

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on State Affairs  
For SB 8

Compiled on: Monday, August 25, 2025 8:55 PM

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Hearing Date: August 22, 2025 8:00 AM

Gaylyn DeVine  
Self, Business Owner  
Pearland, TX

Thank you Chair and Committee members for scheduling this important legislation for a public hearing. I urge you to support SB8, the Women's Privacy Act, and protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of all females in Texas schools. Please ensure SB8 moves forward out of committee as it is urgently needed to protect our daughters, granddaughters and all females in locker rooms, bathrooms, and private spaces.

Makayla Ponce  
Self, City Planner  
Austin, TX

Hello Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee, I am writing in opposition of SB8. Unfortunately, today we have heard a lot of unkind testimony against trans individuals, with even some testimony discussing ideas of violence against them. It has been so saddening honestly - I believe that many members of the committee are Christian as well, and I truly feel that this bill and its intentions are not loving. There have been multiple bathroom bans throughout the past 100 years, against the black population, the gay population. We, societally at least, look back on those restrictions and recognize how wrong they were - we can use our foresight as thoughtful individuals to recognize this will probably be the same case.

It's just...why are we focused on bullying less than 1% of the population, who are just living? In the many testimonies today, I just heard several transgender individuals who just want to be able to use the bathroom without being confronted. I feel like that's a normal request? And honestly, one that we learned in Kindergarten?... I feel like we all learned to not to look in other people's stalls and bother them in the bathroom?

I believe quite a few people also made a fantastic point about how we'll be able to discern who is and isn't transgender. There have been multiple reports, such as from Boston, Arizona, and a few other cities of cis women being harassed for being trans, when that wasn't the case - they just weren't feminine enough. Additionally, will we have officials posted at the entry of these state property restrooms and changing facilities? It strikes me as a little strange that in our effort to ensure that women aren't being harassed or accosted in the bathroom, there's the potential that...women will have to prove in some way, bodily, that they are in fact cis? As another individual said in his testimony, I don't think many officers are interested in being the body police, and I'm more concerned about the officers who are interested in that position.

Our transgender neighbors deserve dignity and privacy, and that's legitimately all we're asking for. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you so much

Brez Barr  
self  
Austin, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. Be a hero, not a bully.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.”

Monica Welch  
Self/Small business owner, artist  
Round Rock, TX

As a woman, this bill makes me less safe. I was a tall, skinny teen with short hair and would occasionally be mistaken for a boy. That girls like me - and women who don't appear traditionally “girly” enough - can be threatened by strangers unless they show their genitals to prove their gender is scary and makes many women less safe. Additionally, trans men look like men, often with beards and muscular builds. What better disguise for a cis-het male predator? As a woman, I feel more safe if folks with beards and strong bodies use men's bathrooms.

Levi King  
Self, student  
Austin, TX

Hello Committee. My name is Levi King, I am a 17-year-old junior at Crockett High School, and I am here to testify against SB8 on behalf of myself. Before I begin my testimony, I am shocked that this committee let somebody testify with the Confederate flag, a symbol of slavery, as well as a shirt displaying his hateful message. Did this committee not say that signs were prohibited from this session? Time to get on topic. I do not understand why this bill is even here in the first place. As mentioned by Representative Anchia, there have not been any sort of reported incidents by Texas police relating to transgender women occupying women's restrooms. This bill aims not to protect women in our state but instead to target and discriminate against our transgender friends. Texas needs to get it together. Why are legislators attacking a small yet important group in this state's community, instead of progressing forward with policies of equality and equity? In what way does it make sense that people who identify as women are going to be forced to share the restroom with men? How will you gather your proof of the gender of someone just trying to use the restroom? These seem more like blatant violations of safety and privacy than anything else. The LGBTQ+ community deserves so much better than the continuous hatred and diminishment that Texas throws their way. My mother has told me how important it is not to make choices out of fear, and that is exactly what this is. This bill is a product of fear with absolutely no evidence to back it up. To all of the transgender and LGBTQ+ heroes who are here today to make their voices heard, I am so glad you are here and am proud to share this room with you. Despite some of the downright despicable testimonies we have had to sit through today we must continue to protest against this flagrant instance of overt injustice. Committee, I urge you not to pass this discriminatory bill if you wish to be on the right side of history.

Adrienne Farmer  
self  
Austin, TX

I'm asking to urge Senators to find compassion in their hearts for trans people, respectful, contributing and sadly scared and marginalized Texans who simply happen to be trans, and not to let trans people be used as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature appears intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority of people of all ages deserving of dignity, safety, basic human rights, and protection from discrimination and bullying, like anyone else, for a nonexistent problem. I know many gender expansive people who are proud to be Texans and Americans and this is their home, where they are not being treated as if they are allowed to exist. That is unacceptable. Taking away their safety and basic rights and dignity for no proven harm to anyone except trans people, is detrimental to mental health and the democratic rights of Texans and all people. I ask that the Senators vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to engaging in a equitable, just democratic process with you.

Kelli Bland, Ms.  
Self  
Austin, TX

Please do not pass this bill. It will not do anything to make women safer. It will make women and children less safe. And we should all be able to use the restroom without being harassed because someone thinks we don't look male or female enough. We all deserve dignity.

Beth Reyburn

self, personal trainer and mother

Austin, TX

I have never been threatened (either in fact or feeling) by a trans woman in the bathroom. Sending a trans woman into a men's room is putting her at risk of assault and/or harrassment. Is this the point of this bill? How will you enforce it? Are we all carrying birth certificates or are you planning to check our genitals?

Justin De Witt

Self business owner

Austin, TX

This is a ridiculous waste of taxpayer money and your time. We have much more important things to do than solve a problem that doesn't exist. Shameful and disgusting.

Ernesto Hernandez

Self

Amarillo, TX

There are only 2 Genders in this World that God made Male and Female and the spaces used should be the same for Men and For Women.

Evangeline Liendo

Self

San Antonio, TX

We individually deserve the right to urinate in freedom without fear of our genitals being inspected. I oppose SB8.

Lia Rosen

Self

Austin, TX

If this bill is truly attempting to make sure everyone feels safe in public spaces that highlight one's "sex" then let's advocate for inclusive bathroom

Spaces. Why are we gendering toilets and public spaces anyway? If we want all beings to be safe, let's create safe laws and teach safe values for all.

Cindy Skinner

Self

Lago Vista, TX

I strongly oppose SB 8. As with many other Texas GOP bills, SB 8 demonstrates the level of extreme ongoing cruelty in Texas by the rich far right christian nationalists (we all know their names). Those in favor of this bill will be on the wrong side of history and will be remembered at the polls for their cruelty to women. Remember, women's rights currently vary by U.S. state....men's rights do not.....let that sink in!

Josh Parks  
Self  
Austin, TX

I am writing in opposition to SB 8 requiring Texans to use bathrooms and other facilities based on the sex listed on their birth certificate rather than their gender identity. The bill's consequences would be harmful, unworkable, and unnecessary.

First, it endangers transgender Texans. Transgender people already face high rates of harassment and violence in public spaces. Forcing them to use bathrooms where they are visibly out of place makes them targets for abuse. Every major medical and psychological association in the U.S. recognizes that affirming transgender identities is essential to health, safety, and well-being.

Second, it creates an enforcement nightmare. Who will check people's "biological sex" at the door? Will Texans be expected to carry birth certificates to use a restroom? In practice, the bill invites suspicion and harassment of anyone who doesn't fit stereotypes of masculinity or femininity. Cisgender women with short hair and men with long hair are already policed in bathrooms; SB 8 would legitimize this discrimination.

Third, the bill addresses a problem that does not exist. More than 20 states and countless cities already allow transgender people to use facilities consistent with their gender identity. Law enforcement officials consistently report no increase in safety issues. By contrast, transgender people themselves are far more likely to be harassed or assaulted when they are forced into the wrong restroom.

Finally, SB 8 undermines core Texas values of freedom and privacy. Texans value individual liberty and limited government. This bill increases government intrusion into some of the most private aspects of life, while sending a damaging message to transgender youth that they do not belong. Research is clear that this type of exclusion contributes to higher rates of depression and suicidality—outcomes no responsible policymaker should want to worsen.

Senate Bill 8 is harmful, unworkable, and unnecessary. Instead of targeting a vulnerable group of Texans, our laws should protect the safety and dignity of every resident. I respectfully urge you to oppose SB 8.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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?? Word count: ~480 | Characters (with spaces): ~2,750 ? comfortably under 3,000.

Do you want me to also prepare a condensed oral version (2–3 minutes) that keeps the emotional punch but trims out extra detail?

Mary Margaret Walker  
self retired  
Hurst, TX

This bill will cause more trouble than it can prevent. Anyone who is bothered by someone of the opposite sex assigned at birth in their bathroom will be freaked out by transmen in the women's bathroom, and it will be unsafe for transwomen to be in the men's room. Ensure everyone's safety by voting no on this bill.

Mike Richter  
Self  
Mesquite, TX

Please consider passing sb8 out of committee as is. Thanks

Leslie Jones

Self

Austin, TX

As a parent to a transgender child, I am against the bathroom bill as it is flagrantly against the safety & support of all beings. This is a fear based bill that has no place in our society.

James Jackson

PRIDENTON

Denton, TX

This is the testimony I was prepared to read today but was unable to due to the House shutting down the free speech of the Texans they work for.

Good morning, committee members. My name is James Jackson, I use he/him pronouns, and I'm a proud Latino trans man, born and raised in Texas. I serve on the board for PRIDENTON, an organization that plans the Pride celebrations in Denton. I'm here today to urge you to vote AGAINST SB 8.

It's unfortunate that queer and trans people and their allies are back to fight a bill that isn't based in reality. Let's call this what it is. It's a bill that is directly vilifying and dehumanizing trans people. This isn't going to protect anyone. It's a non-issue.

But you know all of this already. All of you are intelligent, I don't doubt that. So why is this creepy bill still taking up room in the House agenda? A record number of Texans have shown up over and over throughout the years to tell you all we don't need this bill. That this is going to hurt real people. Listen to those this will directly affect and medical professionals! Not random people who claim they know the science.

The goal of this bill specifically targets trans women - a deplorable and disgusting bill to an already vulnerable population.

Now, how will SB 8 affect me? Look at me. Imagine me standing in line for the women's restroom. Changing clothes in a locker room next to you. That's what you're telling all trans men and trans masculine people to do. In your so called reality, would you say that's protecting women?

I went through a disturbing encounter at a gym in 2017 when I was told that I couldn't use the men's locker room unless I had fully transitioned. What was I supposed to do? Drop my pants and show a gym full of strangers my genitals?

This bill will completely rob people, not just trans people, their freedoms.

I take no pleasure in being here with you today. In fact, I woke up at 3:30 to drive down here. But I will do everything in my power to make sure no one experiences being forced to prove their gender to anyone. Keep the hands of the law off of our bodies.

Keep your hands off of us.

Thank you.

Holly Hansel

Self

Austin, TX

I am reaching out in regards to SB8, a bill which as I understand authorizes the public to police people's gender/appearance in vulnerable locations such as locker rooms and restrooms. This bill is unnecessary & a waste of tax payer money & resources. Transgender people make up only about 1% of the population, but this law would affect all of us while in a gendered public space.

Already since bills like these have passed there have been multiple instances nationwide of cis-gendered woman, including a teenage girl, being accosted while trying to use the women's restroom because they were misgendered by the onlooker. The teenage girl at Buffalo Wild Wings was pressured into proving her gender to the server by showing off her breasts. Another case occurred in a Walmart where a woman, who was at the time an employee of the store, was harassed by a man who accused her of also being a man, simply because she is tall. Walmart proceeded to then fire her, even though she was a woman using the women's restroom & the customer was in the wrong. This is an indignity & begs the question- why are people of opposite gender allowed in if they are intentionally entering to make accusations against strangers they claim are in the wrong space? What is to stop them from making accusations against anyone they don't like, or worse, coercing people into revealing their private parts against their will?

As a woman, this is unacceptable and makes me feel unsafe. I never felt unsafe with transgender individuals in the restroom with me. But now I feel unsafe that any stranger could harass me in the restroom under the pretense of checking my sex. As someone who has been a nanny & a caretaker, I feel the safety of children is more at risk under this bill where any stranger could claim they have the right to see that child naked to prove their gender. This bill, intended to prevent a non-existent threat from transgender individuals emboldens people to abuse that power to police the appearance of others.

Additionally, there are instances when people need to access restrooms not aligning with their birth gender. My father was in a wheelchair following his stroke, & both my sister & I assisted in navigating his chair into the men's room on a number of occasions. Would we have been harassed for helping our father in a space not aligning with our sex? When I was a personal caretaker for a young man with special needs, would I have been denied access to assist him if he needed help in the bathroom? This bill also puts unnecessary strain on the legal & justice systems as people make claims against strangers based on their appearance. There are life & death situations out there- I feel our officers, our lawyers, & our judges have more pressing matters to attend to than "this person has short hair & wore pants into the womens bathroom".

There are many things our state could be prioritizing that would benefit its people. This bill is not one of them.

Alicia Gomez

Self Semi-retired

San Antonio, TX

As a biological female, I strongly endorse that spaces and facilities remain according to biological sex, authorizing a civil penalty and a private civil right of action.

Amy Ardington

Democratic Women of Brenham and self

Bellville, TX

Trans people are not well understood by most of us. A few short years ago, I didn't even know what it meant to be trans. Imagine my surprise to learn that I have a trans cousin. She was a biological male at birth, but she has had surgery and is now female. Her life has improved dramatically since her surgery. Those of us who are well suited to our sex at birth may not understand, but isn't it our duty as human beings to try to understand others? If you know trans people, you would see the lack of necessity for legislation of this nature. Based upon what I know about my cousin and about other trans people, they pose zero harm to others in spaces like restrooms, locker rooms, or changing areas. This legislation is sheer silliness and is grounded upon the most base and willful ignorance. Moreover, it will give rise to unnecessary litigation, which will then deplete precious judicial resources.

Renee Waghalter  
Self clergy  
Missouri City, TX

I strenuously object to this bill. Transgender people deserve a place to go to the bathroom. They're not hurting anyone, and are actually more likely to get hurt themselves by being forced to use the bathroom of the gender they were assigned at birth

Karen Pritchett  
Self  
Bryan, TX

Males and females are different and they both should expect support when it pertains to decency and privacy. As a female I don't want to share restrooms or locker rooms with males.

Thank you in advance  
Karen Pritchett

Jo Hamilton  
Self  
Austin, TX

This bill is cruel and targets a small group of people, encouraging invasive checks that don't make anything safe for anyone. The lege should be spending this special session on real issues like flood/disaster relief.

Kathy Hughes  
self  
Houston, TX

I strongly urge you to not support this bill. This bill unfairly singles out trans people with regard to what bathrooms they can use. We already have laws against sexual assault. We can continue to work to prevent this type of crime without regulating which bathrooms people can use. Such a ban would decrease the safety of trans people by targeting them for regulation. Please do not support this bill.

Laura Post  
Self, Cashier  
Austin, TX

I ask that the Senators vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. Thank you for your time.

Heidi Evans  
Self  
Chandler, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

Miguel Briseno  
Retired  
Corpus Christi, TX

Please support the common sense SB8, Women's Privacy Act. The immense majority of our girls feel unsafe and intimidated having to share their intimate spaces with biological males. Their feminine freedom is threatened. We, the parents, cannot have peace knowing they are unsafe, with the possibility of rape at any time. Schools are weak about reporting and processing these cases, so our concern is twice as worse. This applies to any and all public bathrooms, not only at schools. Thank you for moving this bill forward to final approval.

Saber Walters  
Self, musician  
Austin, TX

Everyone should have the right to use the bathroom without being scrutinized about their genitalia. Trying to police bathroom use is an overextension of the state.

Sherry Rodriquez, Mrs  
Self  
Mineral Wells, TX

Please pass this bill.

Megan Archer  
Self  
Wimberley, TX

Im asking you to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Thomas Fabry  
Self  
Tyler, TX

It is past time to take action to protect the dignity and safety of our daughters and young women. It is beyond belief that We the People actually have to enact laws for such a common sense and common decency principle. But beyond protecting them, there absolutely must be remedies for those that violate the core precepts of civilization. SB8 provides the right for civil action so those that seek to trample decency standards pay the price. Move this bill out of committee and onto the floor where once again, the Senate can to the right thing and then We the People can push the House to do their duty. Thank you!

Laura Post  
Self, Cashier  
Austin, TX

I ask that you vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. Thank you for your time.

Linda Wandt

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is absolute nonsense. Instead of wasting our time and money on policing bathrooms, you could protect women and children by keeping bigotry out of public spaces. Trans people are people looking to live peaceful lives, they are not unsafe. The people who hurt women and children are statistically CIS MEN. This bill is absolute farce and shame on you all for this attack on innocent folks. Do not police our bathrooms. Mind your own business. I'm less safe with any man than I am with a trans woman. Trans women are not in bathrooms to prey on women and children, that is outrageous propaganda. This bill is a waste of time and if you actually wanted to help the public we'd be discussing flood relief. This bill is disgusting and policing bathrooms will increase violence against women and children by cis men who are actual predators. Every assault that results from this bill will be your fault if you pass it. Women and children are far more likely to be assaulted in their own homes by men they know, not in public restrooms. How about we focus on statistics and facts not witch hunts and scapegoating?

Martha Reyes

Self

El Paso, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Martha Reyes and I live in El Paso, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address healthcare, Texas after all has the most uninsured citizens. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Juliette Thurber

Self

San Antonio, TX

Hi my name is Juliette and I'm against this bill. I purpose the question of how will this be enforced? According to house representative oars own words, all a person needs to do is feel like their rights have been violated. Where does the burden of proof comes from? This bill is going to hurt cis women more then anyone else. This bill will enact vigilanteism and bring a new witch hunt to Texas. According to this bill, I can, as an intersex person, go into any bathroom and cause the facility to be at fault. Cis women are getting attacked just going to the bathroom already, and this bill is only going to empower individuals to police any woman they don't think fit the glorified blonde blue eyes standard. So now I ask a poignant question. I'm an intersex person, and yes I do exist, and I do not fit the binary of male or female, so where would I go to the bathroom? How about when I was abused and forced out of my home with a gun, where would I go? According to this bill I would not be able to seek shelter in a women's shelter. How about when I'm in the capital and I have to pee? Does my presence in a bathroom mean the capital gets fined? This bill has no definition for me, and tries to redefine what even biologist don't try and define. Intersex people exist, and we do not fit the binary. So at the end of the day this bill will cause a witch hunt, harm intersex people, and cause public facilities and places to take on fines because people's feelings are hurt.

Catherine Martinez

Self - coordinator

Austin, TX

This is not going to make anyone safer. It is going to functionally and practically make people all over Texas less safe. It is going to be impossible to enforce without making people less safe. How will having legal threat over use of a public bathroom make anyone feel more safe? People's hormones are not consistent and you will not be able to identify who "belongs" in a space visually. This is not going to reduce instances of sexual assault or harassment. This is a bad bill and the people of Texas deserve real legislation that will positively impact their lives instead of making people more afraid just so lawmakers can attack a small population of people who are just trying to live their lives.

Nick Beiler

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the bathroom in peace without being subjected to having our genitals inspected or gender questioned. I oppose SB8.

Patrick Von Dohlen, Texan  
San Antonio Family Association (SAFA)  
San Antonio, TX

Howdy! Please pass SB8 to protect women and children in public facilities and give them a private right of action for recourse if they are harmed or violated by someone.

Texas places certain requirements and restrictions for public safety. SB8 cooperates with this effort to advance public safety and in this case will protect the most vulnerable people in Texas.

Since Sept. 5, 2013 when the San Antonio City Council (CoSA) passed a “NonDiscrimination Ordinance”, males have been able to legally enter a female facility placing women and children in danger of attack, harm, and invasion. One incident is worth preventing, however many bad and preventable incidents have occurred and there’s been little opportunity for recourse by the people harmed. This is unacceptable and preventable. SB8 will help correct this significant problem.

Women and children, as well as boys, deserve to have safe spaces in public facilities and other designated areas. They have a right to privacy to protect themselves and their dignity, and to have recourse for their offenders. Texas has a duty and an obligation to protect and defend individuals from violations of their autonomy that impact their pursuit of lasting happiness, their dignity, and their ability to have recourse to a law to enforce the aforementioned.

A person’s (selfish) desire to go into a particular facility is preempted and superseded by one’s right to privacy and bodily autonomy, life and liberty. It’s just that simple and yet profound.

SB8 will help correct the bad and unsafe provisions of the CoSA “NonDiscrimination” Ordinance and other Texas’ cities bad ordinances.

Cities are a political subset of Texas and while numerous Texas cities have home-rule status, it does not and should not allow Cities to overrule or dominate the Texas Constitution and Statutes especially when a city’s ordinance violates individual and well-established prioritized rights of humans.

Moreover, certain cities like CoSA have enacted overly onerous Referendum Initiatives in their City Charters that inhibit and prevent citizen residents from being able to respond to bad city ordinances. Unlike every other big city in Texas, CoSA’s City Charter requires ten percent (10%) of registered voters to sign a referendum petition within forty (40) days of the passage of an ordinance to be put on the next public ballot for citizens to vote on. In 2013, San Antonio had approximately 610,000 registered voters meaning that 61,000 voters had to sign the referendum petition within 40 days. Now, SA has approximately 1,050,000 voters which means over 105,000 citizens would have to sign the referendum petition within 40 days. This is an unprecedented and unachievable local, home-rule requirement.

Now is the time to restrict rogue and progressive run cities from allowing harm to come to people due to their political ideologies instead of basic fundamental rights of individual humans, especially those who are most venerable.

Pass SB8 please.

Cindy Davies  
Self  
Houston, TX

I am FOR this bill. Please keep biological girls and women safe by keep biological boys and men out of women's private spaces such as girl's bathrooms, girl's locker rooms in every commercial, private and public place as well as athletic teams of every kind!

Ben Wilson  
Self, educator  
Denton, TX

This is blatant discrimination against Texans who statistically are more likely to be assaulted than to commit a crime. The government's obsession with transgender individuals and the purposeful demonization of a minority group is a clear sign of fascism and is no different than what the Nazi party did in Germany in the 1930s. This is a blatant violation of an individual's privacy, a ridiculous notion to be put into law, and a shameful attack on some of the most vulnerable and marginalized people in our state. Many transgender Texans love this state and all it has to offer despite being constantly attacked and scapegoated by the government. All citizens deserve the right to self-identify, and no one can be told who they are or what their life choices must be because of a power trip by government officials. This is shameful and you should all be ashamed of the hatred you hold so firmly on your hearts in souls.

