase type, or any other subjective political reason.

Teresa McCollum

self- retired

Borger, TX

I strongly oppose any form of digital identification in Texas. This bill opens a door to unwarranted actions that are occurring in the Communist Country of China and Texans do not want to emulate the demise of liberty the people of China have succumbed to over the last decades.

Lars Kuslich

self

Dayton, TX

This is an absolutely terrible bill. The very nature of creating, installing, and managing a mobile application would allow for an unprecedented degree of government surveillance. Since it is not prohibited, will the app send location data of the user's phone back to TxDOT and/or some other agency? A "law enforcement version" is mentioned, will that version automatically track all "normal" versions of the app within a specified range? What about cybersecurity? Government agencies and institutions have been broken into in the past, so will someone be able to crack the servers holding the digital identification and change them? This last point alone would allow for a much more complete means of committing identity fraud. The fact that these and other obvious concerns are not accounted for leads me to think this bill's authors fully intend to make use of them for nefarious purposes. No honest, normal citizen of Texas truly wants this. Reject it.

Phil Bohart
Self
Dallas, TX

Americans do not want a digital ID or digital driver's license that can be turned off/on.

Michael Meuth
self
Buda, TX

We do NOT need this digital form of ID and it is dangerous to our freedoms. Digital Identifiers are the way that all discrimination and tyranny will occur if we allow it.

Central Bank Digital Currencies, Facial Recognition Software, and Social Credit systems (created and enforced not by governments but by corporations), all depend on a unique digital identifier in order for discrimination to occur.

Rachel Kindervater
self
Rosharon, TX

Vote against digital Drivers licenses.

Digital Identification systems, including Digital Drivers licenses may seem innocuous but they can store personal data and are required to present for a wide variety of our basic needs (renting/buying home, setting up utilities, proof of ID for insurance and medical data, etc.).

Digital identifiers remove any potential for anonymity and privacy and introduce a huge risk of security and commingling access to sensitive data from financial to medical records.

Digital identifiers are the way in which governments and corporations discriminate based on any number of political, economic, or even social metrics.

WILMA JOY Putnam
Self
Georgetown, TX

I OPPOSE HB 71 AND REQUEST THAT YOU ALSO OPPOSE IT.

This bill creates a Digital Driver's license which, in my opinion, could lead to Texas becoming more like California and China than most Texans would like.

Jane Owens
self, Ranch Owner/entrepreneur: Circle W Ranch, BLW Donner, LLC (minerals)
Wimberley, TX

I vote NO on the bill to further erode our privacy and loss of security through digital identification. China already has this in place and I hardly think that Texans want to live in China, now, or EVER. We will hold you accountable for this loss of sovereignty and move toward a totalitarian state!

DANIEL GILL
12201 TERRAZA CIR, AUSTIN, TX 78726
AUSTIN, TX

Putting IDs in the cloud is an invasion of privacy, and invites ID theft and other types of malfeasances.

Amy Fawell
myself
Austin, TX

As a free citizen of Texas and the United States, I am AGAINST HB71

Jose Silvester
Self
San Antonio, TX

I OPPOSE HB 71 because digitizing Drivers Licenses will create a digital police state and continue to encroach upon Texans' liberties. Our personal information has already been compromised by our government during elections, by making available our Voter Registration Records, GIS address, SSA, ERIC, CMS, HHS and more to the CCP and others, to establish the goal of combining all personal information into one ID to control all your constituents. We do not want to live under a CCP credit score system where everyone is controlled by the government. This system is abhorrent and contrary to the US and Texas Constitutions and the Bill of Rights.

Andrew Van Dalsem
Self - Animator
Cedar Park, TX

This technology presents terrifying opportunities for abuse by the State and paves the way for a Chinese style social credit system and CBDCs. It is imperative that Texas take whatever steps necessary to protect the privacy and autonomy of its citizens. No to digital IDs! No to CBDCs!

Kim Roland
Texas Constitutional Enforcement
Lockhart, TX

I am opposed.