Trevor Goodman  
Self  
Austin, TX

I took off work to be here to testify and I am angry that the testimony was cut off after 2 hours. If hundreds of people show up, you need to hear them. I am commenting in OPPOSITION to this bill because it will hurt Texans across the political spectrum. Women regularly use the men's restroom at public events when the women's line is too long. This would make women solving their own problems illegal. Not to mention events like comic con where many attendees wear costumes or who wear dress common in other cultures would be impossible to enforce. You're threatening every tourist and business person. Public event centers are going to be angry. Not only will this be expensive to implement, but it will embroil public staff in highly personal business of tourists and visiting business people.

Officers who are already overwhelmed are going to fond themselves mitigating non-issues in lose/lose scenarios.

All this additional risk is going to upset lawyers who will insist on single stalls be installed everywhere.

When this finally goes to court, people will finally see how oppressive these rules are and how complicated the question of sexing humans really is. 2% of humans are intersex, with chromosomes other than XX or XY. That's more common than redheads and we aren't arguing they exist.

You'll realize why we stopped sex testing women at sports events last time- it was highly invasive and delivered ambiguous results.

And it's clear Trumps followers don't care about old men in young women's changing rooms.

None of this is enforceable, trying to would impact non-trans people, and would make providing services riskier and more expensive for public agencies and facilities.

Max Beere  
Self  
Austin, TX

This is outrageous. As much as I would love to be able to still use the women's restroom, considering they are usually cleaner and actually have soap, my walking into a women's restroom at this point would be more confusing and off putting if not terrifying for the women in that restroom. There are so many passing trans ppl around you; the only way the regular public is going to enforce something like this is going to be by assuming gender and even cisgender people can have traits of the opposite sex. It's a waste of everyone's time, ppl just need to pee.

Tod Guidry

Self

Austin, TX

As a Texan, I want my State government to make life better for everyone who calls this State home by finding solutions to real problems. This bill does not do that. This bill does the opposite of that. SB 8 claims to create a solution to a problem that does not exist, and in turn actually makes life worse for some of the most marginalized and vulnerable people in our community. Studies show no evidence that allowing trans people to use the bathrooms aligning with their gender identity creates dangerous situations for women. If you think you need to pass this bill to prevent men from assaulting women, I'm sure any woman will tell you that men don't need to sneak into a bathroom to assault someone.

This bill will not protect anyone. It will do just the opposite. First, just considering how this would be implemented is disturbing. If a person is suspected of using the "wrong" bathroom, what then? A genital inspection? Would that keep people safe? Would that protect their privacy?

Second, by forcing people to use restrooms aligning with their biological sex at birth, you are putting THEM in danger of assault. You are putting THOSE vulnerable Texans in harms way.

Third, this bill, without even having been passed, has already done irreparable damage to the general safety of the transgender community. This bill and others like it feed an unwarranted public suspicion, mistrust, and animosity toward an already vulnerable group of people who just want to be able to live their lives authentically and in peace.

I am not a trans person. Whether SB 8 passes will have virtually zero impact on my life, personally. But we have to do a better job of caring about our fellow Texans, especially those who may be different from ourselves. And I'd like to think our State legislators, who make laws impacting all of our lives, would take that charge to heart. Please vote NO on SB 8.

Isabel Lajaunie

N/A

Round Rock, TX

It should be up to the individual on what bathroom they feel the most comfortable using. I oppose SB8.

JOHN CARTER

Self

Kyle, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. I can't believe anyone in office would disagree.

Ari Frankel

self, software engineer

Austin, TX

I am seriously concerned for my trans friends who work at UT. There's one gender neutral bathroom in their building and it's used frequently by cis folks to shit.

Rene Bailey

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Rene and I live in The Woodlands, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the recent flooding issue that affected Kerrville. It is disgraceful that we are spending our

time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you

Heidi Bray

self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose Texas Senate Bill 8 (SB 8), a discriminatory and dangerous piece of legislation. It not only targets and harms the transgender community but also creates a climate of fear and risks economic fallout without providing any proven benefit to public safety.

SB8 is simply the latest rehash of Dan Patrick's old "bathroom bill," that made our state a laughingstock around the nation, and ultimately failed.

The bill's proponents claim the legislation will protect privacy and ensure public safety. But a closer look belies that.

First and foremost, SB 8 directly threatens the safety and well-being of transgender and gender non-conforming individuals. By forcing them to use facilities that do not align with their gender identity, the bill exposes them to harassment, intimidation, and even physical violence.

For transgender men, who may have beards or other masculine features, entering a women's restroom could lead to accusations and confrontations. Similarly, transgender women could be subjected to similar hostility if they are forced to use a men's restroom. Beyond the immediate threat of violence, such legislation contributes to a pervasive sense of marginalization and anxiety, forcing transgender people to either risk public humiliation or avoid public life altogether.

Health experts and medical organizations have warned that this avoidance can lead to serious health issues, such as urinary tract infections and kidney problems, as well as increased mental health concerns like anxiety and depression.

Furthermore, the fearmongering argument that these bills are necessary to protect women and children from sexual assault is unfounded. Law enforcement officials and civil rights organizations have repeatedly pointed out that there is no statistical evidence linking non-discriminatory bathroom policies to an increase in public safety incidents. In fact, many states and cities have had such policies in place for years without any rise in crime.

The real danger lies in the bill's potential for overzealous enforcement. The legislation could empower individuals to act as self-appointed enforcers, leading to the harassment of anyone—including cisgender women with non-traditional appearances—who doesn't fit a narrow, subjective view of what a man or woman should look like.

Doubt it? Remember Imane Khelif, the Algerian cis-gender woman Olympic boxer? Hysteria for some reason drove conspiracy theories that Khelif is a man. Despite their debunking by the International Olympic Committee, these lies were repeated and emphasized by high-profile people, including J.D. Vance and Charlie Kirk.

SB8 would likely create dozens of similar witch hunts around Texas. We don't need that.

Finally, passing a bill like SB 8 could have significant negative economic and societal repercussions for the state of Texas. The precedent set by a similar bill in North Carolina, which resulted in a massive economic boycott and the loss of major sporting events and bus

Carinne Maravilla

Self

Austin, TX

Hello. I arrived to the capital this morning and signed up to testify at 8 am sharp. However, I was not given the opportunity to testify. This is what I would have liked to share in testimony and would like to share as a public comment here: I oppose the SB8 bill and stand up for all trans sisters, trans brothers, gender expansive and intersex Texans. I am a proud Granddaughter of a Waco TX Drag Queen, Bonnie Sue, aka my grandpa, who passed in 2018. For my Grandpa's life, they had to hide their identity and live their life as a man although at heart they were always Bonnie Sue. By day, my Grandpa was a scientist with several US patents and a loving parent and grandparent. Because of historical as well as present day rhetoric and attacks on transpeople, I did not get to know about Bonnie Sue until she was on her death bed. I never got to see her dance or sing. She felt she had to hide this part of her identity for her own safety as well as fear of rejection and violence. This proposed SB8 bill is using a baseless, nonfactual and deeply irresponsible claim that transpeople are disrupting "women's privacy" and "safety". Where is your evidence for transpeople attacking women in a restroom? There is none. Instead of focusing on policies that actually protect Texans, you have an obsession over harming trans people simply for existing- who, by the way, only make up an estimated 1% of the US population. This legislature is wasting valuable time, our tax payer money, on harming trans, gender expansive and intersex Texans all in the name of so called "protecting women". I ask you to reflect, How have you been protecting mothers who lost loved ones during the Kerrville floods or in Texas school shootings? How have you been protecting women from domestic violence? When you oppress trans people, you oppress all people. We see what you are doing and it is deeply disturbing. I ask that you vote NO on passing SB8. I would do anything to go back and do Bonnie Sue's hair and make-up in the women's restroom where she belonged. Thank you.

Kymrie Dinsmore

self

Austin, TX

Hasn't this idea been turned down several times. Why are you wasting time bringing it up again instead of dealing with actual problems that need addressing?

Michelle Adler

self

Austin, TX

It is immoral to use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. I ask that the committee vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Trans Texans' safety matters and needs to be prioritized.

Emma Goins

Self

Austin, TX

This should not be passed. I am a woman and I do not feel threatened if someone who looks like a man uses my restroom. I don't care, I don't want my government to be involved in such things. We should let people live their lives. As a woman who does not have eggs or ovulate, it is sickening to see attempts in the past to define women as people who do that naturally. The language in this bill was slighting more broad, but I don't need my government to even attempt define what gender is. Just stay out of it!

Jonathan Bauer  
Self  
Georgetown, TX

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the bill regarding the designation and use of facilities according to sex. This legislation is not about privacy or safety; it is a discriminatory measure that would cause significant harm and create a deeply hostile environment for many people.

By legally mandating the use of facilities based on a narrow definition of sex, this bill directly targets and marginalizes transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming individuals. It would force them into spaces where they do not feel safe, simply to conform to a law that ignores their identity. This is not only a violation of human dignity but also a dangerous act that puts vulnerable people at risk of harassment and violence.

The bill's provision for civil penalties and a private civil right of action is particularly alarming. It essentially deputizes citizens to surveil and police one another in public spaces, inviting confrontation and legal action against anyone they deem to be in the "wrong" restroom or locker room. This is a recipe for chaos and division, turning everyday spaces into battlegrounds and eroding the trust within our communities.

True safety and privacy are achieved by fostering an inclusive and respectful environment for everyone. Instead of passing legislation that creates fear and invites discrimination, we should be focused on building a society where all individuals can go about their daily lives without fear of harassment or legal action based on who they are. I urge you to vote no on this harmful and discriminatory bill.

Mireya Molina  
Self  
Houston, TX

I urge members of the House Committee to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that you vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Joanne Doering  
self  
Georgetown, TX

As a mother and tutor/teacher to many precious young women, I support this bill to allow all women to feel safe and protected. We should keep these spaces separate. The sexes are NOT interchangeable. Abuse, molestation and rape will always be a sad reality to protect women from.

David Velasquez  
self , service worker  
Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the restroom in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

Zion Wellwarth

Self

Austin, TX

I oppose bill SB8 because decades ago all people were created equal no matter their skin color, sexual orientation, or how they chose to identify. Its completely unfair to tell someone who just identifies as something different their not even safe to go to the bathroom without having their gender questioned or their genetals inspected. How would you feel if you were a cisgender woman/man that was required to show their genitalia for something as simple as using the restroom. Its a basic human need it's completely unfair to take the comfort out of it

David Trussell

Myself

Ladonia, TX

This is common sense! He created them male & female! I do not want to worry about some sick mentality disturbed man, who wants to pretend he is a woman, in any area where my daughters should be safe from predators, like restrooms or locker rooms! Get this bill passed!

rachael shannon, Sister

self

Austin, TX

Texans deserve better than having our legislators waste our time & resources on trying to police our freedoms when the Texans being policed are causing no threat, no harm. We pride ourselves on a commitment to freedom and choice yet legislation like this does nothing to protect anyone but erodes personal freedom and privacy to its core.

Crystal Thronesbery

Self

Austin, TX

This is an absurd misuse of power and allocation of resources. This will endanger many lives and freedoms of many Americans while providing no actual security or safety. Instead of using a precieved (not actual) threat to attack trans why not actually protect people by making facilities in which people may be partially or totally disrobed more private. I'm a cis woman with short hair and I can't tell you how uncomfortable I am in single sex multi-person bathroom stalls that have gaps around the doors so I can have some weird woman waiting for a stall stare at me hatefully. Your proposed bill wouldn't protect me it would make her more entitled. When my 10yr son needs to use the men's room and the one stall is occupied and he has to pee but there is a super creepy cis man staring at him. Your bill wouldn't allow him to leave and more safely use a facility with me instead. It also provides no protection for him from that cis man using the men's room as a pedophile hunting ground, all your bill would do is ignore all the actually unsafe scenarios involving the most common offender (cis men). Whereas I have none of these concerns at lgbtqa friendly establishments with multi stall unisex bathrooms. Look at actual statistics, how many actual transgender people have ever attacked anyone in a facility such as a bathroom or dressing room. Whereas how many cis-men have? Or even looking at school bathrooms, you see so much more girls (cis girls) assigned female at birth attack each other in a bathroom because it's removed more from teachers and other ways of them getting caught. Look at actual statistics before making a discriminatory dangerous bill into law, because your voters will and the press will when this all goes bad.

Frances Sepulveda

Self

San Antonio, TX

Hello members of the committee, my name is Frances, I'm a resident of San Antonio, Field Director Equality Texas Action, and I urge you to vote no on sb8, this bill will be a danger to our community, trans people have been using their correct restroom without any problems for decades, this bill will in fact make women more at risk in public spaces, as a trans woman myself, I've never had been questioned or attacked because I'm trans, in fact, recent news show our Sisters who aren't trans, being questioned and even attacked or asked to show their beards to prove they are women, we don't need a bathroom police, we need actual protection for women, expand medicare if you truly wanna protect women and children, investigate churches who are constantly being paraded on the news with Child molestation.

Our president was literally indicted of sexual assault but yet, here yall are doing his redistricting bidding, he said he could grab any woman by their private, but you think that me, a trans woman who is attracted to men, you think I am the problem?

Yall need to rethink and revisit yall moral compass. Lack of Healthcare in Texas is the problem, low wages in Texas is the problem, defunding and closing rural hospitals is the problem, a failing infrastructure that killed over 120 people, most of whom were little girls in Kerr county, is the problem, we trans people are not.

I ask you again, vote no on sb8

Joanna Klose

Self

Austin, TX

In the U.S., men are required to register for the Selective Service, meaning the government could one day call on their bodies for military service. But for women in Texas, the state's control is far more invasive and constant—laws restrict their access to reproductive healthcare and strip away their ability to make deeply personal medical decisions. The contrast is stark: men's bodies are only regulated in the rare event of a draft, while women's bodies are policed daily, their autonomy questioned and legislated at nearly every turn. This double standard makes clear that women's freedom over their own bodies is held to a far different—and far harsher—standard.

What makes this double standard even more alarming is that it exists not because of medical evidence or public health, but because of Christian nationalism's growing influence on every level of government. In Texas and across the U.S., laws restricting women's reproductive autonomy are rooted in a particular religious ideology, not in the constitutional values this country was founded on. The irony is glaring: the very founding documents of the United States insist on a clear separation of church and state, yet women's bodies are being governed by religious dogma codified into law. Men are not forced to live under the same kind of constant moral surveillance. This is not just about bodily autonomy—it's about whether we still live in a nation that honors its own promise of freedom from religious control.

Jasmin Love

Self

Austin, TX

Hi, my name is Jasmin Love and I am a teacher from Austin, Texas.

I'm calling to urge Representative Lloyd Doggett to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to speaking again in the future.

David Trussell

Myself

Ladonia, TX

Quit dragging these things out, you all know what Texans want done and just keep playing games! Do some actual work and get these bills passed!

Julia Plaia

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is unconstitutional and puts all women in further danger.

Patricia Cummings

Self

Lorena, TX

I support SB 8. Biological Men should not be allowed in women's bathrooms nor locker rooms. Nor should biological women be allowed in mens bathrooms or locker rooms.

Kristen Wicke

self

Austin, TX

My name is Kristen Wicke and I am opposing Senate Bill 8. This bill would prohibit trans and gender-expansive people from accessing essential facilities like restrooms, locker rooms, dorms, schools, detention facilities, and even family violence shelters. As a psychotherapist and community member, I know many trans and non-binary people. These are beautiful, kind, human, loving people. I support their rights to have access to facilities that match their gender identity. When we take care of a small minority of our citizens' needs (trans and gender expansive people), we are taking care of the whole community. Fear should not be how we make decisions about laws in our state. Make this a place where everyone can be who they are and not impinge on others.

Emily Shapiro

self

Austin, TX

I am against this bill that will not benefit Texans in any possible way. People should be use whichever bathroom is most comfortable for them, period. There is no legitimate data informing the creation of this bill, only fear and hate for a small marginalized percent of the population.

Kathy Rossi, Mrs

Self Retired

Dripping Springs, TX

No male should be allowed in private spaces created for a female use. Is bathrooms, etc.

Chris Romero

Self

Houston, TX

My name is Chris and I live in Houston Texas. As a constituent, I asked that we spend our limited time addressing real issues that are impacting Texans. This bill is unnecessary and harms, trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as a bargaining chip for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time, improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas, that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm other Texans. Thank you.

Mel Prine  
self; retired  
Plano, TX

Dear House State Affairs,

My name is Melanie and I live in Plano, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we allocate our limited time during this special session to addressing genuine issues that are impacting Texans, rather than wasting our time and resources on bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the needs of hungry school children in Texas who can't learn without a proper meal. They are the future of our state, and young minds need food without worrying about the cost. It is a disgrace that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time improving things like disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans. Our children are counting on you. Thank you.

Jen Klase  
Self  
cypress, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans. Thank you.

Sean Warrick  
self  
Cedar Park, TX

Please stop wasting our tax money legislating people's genitals. What genitals someone has is their business, not the government's or someone else in the restroom. This is some perverted culture war nonsense of a bill. What happened to minding your own business? Now Texas kids need to worry about their Gender being questioned in public restrooms. Please do your jobs. Texas is getting so much harder to afford and all you've done is pushed through nonsense. **WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO PREVENT MORE FLOOD DEATHS?** I oppose SB8 and your wasting of my tax dollars.

Jordan Randolph  
Self/ student  
Austin, TX

This legislation does not “protect” anyone since the private civil right of action can be used to discriminate based on racial and ethnic biases and will subject trans people to discrimination and harassment in the public restrooms of the sex they were assigned at birth. There is no way to determine someone's assigned sex at birth without compromising their right to due process and against unreasonable search and seizure. The effects of similar legislation in other states has shown us time and time again. For example, cis women have been targeted based on their clothing, their race and their facial features and in extreme cases, have had to expose themselves to prove their sex assigned at birth based on their breasts or their genitals. I firmly oppose SB 8 and urge my constituents to do the same.

Grace Farley

Self

Austin, TX

As a social worker, I care deeply about this state, especially our most vulnerable youth. The Trevor Project reports that LGBTQ+ young people who reported living in very accepting communities attempted suicide at less than half the rate of those who reported living in very unaccepting communities. I urge this body to spend their time working towards creating communities that are accepting and affirming of all Texans. This bill is hateful and harms Texas children and adults. Texans deserve better.

As a woman, I will feel unsafe if this bill passes. My body and appearance should not be policed or need to be deemed "woman enough" to be able to go the bathroom. It is dehumanizing to be reduced to physical appearances and the government should stay out of policing people's bodies.

Elizabeth Snderson, Mrs

Montgomery County Eagle Forum

Spring, TX

Please stop sexualizing our children! Boys don't belong in girls restrooms.

M Marbry

Self

Houston, TX

It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act LAW!

michael najvar

self/retired

Gonzales, TX

we support boys in boys bathrooms and locker rooms only, and girls in girls bathroom and locker rooms only. no boys in girls sports. please get this bill out of committee and let it progress to fruition

michael and susan najvar gonzales texas 78629

Rachel Gollay

Self

Fort Worth, TX

I am in strong opposition to SB 8 and urge you to reject it. This bill threatens to put everyday Texans at real risk for simply using the bathroom, including anyone who doesn't fit a narrow definition of gender expectations and presentation.

It is your responsibility to represent the interests of your constituents and prioritize issues during this special session accordingly. As a Jewish Texan, my tradition teaches me that we must not stand idly by when Texans are under attack, and that we are responsible for each other in the pursuit of tzedek, justice. This includes speaking out against harmful bills like SB 8 that single out members of our community and erode our rights to live safely without government interference. According to a recent Trevor Project study, 49% of trans and nonbinary youth considered suicide in the past year. Discriminatory and baseless bills like SB 8 will continue to fuel this crisis and erode the safety and dignity of our entire community.

I urge you to join me and the majority of Texans who support LGBTQ equality, and focus on helping, not harming Texans -- please vote no on SB 8. Thank you for your time.

Zavier McFadden

Self

Austin, TX

Hello, I would to give my testimony against SB 8. SB 8 is not founded on or informed by sociological, cultural, or scientific research. The passage of this bill will lead to more sexual harassment, physical assault, and emotional trauma. If you were informed, you would know that most humans cannot accurately identify members from outside of their own identity whether it be race and ethnicity or gender. Furthermore, most Texans, let alone Americans are not educated enough on the difference between gender and sex, thus it would be reckless and violent to pass a Senate Bill that hinges upon the lack of education by the Texas public. If this bill is so necessary, then you should ensure that all Texans have been educated by EXPERTS on the basis of gender and sexuality before putting such a harmful bill on the docket. Please do not pass SB 8. Instead, focus on education, reducing crime, and establishing more unisex or individual restrooms.

Erika Rich

Self

Austin, TX

Please Oppose SB 7 – Focus on Real Priorities

Honorable Lawmakers,

I'm a resident of Austin, Texas, and I'm writing to express my strong opposition to SB 7, the so-called "bathroom bill." This legislation unfairly targets the transgender community and does not reflect the inclusive values many Texans hold. Instead of pursuing discriminatory policies, I urge you to prioritize urgent issues like flood relief and infrastructure — challenges that affect all Texans and demand real solutions.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Erika Rich

Robert Hayhurst

self

Canyon, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law!

Nipa Sanghani, Dr.

Myself

Houston, TX

There is a difference between genotype and phenotype. Please go back and review biology 101. Stop harassing the trans community when MEN make up more than 98% of all the violent crimes in this country and trans make up less than 0.1% of that. You are focusing on the wrong things. Why do you think it's ok to let rapists out with little to no jail time because it will affect their lives but then go after trans people for no reason? Are you a monster? Are you ok with your child being raped by your neighbor and then letting them back on the street? This is all about diversion and I am so sick of it. I'm so sick of all the soulless republicans in office. God will judge you for your actions. You will be struck down, if not in this lifetime, then after death. You will feel the torture you serve others 1000 times.

Susan Kochevar  
Self  
Ben Wheeler, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. Common sense got a bad wrap. It's time to return to it!

Kat Lozano  
Self  
Dallas, TX

I strongly oppose SB8. This bill endangers the safety, dignity, and freedom of transgender Texans by preventing them from using restrooms that align with their gender identity. Every person deserves the basic right to use a restroom without fear of harassment, policing, or punishment.

Trans people, especially youth, are already disproportionately targeted by bullying, violence, and discrimination. Forcing them into restrooms that don't match their lived identity only increases those risks. This bill would also make everyday life unbearably difficult and unsafe.

Texas has a long history of valuing personal freedom. SB8 is a direct contradiction of that value. Instead of addressing real issues, it singles out an already vulnerable group of Texans for government control and public scrutiny.

Transgender people are our family members, coworkers, classmates, and neighbors. They deserve safety, respect, and the same access to public spaces as anyone else. I urge you to reject SB8 and protect the dignity and rights of all Texans.

Noelle ODonnell  
Self/Self  
Buda, TX

This bill is an obvious, blatant attack on trans Texans, not about protecting privacy. Defining biological sex by an individual's "sexual organs, chromosomes" or "original birth certificates" sets up dangerous precedent for enabling anti-trans harassment violence and ignoring valid identification with updated gender markers. We don't need bounty hunters in the bathrooms. SB 8 empowers bad actors to target and harass trans Texans (or anyone they accuse of being trans) for simply existing in public eye. This bill's provisions would also apply to correctional facilities and family violence shelters, putting trans Texans in already vulnerable situations at risk for more even more harm. The cruelty of this bill cannot be overstated. This bill is about control. Controlling people's bodies and instilling fear in the LGBTQ community. Queer people have always existed and will continue to exist. You cannot erase this community.

Astrid Cazares Aguirre  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

Please support this bill to protect support women from abusive men that want to go into restrooms and other spaces that should be only for women.

Cyril Kuhns

self

Copperas Cove, TX

Did you get into lawmaking to help people and keep government small, or to be a political pawn for ever expanding, increasingly authoritarian federal interests? Use your head, kill this bill.

There is simply no evidence that the issue this bill claims to address is actually happening in Texas. This bill is a waste of time and resources. It will be a drain on the court systems, as well as vital state systems that will be disproportionately targeted and whose resources are already stretched thin, namely prisons and schools.

If you listen to the testimony of those who believe they have been victimized by trans people using the bathroom, you'll notice no harm has actually come to them, and what they express is actually just anxiety about being around someone different. Being grossed out or disagreeing with someone's personal expression (which is protected by the first amendment) is in fact NOT the same as being hurt by them.

This bill will be used to not only sexually harass transgender people, but ANY Texan that does not fit into arbitrary and unscientific definitions of gender presentation, as in the example of the young woman in Florida who was made to show her breasts to use the restroom at a restaurant. This bill is plainly meant to harm transgender people, not protect women and children, otherwise the legislative body would consider stories of real harm (like this one in Florida) as seriously as it considers the sob stories of certain Californian college volleyball players.

Elaina Allen

Self

Allen, TX

I oppose this bill it threatens my constitutional rights as a citizen.

Why can't we be like Canada? Individual restrooms that are safe for families handicapped any gender. It's a non-issue there.

Noelle ODonnell

Self/Self

Buda, TX

this bill is an obvious, blatant attack on trans Texans, not about protecting privacy. Defining biological sex by an individual's "sexual organs, chromosomes" or "original birth certificates" sets up dangerous precedent for enabling anti-trans harassment violence and ignoring valid identification with updated gender markers. We don't need bounty hunters in the bathrooms. SB 8 empowers bad actors to target and harass trans Texans (or anyone they accuse of being trans) for simply existing in public eye. This bill's provisions would also apply to correctional facilities and family violence shelters, putting trans Texans in already vulnerable situations at risk for more even more harm. The cruelty of this bill cannot be overstated. This bill and similar bills are about control. Controlling people's bodies. All it does is I still fear in the LGBTQ community. It's cruel plain and simple. Queer people have always existed and always will. You cannot erase our community.

Ana O'Quin  
Girls Empowerment Network  
Austin, TX

Hello chair, vice chair, and members of the committee,

My name is Ana O'Quin, and I am a licensed social worker who works directly with youth, and specifically, who works with girls. I am in opposition of SB 8. I'm speaking today on behalf of Girls Empowerment Network, an organization that works with girls to teach them the skills they need to thrive and increase their self-efficacy.

We felt it was imperative to be here today because of the bill being coined the "Texas Women's Privacy Act". We are an all-woman organization that serves girls, and I want to be clear when I say – this bill does nothing to protect woman.

Each interim session we conduct youth participatory action research to understand what girls need to feel safe... I want to list some of our findings here: preventative mental health care, anti-bullying measures, support in navigating complex social dynamics, dating violence protection, and social media safety. Above all, their sense of belonging is deeply important to them.

One thing that is never cited as something that makes them feel unsafe - the twisted rhetoric that this bill espouses, and the manufactured threat of trans, nonbinary, and gender-expansive individuals in public places.

In fact, this bill will hurt all youth and all women:

It will hurt many girls, who like to simply have short hair, or present themselves in a way different than their peers who will all of a sudden have their biological sex put in question

It will not allow the many individuals who don't have birth certificates or access to documentation to access public areas they need. It will also marginalize intersex individuals, that make up 1.7% of the world's population.

It will cause an administrative nightmare for shelters that are important safe havens for woman and their children.

Lastly, it will lead to the tremendous harm, and I do not say this lightly, potentially the death, of many youth: 51% of transgender and nonbinary youth have seriously considered suicide (Trevor Project) SB 8 will escalate the risk of violence, increase mental health distress, and put more youth in life-threatening situations.

This isn't privacy and protection, this is direct harm, danger, and irresponsibility. As a woman, I know a world where I am safe is a world that is empathetic, kind, and loving to my neighbor. I urge you to not pass SB 8 out of committee!

Tammy Baker  
Self  
Corsicana, TX

I am writing to express my strongest support for SB3. This Bill must Pass and we must support girls and be able to allow them to feel safe in schools and any locations that ONLY girls should be. Enough is enough! The stiffer the penalty the better till they understand we will not allow this treatment to be done to our girls.

Sam Fuller  
The human race  
Terrell, TX

Weirdo's belong in institutions not girls restrooms & locker rooms.

K Giddings  
self  
Houston, TX

I urge you to vote NO on SB 8 and stop wasting tax-payer dollars on the unfounded, baseless claims regarding bathroom usage by the Trans, gender expansive, and intersex community. It is clear that this small minority community is being used as a bargaining chip for political gain at a time when there are more pressing issues impacting ALL Texans.

Lindsey Peavler  
Self  
Austin, TX

Everyone deserves to use the bathroom in peace without having their gender questioned or their genitals inspected. Can't believe I have to type that. Please oppose SB8.

Aileen Blachowski, Denton County Rep. Precinct Chair  
Self  
Prosper, TX

SB8 is a common sense measure that restores sanity and privacy for women and girls in the most private and vulnerable spaces—our bathrooms, locker rooms and changing spaces. Passage of SB8 also esteems the basic human dignity of abused and incarcerated women. The absurd double standard some of these women have faced in the cultural confusion of the past decade has been unspeakable. After all, no women were asking to be housed in men's prisons and shelters!  
I support passage of SB 8.

Loretta Ponder  
Self  
Los Fresno, TX

Protect our children. Girls should not have to put up with boys in their bathroom. I can't believe that this is even an issue that has to be voted on. Stop this insanity

Alicia Fischweicher  
Self, Non-profit Director  
Austin, TX

I oppose SB8. We all deserve the freedom to use the restroom in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. This bill is unconstitutional, disgusting and a disgrace.

Reyna Gamboa  
self  
Austin, TX

I oppose SB8, this will do more harm than good. Trans people deserve the freedom to simply use the restroom and not get publicly ridiculed for it.

Ryan York  
Self / Sales Rep & Implementation Specialist  
Round Rock, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB 8.

Audrey Hinkle  
Self, citizen  
Austin, TX

As a longtime Texas resident and a woman who uses public restroom facilities I am urging you to vote no on SB8. Legislation like this and the attempts at enforcing these policies puts Texans at more risk of harm and harassment. Texans have the right to safely use public facilities that they are comfortable in.

Ann Baker  
Self  
Tyler, TX

"I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms."

"It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law!"

Spencer Franco  
Self  
Austin, TX

Everyone should feel safe using the restroom peacefully without their gender being questioned or genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

shirley nussbaum  
Temple Shalom Sisterhood in Dallas, Texas  
el paso, TX

I urge you to OPPOSE SB 8...

Evangeline McNabb  
Self  
AUSTIN, TX

Hello, my name is Eva McNabb, I'm a constituent of Travis County. I'm urging you to vote NO on SB8, the transphobic bathroom bill.

This bill is motivated by fear, hatred, and misinformation. This bill will not accomplish its professed purpose of protecting cisgender women. It will put trans people and particularly trans women further at risk. I urge you to consider the dignity and safety of all our community members, including your trans constituents. I urge you to vote no on SB8.

Ria Stoicovy  
Self, insurance  
Houston, TX

I am writing to oppose SB 8. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. As a cis woman, I know I have nothing to gain from this bill and it will not add to my safety or security. Instead, it will directly rob trans and intersex people of THEIR safety, security, and freedom. I strongly oppose SB 8.

Dianna Biscan, VP of Legislation  
RWGNT  
Plano, TX

Want SB 7 to pass to protect women and their privacy in bathrooms, locker rooms and, schools

Alex Robinson, Mr.  
Self  
Austin, TX

FOR SB8 Women's private spaces!

Michelle Venegas-Matula  
Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry & Self  
Austin, TX

I must urge you, in the strongest possible terms, to reject Senate Bill 8.

This bill is not about safety. It is about authorizing fear and exclusion. And the hateful rhetoric behind it is already leading to violence. Just moments ago, we heard a man threaten violence against a transgender person in a public bathroom.

That is what this bill promotes. It does not create safety; it empowers harassment. It endangers not only our transgender neighbors, but anyone who doesn't fit a stranger's narrow stereotype of what a man or woman should be—cisgender women with short hair, fathers out with their daughters, anyone. It makes public spaces unsafe for us all.

Our Unitarian Universalist faith is centered on Love and Justice. Love compels us to build communities of welcome. Justice compels us to protect the vulnerable. This bill is a failure of both.

Our commitment to Pluralism requires us to state a simple truth: Transgender people have always existed. They have always been a part of our communities. They are our family, our coworkers, and our neighbors. This bill is a cruel attempt to erase them from public life.

Think of the message this sends to a transgender child—a child who already faces staggering rates of bullying—that their own government believes they are a threat. That message is devastating and dangerous.

This legislation hurts people. It is that simple. We are asking you, directly: please, stop hurting Texans.

Choose compassion over cruelty. Choose actual safety over manufactured fear. Vote NO on SB 8.

Teri Bates, Mrs

Self

Corsicana, TX

Under no circumstances should a biological male EVER be allowed in to a female's private space such as a restroom or locker room. Girls and women deserve to have safe, private areas where their safety is not put at risk to accommodate a potentially dangerous, delusional man. Protect our girls!

Leviathan Almonte

Self full time student

San Antonio, TX

Morning, my name is Leviathan and I represent myself and I stand in opposition to this bill. This bill will make my daily life as a student in Texas much harder than it needs to be. As a student I should be worrying about whether or not I'm going to pass my tests not whether or not I'm going to be reprimanded for using the men's bathroom. This isn't just policy to me, it's my life. Am I expected to leave my campus and find a place that will allow me to use the bathroom every time I need to go? Or should I use the women's bathroom since this bill would allow me to do so

Not only does this bill affect my participation in school activities, but it also makes it harder for me to participate in local city hall meetings or local elections. I wouldn't be able to go to the library in peace because this bill would restrict me from using the bathrooms in that building. On top of that, how is this bill going to be enforced? Are we just relying on outdated ideas on what a man or woman should look like? Are you going to enforce mandatory genital inspections before anybody uses those facilities? What about intersex individuals, where are they supposed to go? I urge you to think rationally for one second and vote against this bill.

Rachel Rosen

Self

Austin, TX

I'm commenting as a mother, a product of Texas public schools, and a former teacher and administrator....urging you to vote no on Senate Bill 7.

In my years working with students, I saw how safety and belonging are what allow young people to learn. This bill does the opposite.

Restricting restroom access puts transgender students at greater risk of harassment and assault. A Pediatrics study found transgender students denied restroom access were over four times more likely to be assaulted than their peers.

Meanwhile, research from the Williams Institute shows inclusive restroom policies cause no increase in safety or privacy violations. None.

The fears and rhetoric behind this bill aren't backed by data.

And this isn't new—Texans already rejected a bathroom bill in years past because it was harmful and unnecessary—teachers, parents, businesses, and even law enforcement leaders—stood up and said no. We knew then it was harmful and unnecessary, and nothing has changed except the harm this renewed effort will cause.

And this isn't an abstract message I'm sharing. Trans folks are woven into the beautiful fabric of our community.

Nearly half of Americans personally know someone who is transgender, and MANY more know someone who does. The human beings targeted under this bill are our neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family members.

We should be protecting one another, not creating laws that single people out. And as a mom, I want my daughter to grow up in a state that values compassion and common sense.

Safety doesn't come from exclusion—it comes from dignity, inclusion, and belonging.

We've rejected this bill before, and we should reject it again—because Texans deserve fairness, not fear.

Thank you.

Carrie King

Self, classroom assistant

Austin, TX

Hello Committee, my name is Carrie King and I'm testifying against SB8. Before I begin, I would like to protest against Dan Chandler's continual display of his Confederate flag in these hearings. He's using that symbol in the same way a political sign would be used and those kinds of items are clearly not allowed in these spaces. He uses his tee shirt in the same way, to assert his bigoted and racist ideologies and I hope those overseeing these hearings will begin using their authority to curb these violations, as well as his off topic speak about Confederate statues and biblical references.

Thank you members, and thank you so much to my fellow testifiers that are here today, or with us in spirit, and who've been here many times before. It's hard to walk into these hearings knowing Republican legislators won't give a hoot about dissenting opinions. This is not what democracy looks like. This is what autocracy looks like.

Leave the trans community alone.

Trans women shouldn't suffer due to the transphobia of others. It's not right. I've used women's public restrooms my whole life. There are stalls with doors. How much more privacy does a person need?

If this Bill passes, as a cisgender female I would feel WAY less safe using the restroom. I would fear for MY own privacy. I may very well be "flagged" as a potential violator. I've never been one to wear makeup regularly, I clean but I don't "do" my hair, I prefer jeans and sneakers over skirts and heels, and despite pleadings from my girlfriends, I don't get regular mani pedis. So there's a really good chance some paranoid woman may point me out to, what did we say- the building owner? The manager on duty? My daughter, go figure, is following in my footsteps in terms of her appearance. Will she be frisked by some random supervisor somewhere someday? Will she be asked to flash her breasts or pull down her panties? It literally nauseates me to think about.

This Bill restricts people over 9 years old. You better believe I brought my boys into the women's restroom when they were 10. You know why? Because cisgender men WILL ALWAYS BE the biggest threat to children and cisgender women.

Trans, intersex, and queer community- we see you, you are safe with us, together we'll survive this because Love Wins.

Charli Metzroth

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Charli Metzroth, I am representing myself and I oppose this bill.

I recently changed my penis into a vagina. In order to obtain that surgery, I had to obtain 3 letters. A licensed physician had to attest that I had undergone hormone therapy treatment for a full year. Then a therapist had to document how I had lived publicly as a woman for a full 2 years. Then a psychiatrist had to attest that I had the financial and social support systems in place and that I was mentally prepared for this surgery. That is 3 medical experts that signed off that I am indeed a woman inside this body. So now I have a vagina ... and this bill is written such that I will be using the men's restroom. The author of the bill, who is not a medical expert, claims this bill common sense, but forcing me into men's spaces with my body looking the way it does, makes no sense to me.

CRISTIE SCHLOSSER

self

Dallas, TX

As a Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed "inspectors" to harass those who don't fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

Robert Contreras, Mr

Self

Austin, TX

I oppose SB 8, as this appears to be a violation of our rights granted to us as citizens of the U.S. Queer people are not the issue, the issue is pedophiles, and slapping a label on a restroom door will not fix anything. Real foundational change must be made, and it starts with the top, if we allow politicians who have committed sexual crimes to be in office that will only set a standard and normalize this type of behavior in those citizens who do engage in that heinous predatory behavior

Mila Andres

Self

Austin, TX

Dear Texas politicians, with everything going on in the world today, is this really worth our time? Why are we so concerned with what genitals someone has? It seems some of you are unaware of the existence of trans men. There are many trans men that I promise you you would be unable to distinguish from a biological male. Do you really want these men, full of testosterone, in the women's bathrooms? That doesn't seem to solve your concern about men in the women's restrooms. How about we either let everyone pick which bathroom they want to relieve themselves in and leave the government out of people's private lives, OR even better — make all bathrooms unisex with fully closed stalls only (urinals are gross anyways and we all know it) so they are completely private and there's no safety concerns. Go check out the unisex bathrooms at the Mueller Alamo Drafthouse. They are the best example.

CARL GONZALES

SELF

AUSTIN, TX

Am opposed to SB8, and any legislation that encroaches on an individual's privacy according to sex or gender. SB8 should be squashed.

Leigh Chambless

self

Austin, TX

Let people go to the bathroom! I have been in plenty of spaces where trans women are using the same restroom as me, and I do not feel threatened or uncomfortable. You know why? because they're there to urinate. They're not trying to harm me by existing in the same room as me. The fact is legislation like this puts women in harms far more that it helps us. Women who are assigned female at birth, but who aren't "feminine enough" are being attacked and harassed for simply trying to go to the bathroom of their birth gender. They are being called trans. Bills like this are attacking such a \*tiny\* minority of the population and the creators of these bills simply do not care as long as their agenda is being promoted as "right and good." These types of bills and this bill in particular protects no one. It attacks your constituents, trans and cis alike. Let people pee!

Molly Green

Self

Grand Prairie, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Chase Norris, Mr.  
myself  
San Marcos, TX

These bills are an affront to liberty and to human dignity.

HB 7 seeks to criminalize not only abortion itself but the very tools by which people exercise control over their own bodies. It weaponizes the law to punish compassion and to block courts from defending basic rights. The effect is persecution—forcing people to suffer for wanting to live freely.

SB 8 goes even further by intruding into personal spaces, erasing the right of individuals to exist safely in public life. It sets neighbor against neighbor with bounty-style enforcement, not unlike the most shameful laws of our history.

Abortion is a human right. The right to bodily autonomy, to self-determination, to live how one chooses—these are the foundations of liberty itself. John Stuart Mill wrote that the only justification for power over another is to prevent harm. Yet these bills do the opposite: they cause harm while stripping away freedom.

If Mill could see this legislature, he would roll in his grave. Lawmakers who advance these bills betray the very principles of liberty they claim to uphold.

Bruce Hank Stevens  
Grassroots  
Fredericksburg, TX

I vote YES for this bill.

Amanda McLaughlin

Self

Garland, TX

SB 8

Amanda Mclaughlin

I am Amanda McLaughlin and I am representing myself. I am a woman. It is who I am, it is not a choice.

This bill is transphobic with no basis in fact or reality. It tries to create a false narrative based only on fear and hate of transgender people.

This bill tries to define sex by "biological" means but list many ways to determine. This shows the difficulty even the authors of this bill have in defining sex. Chromosomes, sex organs and endogenous profiles often do not fit in traditional boxes. It is well documented that many people have ambiguous sex organs. Many people do not have XX or XY chromosomes. What about intersex people and what about babies that can't be assigned sex at birth. All of this proves that defining sex is not as simple as we are led to believe.

In less than a two-year period, Dallas reported 1743 sexual assaults. None of them were from transgender women. There were 5 cities in the study with similar findings. Where is the proof that bathroom bills make women safer? Diverting law enforcement resources to enforce bathroom bills makes our communities less safe.

Putting transgender women in men's spaces significantly increases the odds of them getting assaulted. Transgender people are over four times more likely than cisgender people to experience violent victimization. This bill ignores the dangers to transgender women. We are being treated as less than human. The message is that our lives don't matter. This bill does not address any real issues, but it does create a serious issue. Legislation should focus on real threats to women.

Are women's and girls' genitals going to be inspected? Is anyone that looks transgender going to be detained and need to go to court? There are already too many stories of cis-gender women being harassed and assaulted because it was thought that they were transgender. This bill will lead to harassment and assaults of both cis-gender women and transgender women.

This bill is only based on fear. When did we start making laws based on fear? Transgender people are less than 1 percent of the State and data shows that we are not a threat. Why is this legislation so fixated on transgender people? This time should be spent on critical issues such as flood relief. This legislation has consistently ignored the people of Texas in school vouchers, redistricting and now a bathroom bill. You have prioritized redistricting and a bathroom bill before flood relief. This legislation does not care about the people of Texas.

I have to use the men's restroom at the Capitol. I have lost track of how many times someone has come into the men's restroom and walked back out to check the sign or told me I was in the wrong restroom. Even worse is that the data shows I have a much higher chance of being assaulted

This bill contributes to a culture of fear and misunderstanding. No one benefits from this bill.

Please do not advance SB 8. Thanks for listening.

Nadia Guillen, Mrs.

Self

San Antonio, TX

Please pass SB 8 to protect women and children in public facilities and give them a private right of action

Rebecca Schmader

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

Elizabeth Anderson

Self; social work/nonprofit

Pflugerville, TX

People deserve to use the restroom in peace without having to prove their sex. We have already had a cisgender woman barged in on for not looking feminine enough for the accusing party. This puts me, as a female, at far greater risk than a trans person ever has.

Alisa Leon

Self

Austin, TX

Let people pee in peace

Roger Purdy

self - retired but grandfather

Tyler, TX

"I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms."

"It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law!"

Donald Cook, Mr

Delf

Caldwell, TX

I support SB8 to protect the safety and dignity of girls

Rachel Sammons, Dr.

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Rachel Sammons, I am representing myself, and I am against this bill. I am a research scientist and I work to develop cancer drugs. But before that, I was an alcoholic, and I probably would have died as one if I hadn't stopped forcing myself to be someone I wasn't. I found love for myself through my transition, and purpose in my job knowing that I could help people.

Now, I would be directly harmed by this bill at my workplace where I have used the bathroom every day for nearly 14 years. Trans Texans, like me, are devoting our lives to your communities, your health, and your well-being, and in return, you are trying to take those same things away from us. This bill attacks people who are your own coworkers and public servants. It promotes a public image of our state that is hostile and oppressive to compassionate and talented people who would otherwise come here. It doesn't take much effort to learn that this bill is not based on facts and it is not really about bathrooms. I am certain that you committee members know this. Everyone testifying knows exactly what this bill is really about, but those of you who support it won't say it out loud. You are hiding behind lies. Maybe this is because you know it is discriminatory and unconstitutional, or maybe deep down you have enough sense of shame to know that saying you want to eradicate people that you simply don't like from participating in public life isn't a good look.

There are plenty of problems you could be solving -right now, in this hearing- that actually exist. If you really want to protect women, consider not forcing victims of rape and incest to go through unwanted pregnancies. If you want to protect children, maybe offer them real safety instead of thoughts and prayers when there is a school shooting.

The only people violating privacy and going into bathrooms where they don't belong are the members of this legislation if you choose to pass this bill.

Hugh Soape, Mr.

Common Sense

Troup, TX

Stop the communist woke nonsense !!

Pass Senate Bill 8 !!!

Boys Have NoPlace or Right to be in Girls Bathrooms or Sports !!!

Janet Smith

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Janet, and I live in {Houston, Texas}. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8.

This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee addresses school funding and safety. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you

Amy Seigle

Self/nonprofit assistant

Houston, TX

This area is unimportant to legislate. It is a culture war dog whistle, not a real issue. People using facilities that comply with their gender identity does harm to no one. Please focus on real issues like getting control of gun access and restoring social safety nets for the needy.

Emerson Braun, Mr

Self

Dallas, TX

I am opposed. People have to use the bathroom. This bill is ludicrous. Transgender people already avoid public restrooms as much as possible. Trans people being twice as likely to hold it while waiting until they get home or to a single stall bathroom making them twice as likely to develop a UTI. This bill has nothing to do protecting cis women and children. It exclusively exists to make the world harder than it already is for transgender people. Its already a crime to assault someone anywhere. Including the bathroom and locker room. Not everyone is able to wait to go to bathroom somewhere safe. Many transgender people work jobs in delivery and can be out for hours and not find a single stall bathroom. They just need to use the bathroom without facing civil penalties and public scrutiny

Katy Matz

Self, educator

Austin, TX

I vehemently oppose this bill and find it not only to be discriminatory but also incredibly short sighted. How do you intend this bill to be enforced? Do you expect put children, our coworkers, our elders and peers to show drop their pants in order to use the toilet? This bill is perverted and a blatant political attack on our freedoms.

Maria Stadler

Self - Development

Austin, TX

According to Title XI, every place that I have worked in my career has actively rejected and penalized discrimination based on sex and gender. If this is voted in, the TX Senate would be going against federal protections established specifically to prevent this. This is about feelings regarding how someone looks while using a public facility - not their intentions, not their actions - just their appearance. It is clear that this bill targets specific minority groups to feel further isolation in public spaces. It is bullying by the same name. Anyone who votes for this will only be perpetuating harm to an already aggrieved minority. Voting for this makes the motivations if the voters clear - control, power, and continued oppression. Please vote no on SB 8 - the safety and self-expression of all TX citizens depends upon it.

Alyson Nowell

Self

McKinney, TX

Please just leave people's bathroom activities alone. Don't hurt trans people anymore.

DEBRA Havranek

SELF

Allen, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Innes Walker

Self, customer service

Austin, TX

It is embarrassing that this bill is even being considered. Again. It's fundamentally unenforceable, it will negatively impact Texan business growth, and it will encourage harassment in restrooms en masse. That harassment will also affect people who aren't trans but have traits that look gender-ambiguous, such as the "wrong" haircut or mastectomy from breast cancer. Meanwhile, this bill does NOT address problems that exist in the real world because trans people are at far greater risk of \*being\* assaulted than \*performing\* assault, the former of which will only increase via this bill. This harms women, children, trans people, and Texas's reputation.

Korrie Bowers Holloway

self - human

Houston, TX

I want to thank Jeffrey Leach for displaying why medical decisions should be made by a woman and her medically trained medical professional, not mediocre men who went to law school. Does Texas have universal paid maternity leave or paternity leave? Does Texas have universal healthcare? How about childcare? Are doctors free to save the life of the mother during an obvious miscarriage when the life of the woman is threatened? Is there any protection for a woman in need of care after an assault, can she make her own decisions about her body? Does Texas have universal healthcare to take care of a woman and her. This state handled rape kits so poorly that it had to become an entire movement to clear the backlog. If you're curious, in 2013 there were 20,000 untested rape kits. That is TWENTY THOUSAND WOMEN. Who carry that with them everyday. They don't have a choice to backlog their experience, a man stole that choice. Once again. It has been 6 years, and this backlog is still not cleared. Clearly we do not know where to focus legitimate safety initiatives in this state. HB7 will not protect women - the data simply does not support this narrative. This state is not interested in protecting women with HB7, it is interested in protecting the fragility of men.

Texas has seen a significant increase in its maternal mortality rate, which more than doubled between 2018 and 2020 and rose further in 2023, exceeding the national average. In 2023, the rate was 33% higher post-abortion ban compared to before, with rates significantly higher for Black and Latina women. The rate in Texas increased by 56% in 2022, the first full year of the state's abortion ban. You have members of this body, of this state government who have been publicly and loudly discovered to have personally directed and funded abortions to cover up their own misdeeds. Stop pretending you care about women with bills like HB7. You care about yourselves and yourselves alone. I wish for you what you wish for every transgender Texan who pays your salary.

Philip Scott

Myself - Retired

Frankston, TX

I ask that you support SB 8 NO Biological Males in Female-Only Bathrooms and Locker Rooms in TX Schools.

There are only two sides GOD or Satan, choose wisely.

Thank You - Philip Scott

Laura Echols-Richter, Rev.

self, Pastor of UMC

Frisco, TX

I oppose SB8 and believe it is a violation of privacy and impacts the personal safety and well-being of not only trans persons but also for caregivers & care receivers. This bill impacts someone caring for an aging spouse/or aging parent who is of different gender. What about a special needs teen cared for by their mother/father who cannot enter a bathroom alone? This bill has no regard for privacy and freedom of rights. Public bathrooms allow for people to take care of basic human needs. There is no reason for legislation to monitor bathroom use other than to incite fear and villainization of those who are different than what is seen as the "norm."

Kimberley Mead

Self

austin, TX

I oppose this. There is no respectful way to police this. Not everyone "looks" like their gender, so the potential civil rights and privacy violations is highly likely, as is violence if history is any guide.

Elizabeth Kasper, Mrs.  
Self- Retired High School Teacher  
Tomball, TX

There is no reason biological males and females should share any private space: locker rooms, bathrooms, hotel rooms, and, (yes, it is a common practice) even school buses and other spaces used as "temporary changing rooms." Yes, it may be inconvenient, but our young ladies do not need that exposure to nude, or nearly nude, young men.

The argument that it takes away from camaraderie for male cheerleaders to be separated from their squad members holds no water.

It's time to go back to common sense and common decency. There is no good reason for sharing private spaces. Period.

Korrie Bowers Holloway  
self - adult  
Houston, TX

My name is Korrie Bowers Holloway and I am unequivocally against SB8. There is only 1 side of this joke of a bill. The side of humanity. This body works day in and day out to justify the stripping of humanity from whomever they deem subhuman through these insidious, hateful, transparent assaults on the diverse Texans who have always and will always live here, work here, and pay taxes here. We will not back down, we will not be silenced, and we will not be erased.

I work in a field that deals in data driven decisions. Sexual Assault is already a heinous crime that hasn't deterred men from committing it. In fact, in November of 2024, Austin recorded it's highest number of rapes to date in a single month. 54. There are only 30 days in the month of November, for those out of touch with reality and time. Do you know how many transgender people have been charged with those crimes? None. Zero. Would you like to guess how many men are responsible for those 54 rapes?

In the year 2024, a reported 350 transgender people were murdered in this country. But clearly data does not speak to you. If it did, you would feel responsible for the protection of all Texans, of vulnerable Texans who DO have the data to support the need for legislation to protect them. You continually out this legislative body as nothing more than a gang of ignorant bullies, bigots, and adults incapable of growing up.

Personally, I have been harassed in bathrooms across this country. Do you know what I was doing in those bathrooms? Going to the bathroom. Alone. Texas, Ohio, Indiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, even on vacation in the Bahamas. Who approached me? White, straight men and white, straight women. Not a single transgender person has ever approached me in a bathroom for anything other than a compliment while we were washing our hands.

I have been harassed due to my physical appearance while driving in my car, walking down the street, working in my career, shopping, traveling. I couldn't tell you any activity or location I have been a part of where I HAVEN'T fielded comments, jokes, or slurs based only on the body I am in. Based on my hair, my clothes, the way I naturally and comfortably exist.

This is the body I was born in. My body. I've never taken hormones. I am proud of this body. I have worked hard with my therapist and my loved ones to be proud of this body. I have worked hard to recognize this body. I have worked hard to recognize myself. This was so difficult for me that I did not even recognize my own identity until I was 38. How are you planning to identify transgender individuals when we have been systematically taught not to recognize ourselves?

I only wish for you what you wish for every transgender Texan who pays your salary. In the words of the late Andrea Gibson, "This is my body, it is no one's but mine."

Elisabeth Brolin  
Self  
Carrollton, TX  
Vote Yes

Sidra Carzola  
Self/home maker  
Pflugerville, TX

I am writing in opposition to SB 8 by Middleton. Research shows that biological sex is not a simple XX-male/XY-female dichotomy. Genetic sex and physical traits can vary tremendously and the state should not insert itself into situations that involve judging an individual's genitals by a binary rule when science shows things are much more complicated. While there is a lack evidence for the purported safety benefits of banning individuals from locations based on sex, there is ample evidence that forcing transgender/intersex people to use restrooms that do not align with their gender identity increases their risk of harassment and assault. Please recognize an individual's right to privacy and bodily autonomy and do not pass this bill.

Cynthia King  
Self  
Frankston, TX

PLEASE support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. This is COMMON SENSE and should not have to even be legislated here in Texas!!!!

Shunya Carroll  
Self  
Austin, TX

Please leave these decisions up to individual institutions!

They know their population best and can determine if people are pretending to be the opposite gender or are actually transgender

Patricia Patel  
Self  
Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or genitals inspected. These actions are inhumane and despicable and highly transphobic and harmful.

Richard McKenzie  
Self  
Austin, TX

Pleadr support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act. Texss law should protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or to be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law

Bonnie McManners, Ms  
Self  
Austin, TX

I stand against SB 8. Everyone deserves the basic freedom to use the restroom without fear of harassment, questioning, or invasive scrutiny. The notion that our bodies should be policed in such an intimate way not only strips away dignity but also creates the very harm this bill claims to prevent. We have urgent, real issues to address in our communities - spending time and energy on bathroom policing is both harmful and wasteful.

Jennifer Fernelius

Self

Houston, TX

This bill does nothing to improve the lives of Texans. It is a scare tactic and affects an extremely small number of real life situations. Everyone has to use a restroom, but there is no way to "prove" your sex one way or the other.

Please focus on public safety, public education, transportation solutions and infrastructure. Protect our state parks, air, waterways and native wildlife. These are long-term priorities that affect us all.

Sue Reeves, Pct Chair Collin County

Self/retired

Fairview, TX

Please support SB 8 fir the safety of our women and girls

Jennifer Dunaway

Self

Buda, TX

As someone who has called Texas home since I was 3 years old, I'm writing to urge you to vote against SB 8. This bill will hurt Texas families while solving no real problems. I've lived in small rural communities and in both West Texas and the Austin area, and I've watched our state grow and become more inclusive over the years. This bill threatens to take us backward and silence the power we've built in our communities. SB 8 actually makes things less safe by encouraging people to police bathroom use, leading to harassment of women who don't look "feminine enough" including women with short hair, tall women, or those who dress casually. Forcing transgender women to use men's restrooms creates exactly the scenarios supporters claim to prevent. The \$5,000 to \$25,000 fines will burden schools and local governments already struggling with budgets, and legal challenges will cost taxpayers millions in court fees and attorney costs. Meanwhile, there's no evidence of actual problems in Texas that need fixing because we've been operating just fine without these restrictions for years. This bill overrides local solutions that schools and families have worked out together through careful collaboration, forcing vulnerable children into dangerous situations and increasing bullying and harassment. Texas families who've found ways to help their kids succeed and thrive shouldn't be undermined by heavy handed government mandates. Texas has always believed in personal freedom and limited government, not politicians micromanaging how communities handle their own facilities and solve their own problems. We welcome families who want to build better lives here but this bill sends the opposite message and contradicts our core values of individual liberty and local control. If we want safer facilities, let's invest in practical solutions like single occupancy restrooms and better lighting that help everyone without targeting specific groups or creating new forms of discrimination. The House has wisely rejected these bathroom bills before during multiple sessions. Texas has real challenges like flood recovery, infrastructure needs, school funding, and economic development so let's focus our time and resources on those pressing issues instead of creating problems where none exist. I refuse to let our state slide into discriminatory politics that silence voices in our diverse communities and take away the progress we've made toward becoming a more welcoming and inclusive Texas. This bill goes against everything I love about our state including our independence, our welcoming spirit, and our belief that government should stay out of people's personal lives. Please vote NO on SB 8 and stand up for all Texans who deserve dignity, respect, and the freedom to live their lives without government interference.

Laura Ramirez-Mann

Self

Buda, TX

As a woman in Texas, I will not feel safer with these bathroom bans. First, I should not have to prove I am a woman. If I go through chemo and lose my hair or breast, will I have to drop my pants to prove I am a woman? If I am wearing a winter coat and a bean, will I have to show my breasts in order to use the bathroom? Or pull out my tampon before entering?

Trans women and trans men are not the problem. I have been in spaces with trans people and never felt threatened.

It is important to note this bill is not focusing on the real problem at hand- violence, especially sexual assault by men. In Texas, approximately 95.5% of known offenders in sexual assault incidents were male, according to a 2017 Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) report. In 2018, the Texas Department of Public Safety reported that 77% of offenders in sexual assault incidents with known race were White. Victims typically know their predictor as specific data from a 2017 Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) report indicates that 83.4% of victims knew their attacker. The data shows sexual assaults are committed mainly by white men who are known by their attackers in Texas, so maybe White Men should be banned from public restrooms. Or is it just a bill written because of prejudice and malice intent?

Pietra Pereira, B.S.

Self

Del Valle, TX

Many women with intersex conditions like PCOS may appear to be more masculine than others, and there are more than 30 other intersex conditions that can cause phenotypes that diverge from the simplistic sex binary that this bill attempts to push. The biology of sex in humans is more complex than this bill takes into account. This kind of bill can be used to justify sexual harassment in bathrooms if someone "needs to inspect your genitals" because they don't believe you're peeing in the right room. I oppose SB 8.

Danny Valentine

self, salesman

Fort Worth, TX

DO NOT VOTE YES ON SB8. this is such an incredibly dangerous bill that will put every day Texans in danger of losing their right to their own personal privacy. this bill is under the guise of "protecting women" when it will do the exact opposite to women, to children, to everyone that does not fit a non-existent description of what one gender or another is supposed to look like. it will violate the rights of children, stripping them of their innocence and dignity the second that they are subjected to genital inspections by what they thought would be a trusted adult (i.e. their teachers, trusted guardians, chaperones, etc.). it will subject any Texas woman that stands even slightly outside of the image of the female binary to such genital inspections and persecutions - and this bill is supposed to "protect" them? children, LGBTQ+ individuals and women that have been born, raised, and work hard for this state, are going to be put in so much more danger than the House realizes if they say yes to this bill. protect your women, protect your children, protect your fellow Texans, SAY NO TO SB8.

Marcella Ng, LTC(R)11

Retiree and Small Business Owner (Mililani Woods LLC)

Nolanville, TX

As a woman who served in our great Nation's military for over 22 years who had to make many choices when deployed or in the field, I refused to share my bathroom space with men and they felt the same. Do not allow our civilian private spaces to be encroached upon. Fully support SB 8 that requires that you use certain space based upon the gender in which you were born biologically and keep men out of women's private spaces such as restroom, and vice versa.

Julianna Bell-Clark

Self

Austin, TX

AGAINST

Lauren Gray  
Self, Designer  
San Antonio, TX

Hello, I believe everyone deserves the freedom to use the restroom in peace without having their gender questioned or their genitals inspected. People need to mind their business. I strongly oppose SB 8. Please vote NO on SB 8. Thank you.

Heather Bullard  
Self  
Lone Oak, TX

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 8 (SB 8), introduced by Senator Mayes Middleton, which mandates the designation and use of certain spaces and facilities, such as restrooms, locker rooms, prisons, and domestic violence shelters, according to biological sex. This bill, part of the Texas Women's Privacy Act, is a necessary and common-sense measure to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of all Texans in sensitive public spaces.

The fact that this issue is even up for debate is deeply concerning. It is unacceptable that the privacy and safety of women and girls in spaces like restrooms, locker rooms, and shelters could be compromised by policies that prioritize subjective gender identity over objective biological reality. SB 8 addresses this by clearly defining "sex" as the biological classification of male or female based on reproductive anatomy, ensuring that multi-occupancy facilities in government-owned or controlled buildings are designated for use by individuals of the same biological sex. This aligns with longstanding societal norms and expectations, which recognize the importance of sex-based separation in intimate settings to safeguard personal privacy and physical safety, particularly for women and girls.

The provisions of SB 8 are both reasonable and enforceable. The bill imposes civil penalties—\$5,000 for a first offense and \$25,000 for subsequent violations—on institutions that fail to comply, ensuring accountability. It also grants the Attorney General investigative oversight and allows civil lawsuits against non-compliant entities, empowering Texans to uphold these standards. Importantly, the bill includes narrow exceptions for custodial, emergency, and law enforcement situations, as well as accommodations for children under 10, demonstrating a balanced approach. It also permits the creation of unisex or single-occupancy spaces, providing flexibility without undermining the core principle of sex-based privacy.

Opponents may argue that this bill discriminates against transgender individuals, but this overlooks the fundamental purpose: protecting the privacy and safety of all Texans. The bill does not ban anyone from using facilities; it simply requires that individuals use spaces corresponding to their biological sex, respecting the dignity and comfort of others. Concerns about enforcement leading to invasive scrutiny are addressed by Senator Middleton's assurance that invasive searches are not a "reasonable step" for compliance.

Texas has a duty to maintain clear, consistent standards in public facilities. SB 8 upholds this by reinforcing the principle that sex-based privacy is a legitimate public interest. I urge the State Affairs Committee to pass this bill and send a clear message that Texas prioritizes the safety and privacy of its citizens. The tolerance of policies that erode these protections is, frankly, sickening, and I applaud Senator Middleton for championing this critical legislation.

Marcia Strickler-Watson, President  
Capital Area Conservative Republicans  
Austin, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation. Thank you for your support. Protect women!

Bonnie Griffin

Self

Austin, TX

I am strongly discouraging this bill, not only because it will deeply harm and endanger my trans friends, but it will also have incredibly damaging impacts on people who are not even trans. My wife is sometimes mistaken for a man (by people with poor vision, I can only assume - she's beautiful!) because of her short hair. My sister is sometimes mistaken for a man, simply because she is very tall. If this bill passes, every woman who varies even the slightest amount from some imagined, arbitrary definition of femininity - a certain length of hair, a certain physical build, a certain height, a certain level of feminine presentation - is going to be subject to a dangerous degree of scrutiny and suspicion. In the supposed "Land of the Free," women will be expected to adhere to very specific expectations around dress and appearance - and how on earth is that free? What about your hard-working country women, who don jeans and flannels to do their labor - will you ban them from bathrooms for not looking womanly enough? What about women who lose their hair to cancer - will you ban them from bathrooms for not looking ladylike enough? What about women who lose their breasts to cancer - will you block them from bathrooms, too? This is a dangerous, irresponsible proposal that stands to harm ALL women. It's bad enough to target trans women - who pose no threat to others, who I have always felt comfortable with, who I want to help protect - but this bill will result in ALL women, and ALL girls being measured against an arbitrary and dangerous standard. Women are safer without their womanhood being questioned. Stop this bill now.

Shannon Ross, Ms

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Please make sure SB 8 passes. You go girl!

Rachel Fritz

Self

Austin, TX

This bill should be stopped. It's inhumane and affects the safety of many individuals by putting transgender people (or people presumed to be transgender) in danger of being unrightfully harassed. If this bill passes, it will set a precedent that not all people deserve basic human rights, one of which is autonomy over one's body. This bill will give people armed with ignorance the power to dehumanize others in public spaces for simply existing and if you agree that that's constitutional, you're wrong. Be on the right side of history and don't let this nightmare become a reality.

April Laird

Self

Fredericksburg, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. I have an 11 year old daughter in sixth grade. This is personal to me, and I want to protect my daughter and all girls! Thank you!

George Vachris, P.E.

self

Humble, TX

I am in favor of this bill. Most people support this. Back in 2014 the city of Houston passed a "HERO" ordinance that permitted males to use female rest rooms. Petitions were signed by about 50,000 people requesting a repeal of the ordinance. Despite the lies of the leftists to invalidate the signatures, and an attempt by the City of Houston to infringe on religious liberty, and after a lawsuit was filed, the Texas Supreme Court requested that the City of Houston either repeal the ordinance or hold a referendum as requested by the petitioners. The City of Houston decided to hold a referendum. I personally campaigned house-to-house in an attempt to get voters to vote to repeal the ordinance. I can tell you that in Precinct 72 of Harris County, I only met 1 couple that clearly supported the HERO ordinance. Everybody else was either non-committal or wanted NO MEN IN WOMEN'S BATHROOMS. This was in a City and Precinct that typically voted for Democrats. The voters of the City of Houston voted over 60% to repeal the ordinance and PROHIBIT MEN IN WOMEN'S BATHROOMS. Please do the right thing and support SB 8 and HR 52.

Thank you.

Anne Stovall

Self SR Graphic Designer

Houston, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I overwhelmingly oppose SB8.

Destanie Nieto

self

Austin, TX

I oppose SB8. Realistically, the only way anyone is going to try and enforce this is by looking at a person and deciding they don't look 'feminine' or 'masculine' enough. Everyone deserves the right to pee in peace without having their gender questioned or having their genitals inspected.

Jovanna Cantu

Self

Georgetown, TX

SB 8:

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8

Tali Wildman  
Self - Marketing Manager  
Austin, TX

Dear Senators -

I am writing today to ask you to oppose Senate Bill 8. I am fundamentally opposed to any law that discriminates based on sex or race. Such laws go against the values of fairness, dignity, and equal treatment that Texans deserve and expect.

Our state constitution is clear:

“All freemen, when they form a social compact, have equal rights...”

“Equality under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of sex, race, color, creed...”

When laws like SB 8 are proposed, they attempt to carve out exceptions to these basic rights. They tell some Texans that their equality is negotiable. I believe that is profoundly wrong, both morally and constitutionally.

As a Texan, I believe our communities are strongest when everyone is treated with fairness and respect. Discriminatory laws only divide us and weaken the promise of equality that our state was founded on.

I urge you to stand on the side of equal rights and reject SB 8.

Thank you for your time and for serving the people of Texas.

Sincerely,  
Tali Wildman  
Austin, TX 78749

Helen Lueders  
Self/librarian  
Houston, TX

This bill is inappropriate and will hurt vulnerable people, without doing anything useful for ANYONE

Taylor Higgins  
Self  
Austin, TX

Hello I am Taylor and a female assigned at birth. I think this bill is a waste of your time and would create unnecessary burden on the state to enforce it, bloating the government without providing value. How do you expect to hire people to be a bouncer of a bathroom when lines are already long and when we all know you only opt to use a public bathroom if it's an emergency. I can't imagine if I had kids or were 10 years younger but even as a 35 year old woman if I am running to change my tampon so I don't free bleed, I would be mortified if I had to dig for my ID. If I were younger I know it'd be worse.

This is going to make it mortifying to be a human to exist in public as a woman. And that's just really backward and wrong. We're above that in Texas. Texas has always been a unique place for women where they had more independence and freedom. This bill may have good intentions but it's just not hitting the mark.

That's all not to mention the fact that it does not make me feel safer. I do not feel unsafe when there are trans women in my bathroom. The many times where I've shared a bathroom with a trans woman I felt emotionally lifted and pumped up. These women have the most respect and understanding for the unique burdens of being a woman. Looking in the mirror while washing our hands is a huge bonding moment for women in the bathroom, and quite vulnerable depending on your self esteem and mood. Trans women know the importance more than any other woman of being sisters and showing solidarity. I want trans women in my bathroom and I do not want this bill to pass.

Ben Davis

Self

Nee Braunfels, TX

I am in favor of this bill 100%

Brian Archer

Self

Wimberley, TX

Im asking you to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

M G

Self

El Paso, TX

It's an atrocity to the state of Texas and our values to force someone to do anything. Is this not the land of the free? Are we really okay with the government encroaching on us and our lives? Should they not focus on keeping Ted Cruz (preferred name) within the state and not letting the federal government dictate its sessions. It's an embarrassment to know this is what has become of the state of Texas. There are more pedophiles in religious settings and among your political allies than with trans individuals and drag artists. Clean up your own damn house before projecting onto your constituents.

Colton Borger

Self/Assistant Logistics Manager

Round Rock, TX

This is a waste of time and finances. All this will do is pull away money from actual security concerns about retail theft, border security, and state infrastructure.

ANN BRENNAN

SELF

ROUND ROCK, TX

I strongly oppose HB8

Texas SB 8 is not a measure for safety or privacy; it is a discriminatory act that puts an already marginalized community at risk.

Its foundations are built on false premises, and its passage would not only be a moral failure but also a practical one, inviting economic harm and further societal division. The bill is a dangerous policy that prioritizes political theater over the rights, safety, and well-being of all Texans.

This proposal has already had its chance, and lost. Let's keep it that way and vote down SB 8.

Livia Barrett

Self

Austin, TX

As a woman, creating a law which allows, encourages, and protects people to police bathrooms and locker rooms is terrifying to me. What if I don't look "woman enough" to someone and they try to make me prove I'm a woman? How do I have to prove I am a woman? If I don't have my ID in a bathroom (which I shouldn't have to) what happens? Are you saying it's someone civil liberty to force me to show my genitals in order to prove I am a woman? Who gets to set the standard of what a woman looks like and how could that in anyway be fair? This law makes me feel unsafe and scared. This law can be EASILY abused to harass and assault all people.

Lisa Kruger

Rains County Republicans

Point, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms."

"It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces Bathrooms are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law!" Maybe you should use a little common sense.

Melody Tremallo

Self

San Marcos, TX

I'm Melody Tremallo, representing myself, and I oppose SB8.

I've spoken out against anti-trans bills at every opportunity these past three sessions of 2025. I also crunch the numbers of these testimonies. I point out that the folks who register to testify in person or online are so heavily favored on the side justice and trans liberation that if they were gambling odds, you'd bet your life savings on it.

But today, I want to point out some language both present and missing from this bill, and why it's already a problem.

It creates no alternative. No compromise to the fact that transgender people have and will always exist. Nothing the admits that trans people are harassed in the bathroom at higher rates than anyone else. A bill like this will only increase the violence we are already experiencing.

And do you know what language is missing from the bill? There's nothing that acknowledges the existence of intersex people, who do not neatly fit into the binary some folks insist everyone else must follow. It denies the science of conditions like androgen insensitivity syndrome, for which over 150 different genetic defects can cause.

Even worse, there's nothing about what reasonable enforcement looks like.

We've already seen what some folks will do. A woman in Florida was followed into the women's restroom by a man, who then proceed to threaten her with physical violence. An 18 year old in Minnesota was forced to expose herself when confronted by an employee in a Buffalo Wild Wings.

There's no mechanism of enforcement. And when there's no mechanism, you'll only see the worst. And the worst includes sexual harassment and physical assault.

I want to be clear. This bill is bad. Not just for trans people, but for everyone. You'll create the situations that you claim you want to prevent. You'll end up with men in women's restrooms, whether it's trans men just using the facilities or natal men following folks they think are trans to assault them. Even if you fix the language, the problems will still exist. As such, I demand that you kill this bill.

I'm Melody Tremallo, and I oppose SB8.

Skye Bauer, Mrs.

Self

Georgetown, TX

I am a Texas resident and I strongly oppose this bill. Making laws about what bathroom someone can use is an infringement on our freedoms and is frankly a poor use of time for our representatives. There is no evidence that this bill will make anyone safer and there are many safety concerns this bill poses to both women and trans people. As a woman I have never felt unsafe around someone because they are trans. The idea that someone can question whether I am woman enough to use the bathroom I feel comfortable in makes me feel unsafe. Our gender assigned at birth is protected health information and no one has the right to that information. The proposal of this bill seems like an attempt at political points through transphobia and discrimination. As a Texan I am against all forms of discrimination and I am against this bill.

Skye Bauer, Mrs

Self

Georgetown, TX

I am a Texas resident and I strongly oppose this bill. Making laws about what bathroom someone can use is an infringement on our freedoms and is frankly a poor use of time for our representatives. There is no evidence that this bill will make anyone safer and there are many safety concerns this bill poses to both women and trans people. As a woman I have never felt unsafe around someone because they are trans. The idea that someone can question whether I am woman enough to use the bathroom I feel comfortable in makes me feel unsafe. Our gender assigned at birth is protected health information and no one has the right to that information. The proposal of this bill seems like an attempt at political points through transphobia and discrimination. As a Texan I am against all forms of discrimination and I am against this bill.

Celena Hebert

Self/HEB Curbside Personal Shopper

Austin, TX

Women do not need protection from trans women or nonbinary people. Anatomical differences are a spectrum as well as gender presentation. Requiring certain anatomy for use of necessary facilities is ridiculously problematic and does far more to create threats to people's safety than allowing people to choose what suits them. Drawing a defining line between men and women is fraught with issues that are personal, embarrassing, and frankly impossible to fairly resolve. All of humanity does not fit into 1 of only 2 boxes. People need to be allowed to choose what's best for them when it comes to using private spaces. There are so many variations of anatomy and life experience that affect where a person feels safe or comfortable that cannot be known at first glance. Anatomy does not define our gender. A woman who has had a hysterectomy and a double mastectomy is still a woman. A small, slightly built, smooth faced man is still a man. A man who has been disfigured is still a man. A tall muscular woman is still a woman. A trans woman is a woman, regardless of the surgeries she has chosen or is able to pay for. Trans people are not a threat and should be able to self-determine where they should be for personal matters.

Zoey Bennett

self

austin, TX

I oppose this discriminatory bill. It does not represent what Texas should be standing for.

Tracy Shannon

SELF AND MASSRESISTANCE TEXAS

Kingwood, TX

I would like to register my support for SB 8 with the following caveat: SB8 is meaningless unless Texas Legislature amends the Texas Family Code Section 2.005 (b) (8) to remove "sex change". This portion of the code states that a court order is sufficient to establish a change of sex. This creates a legal obstacle to the enforcement of the Texas Women's Privacy Act. By recognizing a court order of sex change as legally sufficient proof of sex for official purposes, § 2.005(b)(8) allows a male to be legally classified as female. Once reclassified, such an individual could claim access to female-only spaces, directly undermining SB 8's protections. The two statutes are in direct tension:

SB 8: "female" means biological female.

Family Code § 2.005(b)(8): a court can declare a male to be legally female. Thus, the privacy protections SB 8 seeks to secure may be rendered unenforceable by operation of the Family Code. While I do believe females deserve to have the dignity of female only spaces (with notable exceptions for disabled or minors in the company of a caregiver) is appropriate and I do hope the bill passes, it amounts to nothing more than political theater and half-hearted or empty measures when the legislature moves forward without full knowledge of the history of its own body's policy making. This passage would be great headlines for Republican lawmakers but will not protect women and girls.

To preserve the intent of SB 8, the Family Code should be amended to clarify that a court order of sex change does not alter biological sex for the purposes of statutes concerning sex-segregated facilities, privacy, or safety provisions.

A possible amendment could read:

"For purposes of this Code and other statutes relating to privacy, safety, or the use of sex-segregated facilities, the terms 'male' and 'female' shall be defined by biological sex at birth. A court order relating to a change of sex under Subsection (b)(8) shall not alter this definition."

Without amendment, SB 8's protections for women's privacy are vulnerable to circumvention through judicial recognition of sex changes under the Family Code. To harmonize Texas law and safeguard the legislative intent of SB 8, the Legislature should amend § 2.005(b)(8) (and related provisions) to clarify that a legal recognition of gender reassignment does not override statutory protections for female-only spaces based on biological sex.

Elizabeth Weiland

Self, Principal Product Manager

Austin, TX

This bill introduces harassment, assault and violence in women's restrooms for both cis and trans women. It is sinister in nature to propose law that explicitly seeks to put people in harm's way and encourage attack/violence.

Kelley Piwonka

Self

Austin, TX

I vehemently oppose SB8. It is not only harmful to trans Texans (we which are less than 0.4% of the population so why are we wasting our time) it is incredibly harmful to cis gendered women specifically. Just this week, a woman was demanded by a server to show her breasts to prove she was female, while in the women's restroom. Who will enforce this? Will we be utilizing precious resources of police officers time if a person is suspected of using the wrong toilet? Even with a privacy civil right of action, police officers will be called and time wasted on this. We have more important problems to solve like actually keeping our citizens safe.

I strongly urge you to use our states precious resources wisely and vote no on SB 8.

Elena Blake  
Self, Retired  
Irving, TX

I vigorously urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act. Our young girls deserve protection in bathrooms and locker rooms, privacy, safety, and dignity in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness for our daughters and sisters.. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law. Elena Blake

Inaya Zuwena  
Self  
Austin, TX

I vehemently disagree with this bill!

Ray Pritchard, Mr.  
self, unemployed  
Bryan, TX

Hi, I would really like it if I didn't have to worry about someone thinking the people around me and I don't look enough like a girl or guy to pee. I'd really like it if we didn't have to prove who we are while we are trying to poop. I say it's pretty easy to tell when someone might be in the bathroom for nefarious reasons. The tell? They aren't minding their business, they're looking at other people, judging their bodies, checking for certain genitals while people are just trying to relieve themselves. If you'd like, my transgender men with female anatomy but a dropped voice, whole mustache, and hairy body from testosterone will go ahead and go to the women's restroom if that's what makes you and your family feel safe, but I know it won't. It'll make you question his place there even though it was by your choice that he use the women's restroom. This bill is going to make EVERYONE uncomfortable. Thank you.

Michele Kelk  
Self/ RETIRED  
Keller, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. "It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law!

Melody Leblanc  
Self  
Austin, TX

I'm against this bill. Shame on you. Let Trans people live peacefully

Kabir Parikh  
Self/ Therapist  
Houston, TX

Texans deserve to use the restroom in peace. SB8 would put everyone at risk of public scrutiny and increase the risk of being victim to hate crimes. If one does not conform to the gender norms as hyper feminine or hyper masculine, they would be at risk. SB8 does not keep women and girls safe. If it goes through, transgender men-- MEN-- would be forced to use the women's restroom. How is that making a woman feel safe? This bill will not stop transgender people from existing and living. It will only create gender policing and make everyone feel more unsafe. Transgender people deserve to feel safe. There is no evidence of transgender women attacking women and girls in bathrooms, and you know it. I strongly oppose SB8.

Greg Rieke  
Private citizen  
Chandler, TX

All of you who consider yourself conservative need to support SB 8. Enough of this nonsense already.

Sheryl Hazelwood  
Self  
Tyler, TX

I really have a problem with boys/men in the same dressing area or restroom that my daughter, my granddaughter, or myself are using. PLEASE support SB 8!

Devon Kodzis  
Self, Academia  
Dallas, TX

Texans deserve to live without the fear of having their gender questioned before using the restroom. This is violent, unnecessary, and cruel, and it's going to harm just as many cis people as it will trans people.

Richard Steenson, Mr.  
GAWTP and Self (retired)  
Tyler, TX

Please protect our vulnerable students and stop the degenerate nonsense by supporting SB 8.

Sherry Brodell  
self - business owner  
Georgetown, TX

I feel like I am writing comments for a script of a bad political satire and not for an actual piece of legislation. The idea that our elected officials are spending our tax dollars to legislate the manner and location in which people use the bathroom is so incredibly ridiculous. Never in my 50 years of using bathrooms, locker rooms or changing rooms in Texas have I ever thought, "Wow! I can't believe that there aren't laws about where people pee. I can't believe that they are trusting us to be able to use bathrooms without specific instruction and guidelines." So I guess that I should be thankful that while I still have to worry about whether or not my child will be shot while attending our public school system, at least I don't have to worry that they would be shot in the bathroom that doesn't align with their gender assigned at birth. What a relief. So while our lawmakers have done virtually NOTHING to address the real danger that school shootings pose, they have been quick to address a completely made up danger about trans people in bathrooms. What a stunning embarrassment. Stop pretending to care about the safety of our children and actually DO SOMETHING to protect them from actual danger. This bill is also virtually state sanctioned sexual assault as you will have people being asked to prove they belong in a bathroom or changing room. How do you think they will be able to prove that? The altercations and violence that is already occurring and will only escalate as a result of the false narrative you have manufactured about trans people in the bathroom is truly frightening. This will make bathrooms unsafe for anyone who doesn't visually present themselves in a manner that others associate with a specific gender. I am a proud Texan who is outraged by this gross government overreach. I implore you to please vote no or allow this bill to die without a vote. Focus on addressing real issues that impact Texans.

Lu Ann Howell, MS

self

AUSTIN, TX

I am a resident of Texas and I oppose SB 8 which targets trans and binary individuals. As a female, mother and grandmother to females, I have never felt threatened or afraid of anyone using the public restrooms as a female. Nor do I know of anyone else who has experiences danger in these situations. Restrictions of their access puts them as targets for violence. Restrictions for trans women from entering women only domestic shelters put these individuals at risk and there is no evidence that these individuals put others at risk just by being in their proximity. This bill does not protect the public: it strips dignity, endangers lives and fuels hate. Please oppose this bill.

MARTIN KRALIK

SELF

Dallas, TX

I don't understand why this is so hard to accomplish! Are we going to wait until more of our daughters/grand daughters are sexually assaulted? I hope not!!!

PLEASE I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

"It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law!"

Jan Love

Self

Tyler, TX

NO biological males in girls/women spaces!

Betsie Cutrer, Mrs.

Self, Doctoral Student

San Antonio, TX

We all deserve the freedom to relieve ourselves in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitalia inspected. I oppose SB8.

Sarah McKay

Self

Austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

As a constituent, I urge you to consider compassion and human dignity for my trans, intersex, and gender expansive loved ones while considering SB 8. This bill not only perpetuates misinformation about the trans community, it puts all women at risk of harassment even beyond the LGBTQIA+ community, as proven multiple times across the country.

Instead, I would love to see our representatives address things like equitable education opportunities and housing security for all Texans. Lately, it seems that we are spending too much time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain.

So, this special session, please put first things first and focus on improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville.

Thank you for your consideration and thanks in advance for keeping the most vulnerable and marginalized Texans among us in your hearts while discussing life-changing policy.

Peter Kim

self / software engineer

Austin, TX

I am here to speak against SB8 because I want to speak up for my friends, who you are targeting with this legislation. I mentor kids as part of the FIRST Robotics Program, which teaches high-schoolers how to design, build and program their own robots. The most gratifying part of being a mentor is watching these kids, who are in the process of figuring out who they are in this world, realize that they can actually do things with their hands and bring thoughts and ideas that used to be locked up in their heads into the real world.

The reason I bring this up is for a few reasons. The most direct one is that this bill is a direct attack on some of the kids that I mentor. For reasons that should matter to no one else but them, they don't identify with whatever gender the state would want to force upon them at birth, and so they've decided to state for themselves what that is. And you know what? It's totally fine with everyone else on the team. No one makes a big deal out of it, everyone learns what their preferred pronouns are, and then they move on with their lives and get to more important work, like building the robot. Why do we want to waste state resources and energy drafting and enforcing legislation trying to get them to prove that they are whatever gender the state wants to say that they are, when all they're doing is doing what we all did when we were that age? Figuring out what we like and what our plans and hopes for the future are going to be? Shouldn't that be nurtured, and shouldn't we be planting the seeds for a future that will welcome them into the world and guide them on their way, rather than railroad them onto some arbitrary notion of what it means to be human?

A slightly more abstract reason I brought that up is because when I think about this bill, I can't help but contrast the spirit behind this to the spirit I see in those kids and in the trans community as a whole. There's a fundamental mismatch here between what the authors of this bill think trans identity is and what it actually is. The language of the bill clinically describes trans identity as "a congenital anomaly or an intentional or unintentional disruption". In other words, it's an aberration from whatever it means to be a standard human being. But the reality is that there is no such thing as a "standard human being", and gender isn't some kind of wart that needs to be removed from it, it's integrated into what makes us us. In other words, trans people aren't some mangled, misshapen form that needs to be hammered back into some proper shape. They are full, realized human beings in and of themselves, and they lead joyful lives, or at least as joyful as they can manage to be in a world that is hell-bent on trying to convince them that there's something wrong with them. I urge you to reject this bill and to think about who you consider your neighbor, and how you treat them.

Barbara Passmore

Self; writer, researcher, mother

Austin, TX

If you want to help my daughters, and yours, better fund their public school, provide more for their teachers and keeping their parks and water clean, and help build a strong and prosperous community and economy that they can grow up in. Let's focus on what matters: on things that make the world better and safer. Let's NOT focus on unnecessary legislation that hurts women, hurts my community - including trans people and those who aren't trans. Let's focus on legislation that makes the state more prosperous, not less.

Bills like this, laws like this could be, are guaranteeing nothing less than a total brain drain and a money drain. The data shows that increasing numbers of talented workers do not want to be associated with a place that enacts legalized discrimination against people who are already vulnerable. As a someone engaged in my community, I want to bring the nation's most talented people to Texas. I want to raise my daughters here, in the school and town they love. This bill is driving others - including businesses and talented workers - away. It has us considering leaving this place too.

Elizabeth Spieckerman

Self

Austin, TX

I'm an Austin resident, a lifelong Texan, and I'm strongly opposed to SB8. As a cisgender woman, I am part of a group of people who the authors of this bill say they're protecting in limiting certain people's access to essential facilities like restrooms.

However, this legislation does not makes me feel any safer. In fact, knowing that my fellow Texans and I would be subject to heightened scrutiny and even discrimination if SB8 were to pass makes me feel less safe and less proud to be a resident of this state.

Kristin McGarity

self

Kyle, TX

As someone who advocates for universal restroom access as an aspect of disability rights, I am deeply concerned for the practical effects of this bill.

Though on paper there may be an exception for personal care attendants and parents assisting children with restroom needs, in practice this exception can't be practically operationalized.

Since the bill has exceptions for some reasons but not others, this bill gives government the power to detain any Texas resident going about their day, to ask them why they entered a particular restroom. It's difficult to see how this level of government power aligns with small-government conservative philosophy, or the U.S. Constitution.

If the goal is a safe space from criminals who might enter a restroom marked "Women" for violent purposes, nothing in this bill would actually prevent such violent criminal acts.

This bill is a dystopian government over-reach that not only fails to improve public safety, it makes life much less safe for gender-nonconforming Texans who need to use the restroom, like disabled people and children and everyone else.

Carly Beiler, Ms.

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the restroom in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

Alex Donovan

Self, Event Coordinator

Austin, TX

Due to a medical condition, I am a very masculine presenting woman. I have increased facial hair and body hair, broad shoulders, a lower voice, among other physical characteristics that have, more than a handful of times, made women entering the bathroom I'm in double check the signage to make sure they're in the right place. There are too many stories of gender non-conforming women getting questioned and harassed in women's bathrooms, and while the situation is much worse for trans women, I know my audience, so I will stick to discussing cisgender women - "women born women." While I am lucky enough to never have been in a situation where I have been harassed in public due to the restroom I visit, the same cannot be said for Gerika Mudra, an 18 year old high school student from Minnesota who, and this article came out just last week, was seconds away from getting thrown out of a restaurant's restroom for being mistaken as transgender, but decided to prove her case by showing the harasser her breasts. If this bill passes, situations like this will become increasingly common. Imagine, your high school aged daughter, showing a stranger her breasts because they didn't think she looked "womanly" enough. This bill will do nothing but further stoke fear and distrust in our community, and simply is not rooted in any form of reality. In my workplace, I already exclusively use the gender neutral restroom for fear of being questioned for being in the wrong one. In places where no gender neutral restroom is available, I have to ask my friends and people I'm with if I'm "giving boy or girl today," - a strawpoll meant to ease the discomfort of the potential one or two people peeing in the same room as me. If this bill doesn't pass, the worst likely thing that happens to someone who is uncomfortable with people of the opposite sex using the same restroom as them is that they experience 5-10 minutes of discomfort. If this bill does pass, the worst likely thing that happens to someone gender non-conforming using the "wrong" restroom is that they get sued, harassed, or worse. This bill makes no ones lives easier, just makes lives harder for the ones you already have a bias against. Please reconsider passing this bill for people like me and Gerika Mudra.

Davis Brooks

Self, Docent

Houston, TX

In regards to SB 8, I do not believe the Texas legislature should concern itself with regulating restroom usage as a top priority. The rhetoric that transgender individuals using the restroom aligned to their gender endangers others is simply statistically not true, as transgender individuals are far more often the targets of violence than the perpetrators. Furthermore, with regards to child safety, the passage of the bill would create some distressing questions concerning its enforcement: even cisgender individuals are not always able to be readily categorized on first glance, so how would it be verified that they are using the correct bathroom? Will genital inspections be required to simply use a public restroom in peace? Ultimately, the reluctance of the Texas legislature to focus on non-issues such as this one instead of addressing critical needs of their constituents such as flood control/prevention, gun safety, and desperately-needed funding for education is continually disappointing, and I urge the members of the House committee to reevaluate their legislative priorities.

Dee Jackson

Self/Retired

Austin, TX

SB 8 feels like a direct attack on trans and gender expansive folks more than anything else. This should not be debated in a special session, either. It's a waste valuable legislative time and money.

Jeannette Schloss

Self, graduate student

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. Instead of making people more safe, this bill will endanger people, especially our populations already at risk: women and transwomen. I strongly oppose SB8!

Mevelyn Ruchardson

Self

Los Fresnos, TX

SB8 is a MUST PASS BILL... for the sake of girl's "sanity". PLEASE HEAR OUR PLEA??

Kimberly Harkey

Self

Houston, TX

This bill only harms Texans and helps no one. It puts people in the position of guessing someone's gender based on looks and makes way for discriminatory practices. Research shows trans humans are less likely to perpetuate abuse in bathrooms than cis individuals. Let's create safe spaces for everyone by voting no on this bill.

Jerry Stewart

Saving The Nation a 501(c3)

Hurst, TX

"I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

Auburn Rutledge

self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the bathroom that matches our gender identity without being questioned or facing the violation of privacy by having our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8 and its attempt to further dehumanize and persecute our trans and nonbinary Texans.

Marilyn Harris

Self/Retired

Sanger, TX

Texas must protect the privacy of our girls, women, wives, mothers, and grandmothers in locker rooms, bathrooms, and women's sports. Thank you for your attention to this matter!

Michael Farmer

Self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose SB 8. This bill proposes to solve a problem which doesn't exist by creating real harm to the citizens of Texas. While it is evidently intended to harm trans Texans, it will harm cis individuals as well who may be accused of using the wrong facility and subsequently harassed under this policy. Enforcement of any similar policy is infeasible without violating the rights of Texans. Please vote no on this harmful and dangerous bill.

Catherine Roots

Self

Whitehouse, TX

Please pass this bill. Biological women and girls deserve to have privacy and safety.

Alan Bowles

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is a baseless and illogical attack on Trans people and anyone who approves of this bathroom ban is either ill informed, willfully ignorant, or kowtowing to bigots that would see my friends and family wiped from existence.

Hartlyn Haynes

Self, graduate student

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. Please preserve the basic dignity and privacy of all Texans.

Marta Kvande

self

Lubbock, TX

Please vote NO on SB 8. This bill would prohibit trans and nonbinary people from accessing essential facilities like restrooms, locker rooms, and dorms in government buildings, and there is literally zero need to do this. Moreover, it would harm a lot of Texans. As a woman since birth, I absolutely do not want anyone checking what parts I have to go into a restroom. As a woman since birth, I am glad to share restrooms with trans women and nonbinary people. We ALL just want to pee in peace. And Texas has real and serious problems to solve, such as improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. Vote no on this bill!

Catherine Ellis

Self

Wimberley, TX

Shame on you all. This bill is quite obviously being pushed along in an attempt to pacify your Christian nationalist donors. This is a non-issue and shows how ignorant corrupt and hateful our Texas legislature has become. You should be working for all Texans instead of shaming and hating on a group you clearly know very little to nothing about.

Scout Derryberry

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve freedom to pee in peace without our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

Pam White

Eastland County Republican Precinct 1 Chair

Eastland, TX

I urge you to support SB8, the Women's Privacy Act. Please be sure that SB8 moves forward! Our daughters deserve privacy & protection in bathrooms & locker rooms.

Kendel Jones

self

Austin, TX

This is completely exclusionary and embarrassing. This is not how we love our neighbor as ourselves. What would Jesus do? Not this!

Joellen Zvara

Self

Houston, TX

As a mental health worker serving our community, I can confidently say this policy is harmful to your constituents. It not only discriminates against intersex, Two-Spirit, transgender, and non-binary individuals, but it also threatens the rights and dignity of all citizens. This bill promotes invasive overreach by attempting to police individuals based on their bodies, something no government should have jurisdiction over. If you believe in freedom, autonomy, and justice, I urge you to vote NO on SB 8.

Elaine Fleming, Precinct Chair Hunt Co. Republican

Self

Celeste, TX

Women and girls should be protected from being subjected to seeing biological males in their private spaces

Seth Wittenbrook

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is a vile attack on already vulnerable members of society, the stated goal to protect bathrooms is entirely not accomplished and it makes public facilities more hostile to trans and cis texans.

Nancy Stevens

Grassroots

Fredericksburg, TX

I firmly support this bill to protect all girls and women in sports of their private spaces.

Montrinaa Hill

BLMP

Houston, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Patrick Wamhoff

Self/SREC SD30

Frisco, TX

Support SB8! Protect women's privacy and safety. Senate District 30 demands it.

David Wheeler

Self

AUSTIN, TX

I oppose SB 8 and call upon you to reject this Bill.

The purpose of government is not to regulate who can use a bathroom. This bill, and others like them, have been used by unscrupulous individuals to provide justification for assaults when women or men were not deemed to be masculine or feminine enough. The author of this Bill bears responsibility for creating an atmosphere that is used to suggest such assaults are warranted.

This is a bill in search of an issue. There are no reported assaults on children or women by trans folx, while there are numerous reports of assaults on women and men who were unjustly accused of being members of a gender that they were assumed not to be.

I oppose this Bill and ask that it not be moved from this committee. Should the members of this committee lack the will or insight to make that choice, then I urge all Senators to vote against it.

Thank you.

MICHELLE EVANS

WILLIAMSON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

GEORGETOWN, TX

Representative Anchia seems to believe the dignity, privacy and consent of females should only be protected after a physical injury has occurred. Fortunately, many decades ago, the right to bodily privacy was recognized and this right was protected for women and girls by establishing that they deserve access to sex-separated private spaces, including but far from limited to bathrooms. Females are entitled to spaces in which they can disrobe, perform regular bodily functions, sleep, etc. without discomfort arising from the presence of males in those spaces. I find it hard to understand why feminists and progressives have supported the #metoo movement, complained about the male gaze and mansplaining, and shouted that those without uteruses should have no say in the abortion debate - yet they are perfectly comfortable with males invading females' sacred spaces such as changing rooms, prisons, and domestic abuse shelters.

This is a problem, not only in Texas but elsewhere. We cannot deny that males present a physical and emotional danger to women. They are overwhelmingly responsible for a vast majority of violent crimes, including sexual assault and partner homicide, and this tendency toward criminality and victimization of females begins with the cascade of testosterone in the womb, and continues through puberty. It simply cannot be avoided by identifying out of it. It cannot be avoided even with wrong sex hormones.

If you wait until assaults and rapes occur to pass this bill, you are complicit.

Kathy Keller, Mrs

Self

Salado, TX

I support SB 8 because it supports and protects our girls.

annalia luna

self

Houston, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the restroom whenever it is necessary. Gender & genitalia should not exempt anyone from this.  
I oppose SB8

Tracy Pennington, Mrs

Self

Amarillo, TX

Let's keep to wisdom!

Joshua Konkle

Individual

Austin, TX

Texas must act now to protect the safety, privacy, and dignity of women and girls. Senate Bill 8, the Texas Women's Privacy Act, introduced by Senator Mayes Middleton, is a critical step toward ensuring that spaces like restrooms, locker rooms, and shelters remain safe havens for females. Advocates like Riley Gaines and Payton McNabb, who have faced the real-world consequences of policies ignoring biological differences, are leading the charge. Their stories demand action—Texas must pass SB 8 to safeguard women's rights and set a national standard for fairness.

Riley Gaines, a former NCAA swimmer and vocal advocate for women's rights, champions SB 8 to protect women in vulnerable spaces. In 2022, Gaines competed against a biological male in women's swimming and was forced to share a locker room with someone with male anatomy, an experience she describes as invasive and unfair. Her testimony before Congress and state legislatures underscores the need for laws like SB 8, which defines "sex" based on biology—male or female—and mandates that multiple-occupancy spaces in government buildings align with this reality.

Similarly, Payton McNabb, a North Carolina high school volleyball player, suffered devastating injuries in 2022 when a transgender opponent spiked a ball into her face, causing a concussion, traumatic brain injury, and partial paralysis. Featured in the documentary *Kill Shot: How Payton McNabb Turned Tragedy Into Triumph*, McNabb's injuries???

System: injury ended her athletic career and left her with ongoing challenges like impaired vision and mobility issues. Her advocacy for North Carolina's Fairness in Women's Sports Act, banning transgender athletes from female sports, aligns with Gaines' mission.

SB 8's provisions, including civil penalties up to \$25,000 and a private right of action, empower women like Gaines and McNabb to seek justice. This bill is protecting women's safety and fairness, not taking rights away from any one. Trans individuals deserve respect, but not at the expense of women's rights. Gaines and McNabb's experiences—shared in congressional and state testimonies—highlight the urgency. Texas must pass SB 8 to protect its daughters, sisters, and mothers.

Stormy Ousley

Self - Accountant

Lewisville, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. Laws that criminalize transgender people for using restrooms aligned with their gender identity are discriminatory, dangerous, and harmful to public safety. Everyone deserves the basic dignity of being able to use the restroom without fear of harassment, violence, or arrest.

Targeting transgender people does not protect anyone—it only increases stigma, mental health struggles, and the risk of harm to an already vulnerable community. This legislation serves no legitimate public interest, but instead weaponizes fear and bigotry against our neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family.

Instead of creating laws that divide and endanger, we should be protecting the rights and safety of all people, including transgender individuals. I urge you to reject this harmful bill.

Tems Johnson

Self

Abilene, TX

Oppose

Stacy Maag

Self

Katy, TX

I am continually disgusted that Texas legislators never fail to be hateful and and awful regarding the LGBTQIA+ community. Under the guise of “protecting women,” which we all know is just code for, ”I hate trans and nonbinary people,” you continue to make life more difficult for already marginalized communities. Just let people live their lives. For a state that touts freedom and less government control, y’all sure are up in everyone’s business. If you actually cared about women, you’d focus on the group of people who actually, statistically are more likely to harm women: white men! We will all be paying attention to this vote. Stop the madness, protect our trans and nonbinary people in Texas!

Evangeline Carpenter

self

New Braunfels, TX

I am disheartened and disappointed. Many of the people slamming their foot on the gas for this bill are Christian but this is an inherently anti-Christian bill. Have some compassion, your empathy is not a sin.

The primary concern for these bills is to protect our young girls in bathrooms and changing rooms. As a woman and one of the former “young girls” this bill “seeks to protect”, I have never—anywhere in this country or the world—been threatened by a transgender person.

This bill and those like it, regardless of being targeted state-wide or only in public, government-owned facilities, is—and already has!!—going to cause harm, sexual harassment, sexual assault, assault, and more crisis. We have multiple existing cases that happened because people in the state feel protected to do so and empowered by these bills to charge into bathrooms regardless of their gender and chase out people who they don’t believe should be using that bathroom. This really brings me back to the terrifyingly dark time of segregation in this country. Many of the people who have been chased out or physically beaten or harassed have been women using women’s restrooms—not trans but the same women you want to protect. A young girl witness a woman being physically assaulted in a public bathroom they’re using is going to traumatize them for life because they aren’t being not being exposed to other threats in these bathrooms. The people who are going to sexually assault young girls in the bathroom are going to break in and rape them regardless of a House Bill. They will do it because they want to and they aren’t going to dress up as a woman to fulfill that evil desire.

For God’s sake, if you’re concerned, make it illegal for there to be a gap in the bathroom stall doors where we can literally see other people on the toilet because there’s a gap. This anti-privacy gap is an inherently American thing and perverted; you will not find these gaps in other countries. We need to step it up.

These bills are an excuse to push personal beliefs, not an opportunity to protect the safety of a demographic you say you care about but are actively punishing by attack the trans community—also actively attack by passing other bills that will remove their freedom to medical decisions and care, remove their ability to vote if they took their partner’s last name in marriage, remove their right to education with HB-13 and 412, and many other bills that are decimating our rights instead of protecting us.

A healthy dose of “minding my business” goes a long way. And focusing on actual issues vs personal ones such as homelessness, access to education, environmental protections, etc. will be the changemakers that will allow our state to succeed for generations to come, generations that these young women will be able to witness and contribute to having been given the opportunity of safety (because we stop attacking trans people), health, and education.

Do the right thing for everyone.

Anne Russey

Self

Katy, TX

As a nearly lifelong Texan, a cisgender woman, and a mother to two daughters, it is disappointing and infuriating that my daughters and I have less rights now, than I did growing up in this state. Laws that allow men- or anyone- to police private spaces- private spaces that belong to women, especially, do not make us safer. They embolden and empower people to target and harass women and girls who do not fit the stereotype of what men (and other women) believe women should be. These laws endanger transgender and nonbinary Texans- and they also endanger women like me, and my daughters. Please do not pass SB 8 out of committee. Focus on laws that will protect ALL Texans from real threats to our safety.

Barbara Kosciwicz

Myself

Katy, TX

I am writing to register my opposition to SB8, the Bathroom bill. This bill is a bad idea because it will cause harm to transgender as well as cisgender people. It will cause legal and logistical issues and will not keep women safe as the bill alleges to do. Ironically, the group that faces the most danger in public restrooms isn't cisgender women—it's transgender people themselves. If bathroom bans were truly about safety, lawmakers would prioritize the protection of those who are actually at risk—but they don't. Instead, they focus on a manufactured fear of transgender women, while ignoring the very real violence faced by transgender individuals. Please vote no on SB 8

Christina Milan

Self

Cypress, TX

I strongly oppose S.B. 8. This bill weaponizes state power to enforce exclusion, targeting transgender and gender-nonconforming Texans under the guise of safety and privacy.

Rather than addressing real public safety concerns, this bill promotes surveillance and stigmatization in spaces like schools, shelters, and correctional facilities—places where dignity and protection should be paramount.

I urge lawmakers to reject this bill and instead invest in policies that uphold bodily autonomy, community resilience, and equal access to public life.

Kevin Rutkowski

Self- software quality assurance consultant

Austin, TX

Many women who have transitioned to men are muscular, masculine, bearded, and bald. They look like the manliest men you've ever seen. This bill would force the people to use the women's bathroom. The bill literally would require bearded, muscular, tattooed, trans men to go into the women's bathrooms and locker rooms under penalty of a large fine. How will that make women feel safer or have any positive effect?

Lisa Healy

Self

Midlothian, TX

I support this bill. Please protect women and vote yes. I appreciate your consideration.

Andi Pouncey, Ms.

Self

Austin, TX

I will keep this short and plain: SB8 is in gross violation of privacy at best and a petty attack on trans Texans at worst in a time where Texans are overwhelmingly suffering amidst a nation-wide recession. This bill, I consider to be a waste of time. We, as individuals first and Texans second, have absolutely no right to know the genitalia and gender presentation/identity of those who urinate in public restrooms next to us. I find this to be childish and an overreaching of boundaries we are all entitled to. How are we to even ensure we are using the “correct” restroom? Are we to employ armed officers at restroom doors? Are we to accept public flashing of genitalia and other private body parts as the new norm? I do not consent to subjecting my and my potential children to a life of having to prove oneself to use a restroom in public. Of all the tangible issues that affect Texans on a day to day basis, I find this to be a downright laughable bill, this is just foolish. I find we would all, cisgender and transgender Texans alike, would benefit from a more useful protection: perhaps a raised minimum state wage, as Texas’ is significantly below the national average. How dare you use the words of Christ to impose foolish standards on those who wish to relieve themselves in a restroom! As a Christian I am deeply offended at my divine savior being used as a scapegoat to discriminate against an already vulnerable population. Does Christ not say we are all children of the Lord? Are we all not made in his ever changing image? Before I finish, I would like to end on a question: where does it stop? Will we have separate restrooms for cisgender individuals who do not comply with heteronormativity? Will masculine cis women and feminine cis men (though those labels “feminine” and “masculine” seem to change based on who you infer their definitions to) to be sectioned off into subsequent restrooms? Who are we to entrust will judge our individual genitalia? How are we to trust that we won’t be assaulted then? I truly hope this is a vetoed bill, as this is a colossal waste of time and a breach of our freedoms as individuals to use a restroom. Please spend your time with something less preposterous and disturbing, in Christ’s name.

Hos Martinez

Self

Houston, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. Laws that criminalize transgender people for using restrooms aligned with their gender identity are discriminatory, dangerous, and harmful to public safety. Everyone deserves the basic dignity of being able to use the restroom without fear of harassment, violence, or arrest.

Targeting transgender people does not protect anyone—it only increases stigma, mental health struggles, and the risk of harm to an already vulnerable community. This legislation serves no legitimate public interest, but instead weaponizes fear and bigotry against our neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family.

Instead of creating laws that divide and endanger, we should be protecting the rights and safety of all people, including transgender individuals. I urge you to reject this harmful bill.

Rachel Palenik

self

Austin, TX

This bill will condition children to expect adults to be allowed to inspect their genitals in public bathrooms. This includes in spaces that parents aren’t present like school and camp. The author of this bill is a pedophile who wants to empower likeminded individuals to weaponize the law to abuse children.

Stacie Booth

Self

Dripping Springs, TX

As a woman, I am in favor of protections from biological men in sports, bathrooms, locker rooms, and any space designated for women. Please protect women from biological men who use transgenderism as a means to exploit and abuse women.

Caitlen Hill  
Self/cemeteries  
Elgin, TX

I dont know how many more ways to explain to you all that those putting children and women in danger are in churches, offices, and other positions of power.

Please address the statistical likely offenders and leave trans people alone already.

Daniel Smith  
Self  
Houston, TX

All bathrooms, gyms, and etc. Must Be limited to original sex they designated for. We want to protect our women's privacy and stop rape ect. From occurring in said places.

Alex Fritsch  
Self, Natural Resource Specialist  
Austin, TX

As a life long Texas resident, I ask that you vote against SB 8. Transgender Texans exist, and this bill seeks to ban them from using public restrooms. This will lead to an increase of violence and aggression towards transgender individuals who are already a targeted community. This bill is a waste of time and resources. Transgender people do not pose a risk to society and should not be penalized for using the restroom matching their gender identity.

Alberto Duarte  
Texas  
Frisco, TX

I'm proud to be a Texan, these are my people. This is my home. As a cis man, this bill will not impact me. However, it will impact Texas. As a republican state, we have the fame to be pro businesses. But how can we pro business if we alienate our customers and employees. What good are businesses if people avoid the state. If people would rather not accept a job offer due to the safety of their love ones. Or themselves. It is estimated that if this passes, it will result in a lose of 3.3 billion dollars in tourism. Not to mention the slow in recruitment and potential growth.

It is 2025, if you are still worried about Trans people, you will risk economic growth. There is no gerrymandering dollars or public spending.

Jer Moran  
Self/Healthcare worker  
Round Rock, TX

Hello members of House State Affairs committee,

My name is Jer Moran and I am voicing extreme opposition to SB 8. Texans who are Transgender, Gender Expansive, and Intersex have been used as a political punching bags for far too long. SB 8 takes the harmful actions that have already been done to an entire population of Texans and increases the danger that they are in by a considerable degree. This will criminalize people's entire existence and right to exist in public spaces. In a larger sense, the attacks on this population is fueling violence in words and actions through hate and division. On a personal note, this will affect my family directly as I am the parent of a trans child and also my partner is trans. I am also trans. We are simply trying to survive the horrors inflicted upon us day in and day out and yet we will continue to thrive in spite of bills like SB 8.

Thank you for your time,  
Jer Moran

Kayleigh Matheson

self

austin, TX

Once again this is an invasion of privacy, an overreach of government and will do nothing to keep anyone safe. This will end up putting some lives in danger. Please remove yourselves from the private lives of Texas citizens.

Carole Owen, Mrs.

Self

Lubbock, TX

Women and girls deserve their private spaces where only biological females are allowed. It is wrong to allow imposter females to be in women's bathrooms and dressing facilities—at school or in any public venue. I support SB8 and urge you to move that bill forward and vote yes on it. Carole Owen

aileen boone

self

san antonio, TX

I support SB 8. I believe firmly that women should have their own private spaces. There are many stories about men in women dressing rooms taking videos. Stories about males dressing as woman and raping women in their restrooms ( Loudin county). Penalties and accountability are needed for sure.

R B

Self, Archivist

Round Rock, TX

I oppose the designation and use of certain spaces based on an individual's sex assigned at birth. I oppose the penalties proposed in this bill.

Maggie Harper

self

Bastrop, TX

SB 8 is a discriminatory proposition that only serves to belittle and put in danger a very small minority group for no other reason than hate and giving the public a distraction to fight about. There are real issues facing us Texans that need to be addressed and the idea that we are wasting so much time and effort to pass a bill to just to make sure that trans people can know we hate them is insane. I have never felt scared or been in danger from sharing a bathroom with a trans person, regardless of their biological sex. This protects no one and will only serve to give hateful, dangerous people the audacity and legal right to harass women in restrooms. Like I said, I've never been afraid of a trans person in a restroom, but I am certainly afraid of being accosted by another woman and possibly store security or the police because someone thinks I look too masculine. Things I would never have to consider before might put me in danger- my choice to shave my legs, to wear a certain outfit, to not wear makeup, or to cut my hair. You want to protect women? Don't embolden strangers to make them prove what type of genitals they have when they're just trying to use the bathroom.

Debra Dodson

Self/trtired

Austin, TX

Why is the Texas House wasting time and energy on this bill. I don't understand why the State of Texas needs to bully a small population that doesn't cause any harm. There are so many other causes that could use your immediate attention and would help make Texas remain a great State. SB8 will make Texas a smaller state in so many ways. Please do not allow this bill to become law.

Zarissa Cline  
self, Librarian  
Austin, TX

Vote against this bill, it is a government overreach that invades the privacy and safety of anyone using a public bathroom and is more likely to cause harm to women and children whose genitals would be up for scrutiny by members of the public and law enforcement. Would you like your wife, daughter, or mother to have to show their privates if someone at an establishment declares they don't look or act "female" enough. What about a son, brother, or father who is accused of looking too "feminine" to use a mens room? Will these people be more protected or less by law enforcement authorized to violate an individuals privacy. This is an arbitrary line. Public assault is already covered by existing laws. Additional laws are a waste of taxpayer money and an outrage of the persons this bill claims to protect, but in reality is a perverted obsession that will only be voted for by individuals who want to prey on women, children, and enable law enforcement to as well. Stand up for individual freedom, dignity, and rights! Stand against the senators who are perverts trying to violate the privacy of people already protected by the law. Instead, spend some time on the law enforcing those already preying on women and children by sending funding to process rape kits and improve foster care and social services. Vote no on this bill.

Evan Richards  
Self  
Copperas Cove, TX

This is a harmful bill that not only affects trans people but cis people and should not be passed. This puts more people in danger of people policing others gender/sex when accessing bathrooms and public spaces. This doesn't protect women or girls as some people have said it will, it just makes things way worse for everyone.

Noah Jones  
Texas Counseling Association  
Austin, TX

TCA opposes SB 8.

Adrian Charette  
Self, Self-employed hairstylist  
Austin, TX

Block the SB 8! Bathroom bills are a waste of resources and put marginalized people at risk. To ID someone to use the restroom based on stereotypes or the whim of the facility is literally just profiling people who may not meet the arbitrary gender stereotypes that the facilitator has. Bathroom bills are a false sense of security, it isn't shown to prevent harm, it increases it by ostracizing users. Imagine you need to use the restroom and someone assumes (based on their own image of sex and what is expected from gender expression) you are using the "wrong" restroom because you're wearing a floral shirt in the men's room. Or you're wearing baggy jeans in the women's room. Its completely arbitrary and it would be humiliating to have to "prove" your sex to someone just to use the restroom.

Samantha Caplan  
self  
Austin, TX

My name is Samantha Caplan and I am a 14 year resident of Austin, TX. I urge you to vote NO on SB 8 and not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that you vote NO on passing SB 8.

Constantinos Pogas

Self

Austin, TX

SB 8 is a harmful piece of legislation that only makes the real lives of Texans more confusing and dangerous. While this bill promises to protect women and children, it only makes it more unsafe for them regardless of whether they are born a woman or not. Gerika Mudra in Minnesota is just one example of many where someone born a woman is harassed because someone thought she wasn't one and she was forced to expose herself to prove she was a woman. She's eighteen years old. She should not be getting harassed by strangers over their idea of what her gender is. No one should. More importantly, there are greater threats to women today and none of them are not brought on by the mere existence of trans people. The trans community deals with enough discrimination in the world without the law's help. Anything additional that is passed only exists to make the lives of trans Texans significantly worse. Trans Texans are people with whole lives. Their lives are filled with people who love and care for them regardless of religion or ideology, and to force them out of public spaces and facilities is evil and unnecessary. Trans Texans are still constituents that you are all sworn to protect and pass legislation that is in their best interests. SB 8 is in the best interests of absolutely nobody. No matter your gender identity or your beliefs, we are all human beings worthy of respect and dignity. Please, for the sake of our shared humanity, vote "no" on SB 8. Thank you for your time.

Rosie Gonzalez

Self

Harlingen, TX

Please support this bill and let girls and women have their spaces. Protect and value girls and women as image bearers and worthy of honor and respect. Do not allow anyone in disguise have access and undermine their safety.

Jonah Popp

self

Austin, TX

This is a complete disaster of a bill. In addition to once again ignoring flood victims, the state of Texas, with this bill, is seeming to prioritize policing the gender of individuals attempting to perform a standard bodily function (using the restroom). I, for one, would prefer the government to mind their own business and stay out of my pants.

Moreover, bathroom bills such as these are fraught with problematic history, dating back to segregation. These types of bathroom bills serve to oppress, not to keep people safe. If the government actually cared about assault and sexual assault, perhaps they could legislate something to crack down on perpetrators of assault and sexual assault. Instead, it seems, the legislature is more concerned with policing gender.

Do not vote for this abomination of a bill.

Signed, a Texas voter.

Debbie Patton

Self

Houston, TX

People need to pee. Nobody messes with anybody in the bathroom. I mind my own business. Others in the bathroom mind their own business. My state leaders should mind their own business and not waste taxpayer money by continuing to debate this issue. Do not make it harder for people to pee.

Trina Westberg

self

Plano, TX

To the Honorable Members of the Texas Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Texas Women's Privacy Act, Senate Bill 8. As a concerned Texan, I believe this legislation is essential for protecting the safety, privacy, and dignity of women and girls across our state.

This bill correctly addresses a critical need to maintain separate, private spaces for women. Allowing individuals to access bathrooms, locker rooms, and other private facilities based on their biological sex provides a necessary measure of safety and comfort. This is not about discrimination; it is about recognizing the fundamental differences between men and women and ensuring that spaces traditionally reserved for females remain secure.

The Women's Privacy Act provides clear guidelines that prevent confusion and potential conflict in these sensitive areas. By establishing common-sense rules, the bill helps to prevent situations that could lead to discomfort or danger for women and children. This is a crucial step in upholding the well-being of our communities.

I urge you to pass this vital legislation. It is a necessary measure to protect the rights of women and girls to have secure and private spaces. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Texas Resident

Kathy Turner

self, Retired

McGregor, TX

Protect Texas women and girls. Advance this bill to calendars for placement on the House Floor.

Julie McCarty

True Texas Project

Grapevine, TX

Thank you for bringing this back up as many times as needed to get it passed! Stand strong. Texas needs this.

Nan Kirkpatrick

self, development director

Dallas, TX

I am writing to state my strong opposition to SB 8 by Middleton. This bill threatens the safety of Texans of any gender presentation, invites public conflict, and reinforces harmful ideas about gender. It even opens cis people up to discrimination and harm. The private civil right of action pits neighbors against each other, invites vigilante action, and allows the state to obscure its engagement in the violation of people's civil rights. I urge you to vote NO on SB 8 by Middleton.

Melody Espinoza

SELF

Houston, TX

Please vote in FAVOR to keep women's places, sports and anything woman related private and personal.

Erika Browning

self, Real Estate Broker

Duncanville, TX

I am in favor of this bill.

Shelby Evans

Self

Austin, TX

As a sexual assault survivor, this bill is offensive and does the opposite of what it claims to do. Women are already facing "gender policing" because of the rhetoric stirred up by this bill. The next time a person is assaulted for not looking "woman enough" or "man enough" for being in a space, their blood is on your hands. The next time someone experiences sexual violence like the violence I experienced, that's on you too, for not directing time and resources toward programs and policies that actually support our welfare. Leave trans people alone. Focus on the coaches, pastors, abusive parents, and politicians, who are actually committing these heinous crimes.

Amy Bei

self / homemaker

Southlake, TX

As a Texas female, I strongly urge you to support and pass Senate Bill 8, to protect the safety and rights of biological women in certain spaces and facilities from the opposite sex. I and the vast majority of other females in Texas feel extremely threatened and unsafe due to the lack of legislation on this issue because the opportunity for males with nefarious motives to access females in restrooms and other spaces where we are more vulnerable. Please do the right thing and pass SB 8.

Sylvia Campbell

self

The Woodlands, TX

Dear Committee,

Are you telling me that you really want a person who presents as a man to use the women's restroom? And a person who presents as a woman to use the men's restroom? I for one, do not want to deal with that when all I want to do is pee in peace. You are setting up the people of Texas for unnecessary conflicts in our restrooms. This has not been a problem so far. You are creating a problem where non exists. Please let it be, and vote no on SB 8.

Thank you,

Sylvia Campbell

Sylvia Coulson

self dietitian

Waxahachie, TX

I Support this bill.

Evelynn Walker

Self

Leander, TX

This bill is horrifically cruel and it violates the rights to privacy of ALL people. Any cis person who happens to be born on the edges of the spectrum of their birth sex is at risk. Any cis person who enjoys wearing alternative clothes is at risk. This puts trans women at risk. If we are doing this to protect women from assault, why are we putting monetary stakes behind demanding to have someone prove their birth sex on entry to GENDERED bathrooms. They are not SEXED they are GENDERED which is distinctly different. Trans women will be harmed in either bathroom. Either they will be followed into the women's bathroom or locked in as we've seen in places like Odessa. Or they will outright be forced to prove that they are trans upon entry to the men's restroom. Either way, that's a deeply humiliating experience at best and assault at worst. Trans MEN exist. They use the restroom that they feel safe to. We are punishing trans people who do not pass at the moments in their transition where they are most vulnerable. It's sick. It's wrong. And moral grandstanding about the validity of a trans identity is politically motivated not morally. Gender neutral bathrooms are not an option as most are ADA compliant places where disabled people can get help from attendants of a different gender in dignity and privacy. Forcing trans people to use that bathroom is akin to calling us disabled. It's akin to parking in the handicap space. It's wrong and once again, does more harm to people whom this bill isn't even targeting. Because rest assured, this bill is TARGETING trans women in particular. It's purposely cruel in its design to force trans women into situations that are unsafe and will result in harm. I don't think this is at ALL a good use of my representatives time. If you want to protect women, then pass flood legislation. Not this.

Elizabeth Grahmann

Self

Boerne, TX

This bill endangers all women in the State of Texas, not just students. This basically allows people to attempt to police bodies that do not belong to them. This will only lead to further confrontations and endangerment in the public as well as the public school systems. I find it incredibly invasive, and for one would not wish my genitals or a child's genitals to be inspected by any "official". Even by authoring this bill, you clearly show that you are more concerned with what in between children's legs and not with what is between their ears.

Kristen Ohanyan

Self, STEM Educator

Katy, TX

As a longtime STEM educator, I ask senators to vote NO on SB 8. Please stop using transgender individuals for political gain. Please instead focus on the economy, the flood victims from central Texas, and the importance of people losing their homes and inability to buy food in this current economy. Focusing on bathrooms is NOT where senatorial priorities should be.

Lorie Marvin, Mrs.

Self&Girls

McGregor, TX

Texas Women's Privacy Act, SB 8 is common-sense legislation, so please pass into law the intended protection for the privacy and dignity of women and girls, as biologically-born women should not be required to share intimate spaces. Even the UK Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the term "woman" in the UK's Equality Act refers to a person born biologically female, so even in the UK a transgender person with a Gender Recognition Certificate identifying them as female is not considered a woman for the purposes of equality law: The UK Supreme Court concluded that interpreting "sex" as certificated sex would create incoherent groupings and undermine the protected characteristic of sex under the law. Can you conclude the same for the rights of those born biologically female to not be compromised? Thank you. Please pass HB 7 as this state has an interest in protecting the lives of unborn Texas children & the health and welfare of every woman considering a drug-induced abortion, considering Mifeprex or Mifepristone presenting significant medical complications including, but not limited to, uterine hemorrhage, viral infections, etc the failure rate and risk of complications increasing with advancing gestational age. While most legal shield laws purport to protect women seeking "reproductive health care," their real purpose is to promote, increase, and shield anyone involved with abortion— particularly today's dominant method, chemical abortion—from criminal, civil, or professional liability. This paper discusses how abortionist legal shields encourage unregulated abortion tourism (Section I), inhibit state-to-state cooperation in civil and criminal investigations as abortionist legal shields "threaten basic principles of comity between states, possibly resulting in the breakdown of state-to-state relations and ultimately retaliation" (Section II), and permit abortionists to prescribe and ship drugs to women and girls living in states where they are not licensed, thereby violating locale-of-care medical standards, for "shifting the locale of care is a significant departure from the standard of care, provisions of state medical practice acts, and the guidance of professional organizations."(Section III): <https://lozierinstitute.org/abortion-shield-laws-pro-abortion-states-seek-to-force-abortion-on-life-affirming-states/> "In other words, promoting abortion is more important to both authors and the states that have adopted their recommendations than the bedrock constitutional principle of Full Faith and Credit (see Section II) and the established medical standard that the locale of care is where the patient is located (see Section III)." Thank you for considering your 'grave' duty toward others in order to protect them from unnecessary risk of harm.

Lindsay Konlande

Self

Katy, TX

I urge you not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. As a lifelong Texan, I am disappointed there is not more focus on addressing the issues impacting all Texans such as improving infrastructure, investing in public schools, and providing access to adequate healthcare resources.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that you vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Thank you for your time.

Katie Tiesma

Self

Dallas, TX

I wish to register my strong opposition to SB 8 and want to urge all committee members to vote NO. Laws like this decrease the safety, humanity, and peace of so many Texans, especially those who already receive so much stigma, violence, and cruelty. We should all be advocating for the freedom and human rights of every Texan.

David St Martin

Self

ALEDO, TX

I support this bill SB8 100% and hope you will support it and see that it passed.

Lisa Ventura  
self, security professional  
Arlington, TX

I am a security professional. There are times in my job where I have gotten complaints from women because a man dressed as a woman is in their bathroom. I cannot do anything about that because the law does not support women having a safe and private space to use the bathroom. PLEASE protect women's spaces with this bill! Also, please ensure we can still protect women even if the men are dressed as a woman.

Tammy Fogle  
Self  
Abilentr, TX

I am for this bill. Do not delay. Do not pass go until you have passed this bill. We have been waiting long enough. Just because those present for comments are paid to be there doesn't mean we the citizens aren't telling you loud and clear what we expect you to do.

Suzanne Ridner  
Self  
Dallas, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation. Thank you!

Sadia Castillo  
Self  
Round Rock, TX

I oppose the SB8 bill because it is discriminatory, a violation of civil rights and is a disgusting example of government overreach.

Michael Conti  
Self  
Austin, TX

SB 8 is a useless, cruel bill meant to drive our trans, nonbinary, intersex, and gender expansive friends, families, and neighbors out of public life. By attacking Texans whose identities you wish to eliminate, you endanger the people you claim to be protecting, as shown by the rising cases of cisgender women being harassed and assaulted by vigilantes misidentifying them in public bathrooms. Expanding your target to public facilities of all kinds will only continue to drive so many beautiful souls we're so lucky to call Texans out of this state, while compounding the suffering of those who can't or won't leave no matter how viciously you attack their right to be. Please vote no against this hateful, irredeemable attack on Texans' human rights.

Debra Reus  
Self  
Canyon Lake, TX

We cannot allow Girls/Boys in the opposite sex bathroom facilities as this opens the door for immoral behavior to happen. Our youth should not be subjected to more abuse like this as they are under enough pressure as it is.  
I am in full support of SB 8

Raul Rios  
Self  
Dallas, TX

Please stop using trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the House committee vote NO and abandon this bill.

Laura Morgan  
Self  
Georgetown, TX

I strongly oppose bill SB8, please vote no. If this bill was actually trying to solve a problem and protect women it would mandate all public restrooms switch to single stall, genderless bathrooms with floor to ceiling doors. Instead, it has zero enforcement outside of whistleblowers and asking children even at 10 years old to prove their gender wouldn't keep a single person safe. I didn't vote for my representatives to waste their time on this kind of filth. As a mother of a special needs kiddo with epilepsy who appears neuro typical this bill is simply appalling. Vote no, I beg of you. Stop taking the money and putting it above common decency and empathy.

Kimberly Bilbrey-Mosher, Dr.  
Self- Education Specialist  
Bertram, TX

As a proud parent of a trans kid, I am appalled by the constant attacks dehumanizing my child-my UT graduate, my Texas-loving child, who ran into the arms of a tolerant, kind city and state (Baltimore, MD) and has never looked back. They will never come back to Texas because of the apparent law-backed hatred the lawmakers of this state have towards their fellow humans. Why do you all feel the need to attack these folks? My kid is changing the world by beautifying the urban landscape of their new home where they are safe to grow food and native plants to share harvested seeds with their neighbors. And now, my kid doesn't want to come to Texas to visit their family at Thanksgiving. Plane tickets are purchased. Plans have been made. But what you are deciding to do with these ridiculous statutes to spread hate told MY KID - "YOU ARE NOT WANTED HERE." So guess what. My kid is not coming home for the holidays and I can't blame them. Put yourself in my place. Unconditional love for my child and yet laws are keeping them from feeling comfortable using public spaces during a visit TO THEIR CHILDHOOD HOME STATE. Thankfully Baltimore welcomes me with open arms for every visit and there are multiple nonstops from Austin each day. At some point I hope you all find someone else to target because as a momma, this is getting exhausting. My child just wants to safely live their life-working, volunteering, taking care of their loved ones. My kid just wants the same rights and privileges everyone else enjoys. It's very simple. Leave my child (and all other trans folks who-believe it or not-have loving and supportive parents) alone and let them exist in peace.

Rebekah Jensen  
Self  
Leander, TX

I rise today in opposition to Senate Bill 8.

SB 8 is written to sound simple — who can use which bathroom. But in reality, it is complex, dangerous, and deeply harmful. This bill inserts the heavy hand of government into some of the most private aspects of people’s lives: where they use the restroom, change clothes, or seek basic dignity.

### 1. Targeting Transgender Texans

SB 8 is not about safety. It is about exclusion.

It specifically targets transgender Texans — our neighbors, coworkers, classmates, and family members. It tells them that they are not welcome, that they are not safe, and that their existence is something to be policed and punished.

Every major medical and psychological association — from the American Medical Association to the American Psychiatric Association — warns that bills like SB 8 increase harassment, violence, and mental health risks for transgender youth and adults.

### 2. Authorizing Harassment

This bill authorizes \*private civil actions\* — essentially deputizing Texans to spy on and sue each other over bathroom use. That is not freedom. That is harassment.

Do we really want to live in a state where people are encouraged to monitor restrooms, locker rooms, and changing facilities, turning suspicion into lawsuits? SB 8 would pit Texans against Texans and open the door to invasive policing of anyone who “doesn’t look like they belong.”

Women with short hair, men with long hair, people with disabilities, cancer survivors who’ve undergone surgery — all risk being questioned, harassed, and dragged into court.

### 3. Harm to Businesses and Schools

SB 8 exposes schools, universities, hospitals, and businesses to lawsuits and civil penalties. Instead of focusing on education or healthcare, administrators will be forced to police bathrooms. Instead of welcoming customers, businesses will face liability.

It sends the message that Texas is closed to inclusion — and that is bad for our economy, our workforce, and our reputation.

### 4. Constitutional and Practical Problems

There are serious constitutional concerns with SB 8:

Equal protection under the law means you cannot target a class of people for exclusion.

The bill invites costly litigation — once again draining taxpayer dollars to defend laws that will likely be struck down in court.

Practically, SB 8 is unenforceable without invasive and humiliating “gender checks.” Do we really want restroom use policed by lawsuits, fines, and suspicion?

### 5. Moral Responsibility

At its heart, this bill is about dignity. Every Texan deserves to use the restroom in peace. Every child deserves to feel safe at school. Every worker deserves respect in the workplace.

SB 8 strips dignity from some of our most vulnerable Texans. It tells them: “You do not belong.” That is not the Texas I know. That is not the Texas we should aspire to be.

SB 8 does not protect Texans. It endangers them. It does not strengthen communities. It divides them. It does not uphold freedom. It undermines it.

Miguel Charrie

Self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. Laws that criminalize transgender people for using restrooms aligned with their gender identity are discriminatory, dangerous, and harmful to public safety. Everyone deserves the basic dignity of being able to use the restroom without fear of harassment, violence, or arrest.

Targeting transgender people does not protect anyone—it only increases stigma, mental health struggles, and the risk of harm to an already vulnerable community. Not to mention the harm it will do to cisgender women and children when anyone with authority has a free pass to go after anyone they suspect is transgender which has already happened in multiple parts of the country. This legislation serves no legitimate public interest, but instead weaponizes fear and bigotry against our neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family.

Instead of creating laws that divide and endanger, we should be protecting the rights and safety of all people, including transgender individuals. I urge you to reject this harmful bill.

Juan Mendez

Myself

Lampasas, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. Laws that criminalize transgender people for using restrooms aligned with their gender identity are discriminatory, dangerous, and harmful to public safety. Everyone deserves the basic dignity of being able to use the restroom without fear of harassment, violence, or arrest.

Targeting transgender people does not protect anyone—it only increases stigma, mental health struggles, and the risk of harm to an already vulnerable community. This legislation serves no legitimate public interest, but instead weaponizes fear and bigotry against our neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family.

Instead of creating laws that divide and endanger, we should be protecting the rights and safety of all people, including transgender individuals. I urge you to reject this harmful bill.

Anthony Solano

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. Laws that criminalize transgender people for using restrooms aligned with their gender identity are discriminatory, dangerous, and harmful to public safety. Everyone deserves the basic dignity of being able to use the restroom without fear of harassment, violence, or arrest.

Targeting transgender people does not protect anyone—it only increases stigma, mental health struggles, and the risk of harm to an already vulnerable community. This legislation serves no legitimate public interest, but instead weaponizes fear and bigotry against our neighbors, coworkers, friends, and family.

Instead of creating laws that divide and endanger, we should be protecting the rights and safety of all people, including transgender individuals. I urge you to reject this harmful bill.

Olivia Mercado

self student

Austin, TX

This bill is unconscionable. Mandating that bathroom usage be designated strictly on the basis of sex will not make anyone safer and will most certainly bring harm to several communities in Texas. It's not right to pass laws which directly harm so many people.

Eliza Wicker  
Self / Student  
Coppell, TX

Every person deserves privacy and respect, and intrusive policies regarding public bathrooms directly undermine these rights. Bathroom bans don't help anyone; in fact, they actively strip women and trans people of their dignity. I always believed the attitude in Texas to be "live and let live." This bill does the opposite. It encourages violence and violations of personal space in public, shared spaces at any time.

Cathy Schindler  
Self, business owner  
New Braunfels, TX

No to men or trans being allowed in women's restrooms or locker rooms!

Cindy Fountain  
Self/Retail Merchandiser  
Cleburne, TX

I oppose this bill! No one except transphobic people is making this everyone's business when most Texans were not complaining about it. Women are NOT unsafe in bathrooms that a trans woman uses. This IS a LIE! Your transphobia doesn't make it a fact. What is a fact is that Texans will feel and be unsafe due to transphobic people. All Texans deserve dignity and safety. Transphobia is taking that away. This bill is a sham and a waste of Texans' time and taxpayer dollars. Vote it down!

Cindy Fountain  
Lifelong Texas, Voter  
Cleburne, TX 76033

Lora Blackwell  
Self  
Austin, TX

This bill is an unprompted attack on our community and threatens bodily autonomy and self expression. Without question, this bill seeks to strip access to violence shelters, public spaces, and safe restrooms from our most vulnerable communities. If passed, this would certainly empower gender profiling and "hall monitor" behavior that harms us all. It is particularly appalling to think that trans and intersex individuals could be incarcerated in prisons that do not align with their gender, putting them at risk for violent targeting.

Vote against SB 8 and any other overreaching attack on restroom access.

Delene Cornell  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX  
In favor of

Linda Taylor, Rev.  
Self/Episcopal priest  
Fort Worth, TX

As a Texas resident and supporter of the Human Rights Campaign, I am writing today to ask that you stop SB 8, a discriminatory bill that attacks non-binary, intersex and transgender Texans. This bill would ban Texans using public school bathrooms consistent with their gender identity.

If signed into law, this bill would put Texas in direct contravention of federal civil rights law and immediately spur litigation which Texas taxpayers will be funding for years. The Associated Press found that when North Carolina passed similar legislation in 2016, it cost the state \$3.76 billion over 10 years from loss of business opportunities and impact on the lives of countless students. If Texas passes this bill, transgender Texans will bear the cost of the discrimination - discrimination that already causes Texans to feel unsafe in their own communities.

Legislation attacking transgender, nonbinary and intersex Texans refuses to serve the major interests and needs of communities and families, who now pay the price as the consequence of failed leadership across the state. Discrimination is wrong, and we believe it has no place in Texas.

Sincerely,

Lauren Bard  
Self, Instructional Designer  
Pflugerville, TX

I, a tax-paying, property-owning, law-abiding Texan residing in Pflugerville, vehemently oppose this bathroom bill and the hatred that it serves.

Max Hman  
Self  
Austin, TX

Trans people deserve to use any bathroom they want. What is wrong with y'all's perverted minds that you're so concerned with where trans people pee? Maybe you should be more concerned with the people who are suffering from recent flood damage. Seems like you don't give a care about them.

LeeAnne Ellis  
Self  
Buda, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is LeeAnne and I live in Buda, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Not too mention potentially invading the privacy of all students at any of the great universities within Texas.  
Instead, I would really love to see the committee address flood and disaster relief to the communities that were devastated earlier this year. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.  
Thank you.

Andy Taylor, Mr.

Self

Brownwood, TX

I feel it is very dangerous to let boys into girls dressing rooms or girls into boys dressing rooms. Each should be in the bathroom or dressing room that allows for their biological sex. It is sin and a violation of rights

Kathleen Schelling

Self

New Braunfels, TX

We support sb8 for our girls, all girls!

Terri Koen

Self

Austin, TX

I am a cis woman who has NEVER been harmed by a trans person in the bathroom or elsewhere. In fact, I don't notice nor do I care who I share a public bathroom with because we are all taking care of our own business. This bill puts transwomen in danger. It also puts cis women in danger who may not look feminine enough to whoever is scrutinizing and will invite violence. It's cruel and unnecessary, and I strongly oppose this bill.

Bri Loftis

SAelf - CPA

PLANO, TX

No biological male should EVER be allowed in the restroom or locker room of biological females. This is unsafe for the females; some of the males only do this in order to rape the females. It is also emotionally devastating to subject underage females to have to view male genitalia. This needs to STOP at once. It will take us several decades to cure the mental trauma in the females forced having to deal with biological males in their private spaces.

Andrew McComas Jr

self

Plano, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Concerned Parent

Self care giver

El paso, TX

Please vote 'no' on this ridiculous bill. Enforcing this bill would be traumatizing not only to the members of the transgender community but also to anyone using a restroom because this bill gives people authority to harass at will. It leaves too many opportunities to violate anyone's privacy. It leaves open too many opportunities for abuse. Surely there are much more important issues to consider than who uses the restroom

Melissa Carroll

self

Austin, TX

I am writing in opposition of SB8. Trans Texans should be allowed to use whichever restroom they feel most comfortable in. I have many trans and non-binary friends and would hate for them to have to use a bathroom they do not feel safe in. My trans friends are some of the kindest and selfless people I know. It makes me feel so sad seeing how they are being targeted right now. As a cisgender woman, I would feel uncomfortable using a men's restroom. Would you also feel uncomfortable if you were legally required to use the wrong bathroom? Ask yourselves this when you're deciding if you want to move forward with this bill.

Lacy Butler  
Self  
Crosby, TX

Please focus on actual sexual predators and not transgendered individuals. Focus on where the real numbers are when it comes to sexual misconduct, assault, etc. Proven data. Not speculation.

Jessica H  
self  
Conroe, TX

We all deserve to pee in peace without having our genders questioned or our genitals inspected. I OPPOSED SB\* by Middleton.

Alyssa Ellisor  
Self / student  
Pharr, TX

This bathroom affects more than just the transgender population in Texas. Since these bathroom bills have gone into effect around the country, it is hurting people who are using the correct bathroom, particularly women who just look masculine, or have masculine features. If you care so much about protecting the women in our state, you will not pass this bill, as so many biological women have been assaulted for using the correct restroom. Not only that, but having to be publicly humiliated by showing their genitals just to prove their sex.

Lisa Mittelberg  
Self  
Seguin, TX

For

Kathleen S  
Self, daughters, granddaughters, I am a retired Military Family Readiness Officer  
New Braunfels, TX

I have organized many self defense classes for my Marines spouses as part of my job. In both CA and NC they would teach us how to escape out of a bathroom stall. It is a place the police wanted us to understand and train us that it is a common place to be assaulted. I have several women in my life who have been assaulted in bathrooms. The idea of allowing more biological men into our most vulnerable areas is insane! Stop causing more safety issues with women. Protect us, our daughters, our elderly in our most vulnerable moments. Stand up for the rights of biological women. Do the safe thing.

Marissa Stewart  
Self  
Hutto, TX

Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. I have had friends lose their entire livelihoods and y'all are out here trying to hurt MORE Texans? Gendered bathrooms overall have a sexist history, and should not be further policed by a body that has not experienced the fear, discrimination, and pain of the community they are legislating against. Jesus urges you to love your neighbor, you don't do that by subjecting them to harm.

Bruce Gonzales  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

I find this bill to be very regressive and discriminatory, towards individuals who don't feel comfortable using the bathroom with the same sex they were assigned at birth. If your goal is to help these "mentally unwell" people, why would you create a bill that would limit their rights and freedom, forcing them to comply to your rules and expectations? It is unfair, unjust, and founded on no scientific ground. Texas is moving backwards while the world moves forward, and I highly encourage you all to rethink your position on this bill. Thank you, and do better.

Amanda Garza  
Self  
Sugar Land, TX

I oppose SB8. Everyone deserves to feel safe using the bathroom.

Wendy kalthoff  
Self not employed  
Austin, TX

Who is going to police the bathroom usage? You can't tell if a person is trans or not!

Kayla Coates  
Self  
Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8

Christine Anderson  
self  
Austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
As a constituent, I urge you to consider compassion and human dignity for my trans, intersex, and gender expansive friends and colleagues while considering SB 8. This bill not only perpetuates misinformation about the trans community, it puts all women at risk of harassment even beyond the LGBTQIA+ community, as proven multiple times across the country.

Instead, I would love to see our representatives address things like equitable education opportunities and housing security for all Texans. Lately, it seems that we are spending too much time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain.

So, this special session, please put first things first and focus on improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville.

Thank you for your consideration and thanks in advance for keeping the most vulnerable and marginalized Texans among us in your hearts while discussing life-changing policy.

Charley Rejsek  
self  
Austin, TX

I oppose SB8 and encourage you to as well. We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned and our genitals inspected. Please reject SB8.

Nancy Eddy

self

Katy, TX

I urge you to advance this bill that protects our precious, vulnerable children.

Kris Manrique

Self

San Antonio, TX

This bill places an already vulnerable group of Texans in harm's way by denying them the dignity and safety every person deserves. It singles out people simply for existing, while ignoring the basic truth that restrooms are about privacy and safety for everyone. We don't ask people to prove their religion before entering a space of worship, or their political views before entering a polling place. Why, then, are we creating barriers here? Laws should protect communities, not isolate and endanger them.

Shaun Reynolds

Self self employed

Ferris, TX

Keep our women and children safe. Bathrooms should be used based on biological sex.

Cali Chidester

Self (firefighter)

Austin, TX

I am a woman. Trans people have never made me feel unsafe. I have never felt threatened sharing a restroom with a trans person. The only people who have ever made me feel threatened are cis men. They don't need to transition or present themselves in any other identity than as a cis man to do harm. Men have catcalled me on streets, sexually assaulted me, and physically threatened me, and none of them ever had to dress up as a woman to get access to a women's only space to do that. If anything, this bill puts women more at risk. What about those of us who do not appear as "feminine" as someone thinks we should? Will strangers and police have the authority to ask us to expose ourselves and "prove" that we are women? This is already happening in other states with similar bills. This bill is unnecessary, hateful, and does nothing to help Texans but rather puts more of us at risk of being unsafe.

Holli Bridges

Self - CSR

Henderson, TX

I believe our country was founded on Biblical values - based on "IN GOD WE TRUST" and our state is a part of our country. God created TWO SEPARATE genders for a reason. If we TRUST IN GOD, then we acknowledge He makes NO mistakes. Therefore, women should use female facilities and men should use male facilities and they should not be allowed to interchange.

Michelle Anttila

Self

Dallas, TX

This doesn't keep anyone safe. This is just further eroding the rights of already marginalized citizens. Stop wasting time and focus on issues that need attention.

Bonnie Seelig

Retired Self

Spicewood, TX

Support SB 8 Middleton

Women's spaces should be protected. Women have the right of protection from the opposite sex when dressing, undressing, or any other compromised moments.

Eileen O'Brien, Rev.

Self, Clergy

Austin, TX

SB8 throws up further roadblocks to unhoused individuals who are nonbinary or trans seeking the safety of shelters. Both nationally and in Texas, transgender people are significantly overrepresented in homeless populations due to higher rates of family rejection, discrimination in housing, and violence contributing to housing instability for transgender and nonbinary youth. This legislation inhumanely targets some of our most vulnerable neighbors and increases the likelihood of their further victimization.

Manuel Valdez

Self

Austin, TX

Hello, my name is Manuel Valdez. SB 8 is an unnecessary piece of legislation based in fermongering and misinformation. Thisbill will lead to more discrimination and harassment of transgender Texans. By tying sex to reproductive anatomy, the bill invites intrusive verification measures that threaten privacy and civil liberties. This bill will hurt every Texan by instilling fear and mistrust amongst each other in spaces as innocuous as bathrooms. People deserve to have access to private spaces without political interference. I urge you to listen to your constituents , not misinformation, and vote NO on SB 8. Thank you.

Heather Elizabeth Neary

self/Spiritual Counselor

Austin, TX

I am writing in opposition to this bill as it is a blatant attempt to dehumanize and discriminate against trans, intersex, and nonbinary community members. This bill will do harm to numerous community members including those who do not fit gender 'norms' and by no means is protecting women and girls. The harmful affects of this bill are already being felt by the community as hate crimes are increasing as is bullying in our schools. This bill is hateful and ignorant and goes against everything Texas stands for!

Oksana Cardenas

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Support!

Manixná Solís

Self

El Paso, TX

INTERSEX AND PEOPLE WITH SEX ORGANS OUTSIDE OF THE BINARY EXIST.

Mary Sloan

self

Arlington, TX

God created us as male and female; therefore, dressing rooms, sports, and all other facilities should be used only by the individuals of the sex they were born. If there's a problem, they should have to submit a copy of their birth certificate.

Janet Bentley

Self, retired

Magnolia, TX

Bathroom use MUST be restricted to the person's sex at birth. NO biological men in the women's bathrooms or locker rooms, and no biological women in the men's spaces either.

Eric Baerga  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am writing to express my strong support for SB8. I believe in the importance of protecting women's safe spaces and preserving the right to dignity, privacy, and security for women and girls.

Women should not be forced to share private facilities with males, including those who identify as transgender or who suffer from gender dysphoria. These spaces, whether bathrooms, locker rooms, or shelters, were created to protect women's safety and sense of security. Allowing biological males into them undermines those protections and puts women at risk.

I respectfully urge you to stand firm in supporting SB8 and to continue to uphold policies that defend the dignity and safety of women and girls.

Thank you for your service and for considering my perspective on this critical issue.

Mona Fuller  
Self  
Austin, TX

Don't pass this. This is ridiculous. Just stop.

Evelyn Shields  
Self  
Austin, TX

This bill will risk personal safety for everyone. We deserve the ability to use the bathroom without fear of being harassed.

Kelley Rumps  
self  
The Woodlands, TX

I am supportive

Sandra G Moore, LPC  
Self  
Houston, TX

WHY?! Ynow that members of the transgender community use STALLS that are private. Laws exist that address predators. Just because you don't understand how someone can be transgender doesn't mean they don't exist. I've encountered children 8yo who identified as other than how they were designated at birth! This is cruel. You say you want to protect children....well then....make sure they all have Healthcare and food. Work on that!!

Robert Romero  
Self  
Hallsville, TX

I strongly disagree with Senate Bill 8. This law creates unnecessary barriers for people seeking essential reproductive health care and undermines their constitutional right to make private medical decisions. By empowering private citizens to enforce the law through lawsuits, SB 8 encourages harassment, fear, and division within our communities rather than justice or fairness.

SB 8 disproportionately harms those with the least resources—low-income individuals, young people, and communities of color—who already face significant challenges in accessing health care. Instead of protecting families, it endangers them by forcing people into unsafe or unwanted situations and stripping away personal freedom.

I urge lawmakers to repeal SB 8 and pursue policies that expand access to health care, support families with resources, and respect the dignity and autonomy of all Texans.

Abbey Lantis  
Self, Community Worker  
Austin, TX

I am in complete opposition to the passage of SB 8 and the regulation of bathroom facilities on the basis of biological sex. The policing of transgender individuals and gender-nonconforming people is an act of violence and discrimination. I ask the committee to oppose this bill and stop attacking its most vulnerable constituents.

Ashley Kraft  
self - musician and editor  
Round Rock, TX

I am in favor of bill SB 8 to protect according to correct, common sense gender. In particular, incarcerated women who have no options should not be subjected to male or gender-confused people when privacy is needed.

Linsey Miller  
self  
Austin, TX

This bill is a humiliation for Texas and should not pass. As a woman in Texas, I do not fear people using the wrong restroom. I fear up-in-arms civilians in a state with open-carry using the bill as a means to harass other women. Biological sex is far more complicated than male versus female, and it is a poor way to separate services. Predators do not pretend to be trans to access services. Such cases are few and far between.

I am terrified by the idea that anyone who supports such a bill believes we should empower people to demand proof of biological sex. That is predation.

Bryan Murphy  
self, space engineer  
Houston, TX

I oppose this bill. As a father and someone who volunteers at many schools and STEM outreach events, I believe this bill is damaging to students and an inclusive environment.

Jenna Jaco  
Self  
Austin, TX

This bill is an embarrassing waste of time and resources. When policies are passed that encourage people to question and police someone's sex, cisgender people who don't conform to rigid gender stereotypes—who don't look feminine/womanly/female enough—will also be (and have already been) subject to harassment and violence. This bill brings shame to our state.

Every Texan deserves privacy, safety, and comfort. However, so-called "Bathroom Bills" like SB8 have nothing to do with safety and privacy, and everything to do with marginalizing and endangering one of our most vulnerable communities.

Why is Senator Middleton SO obsessed with trans people's bodies? It's unsettling but not altogether surprising, since men in power wanting control of vulnerable people's bodies is a tale as old as time. Still weird and gross though. Especially when you consider the logistics of enforcing such intrusive, rights-violating legislation.

There is such limited time in a special session, yet the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time – and taxpayer money – on explicitly targeting transgender people. Instead of targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem, our tax-funded legislature should focus on addressing real issues this session, including fair voter representation and improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

I ask that the Senators spend their time actually addressing urgent issues for Texas – vote NO on SB8.

Thank you,  
Jenna Jaco

Winston Jones, CDR  
Self  
McKinney, TX

I have a daughter and three granddaughters. They should not have to fear for their safety in a restroom, locker room, or any other place where they disrobe. Frankly, I would favor a stiffer penalty than a civil penalty, but I'll take what I can get.

Jeremy Liebbe

Self / Consultant & Detective Sergeant of Police (Hon. Ret.)

Forney, TX

Some of you may recall my testimony against SB6 (85R), which can be read at <https://bit.ly/4IEIfmQ>. I write today to remind you that we have repeatedly been down this road before and implore you to recognize that it is time to move on. Transgender and other gender non-conforming people remain political pawns and tragically easy targets for misdirection of emotional outrage. Albeit only approx. 0.6% of Texans, these people are nonetheless our neighbors and our fellow Texans.

Proponents of "bathroom bills" like SB8 claim that the proposed law supports the vulnerability of women and children and has nothing to do with people who are transgender; however, we know that the intent of a law and the impact of a law do not always have congruence. I served the majority of my criminal investigative career hunting those who would prey on children in and around public schools before being permanently injured in the line of duty. I have arrested and helped convict over a dozen public school teachers who are now convicted sex offenders. I have provided expert reports and testimony in court cases on behalf of the state, plaintiffs, and defendants in over two dozen cases. Among the thousands of cases I have investigated and/or reviewed, I have never personally met a transgender offender, yet I have met several transgender crime victims. Evidence-based criminological research mirrors my personal experiences. Transgender and gender non-conforming persons are subjected to significantly higher rates of harassment (78%), assaultive offenses (35%), and sexual offenses (12%) while attending public schools. They are three times more likely to be the victim of a hate crime than their peers in other minority groups.

Bathrooms are facilities designed for biological needs inherent to being human, and all people -- regardless of demographics or other factors -- share a need for bathroom and changing facilities at school, at work, and in other public venues. The equal protection and due process clauses of the 14th Amendment mandate that we must consider the implications of SB8 for transgender and gender non-conforming people who do not meet the widespread expectation of gender roles. I encourage you to disregard SB8 and focus on what matters during this special session: supporting ALL Texans by making Texas more resilient to natural disasters.

Regards,

Jeremy Liebbe, MS

Detective Sergeant of Police (Hon. Ret.)

James Leiber

Self.

The Woodlands, TX

Please vote no on SB 8. All Texans deserve respect, safety, and privacy regardless of how they identify. Thanks!

Samantha Foss

Self

Austin, TX

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Samantha Foss, and I speak today as a trans non-binary Texan in strong opposition to Senate Bill 8.

This bill dangerously flattens sex into reproductive biology, erasing the identities of people like me and others whose lived experience does not conform to a narrow binary. Beyond erasure, the bill puts people, regardless of their gender identity, at greater risk.

1. Everyone who does not fit narrow gender norms is endangered

Any person perceived to “not fit” a traditional gender mold, women seen as masculine, men seen as feminine, or non-binary individuals, could be targeted. Even cisgender people who do not meet rigid stereotypes would be placed at risk of harassment and violence.

2. The safety argument for this bill is a myth

There is no evidence that allowing transgender or gender-nonconforming people to use facilities aligning with their identity increases risks for others. Studies show no rise in safety violations or assaults in jurisdictions with nondiscrimination protections. Major advocacy groups for survivors of sexual violence also reject claims that transgender access endangers women, calling such claims false.

3. The real victims are those forced into unsafe spaces

Trans and non-binary individuals are already unsafe in public facilities. Surveys show that 68% have experienced verbal harassment, 9% physical assault, 8% health problems from avoiding restrooms. Another study found that 70% were denied access, harassed, or assaulted. Forcing people into restrooms that do not match their identity dramatically increases these harms.

Transgender youth are especially vulnerable. Those denied appropriate restroom access are more likely to attempt suicide. Trans women survivors of violence face 60% more physical and sexual violence than other survivors. For non-binary youth, bathroom discrimination significantly raises the risk of suicidal ideation, with 60% of those denied access considering suicide.

4. Trans Texans are facing lethal consequences

Since 2017, nearly 10% of all reported fatal anti-transgender violent deaths in the United States have occurred in Texas. These are not abstract numbers. They are lives lost due to ignorance, hatred, and enforced invisibility.

Closing

S.B. 8 does not protect anyone. It criminalizes the existence of those who do not fit cisgender norms. It does not enhance safety. It weaponizes public institutions against marginalized people who deserve a safe and full life.

I urge you to reject this harmful bill.

TAMARA BERGER

Self

Seguin, TX

"I urge you to support SB 8, the Women’s Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms."

“It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman’s Privacy Act law!”

Caia Maglinao  
Self - decorator  
Georgetown, TX

Women are in FAR LESS danger from trans women in restrooms than they are from people attempting to mis-gender them or police who gets to use the spaces. There are many women and young girls 'born female' who present more masculine that will be harassed and endangered by this unnecessary measure.

Asking someone to prove their gender (how? Is someone gonna inspect their genitals?) is basically assault, and absolutely UNACCEPTABLE. You are setting people up to be harassed and truly endangered.

JoAnn McCracken  
Constituent  
Houston, TX

Deer committee:

I ask you to support SB8 to protect our girls. Sad that this has to be codified for this culture. Please do your job and protect our children and Young women.

Thank you for your service.

Marcia Stewart, Ms  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am in favor of this bill. Please pass SB8

Stevie Calhoun  
Self  
Lake Jackson, TX

I am for the bill!

Quinn Davidsson  
self, test technician  
Austin, TX

This bill protects nobody and only serves to further marginalize trans and gender nonconforming people. If you want to protect people then punish perpetrators of sexual assault rather than create a culture of persecuting people for the way that they look. Trans and gender non conforming people just want to go to the bathroom in peace and not feel like they are being scrutinized for the way that they look every second of every day by a government that is increasingly hostile to them. If you as a representative have not actually talked to a trans person and tried to understand their perspective on this vote no. Trans people are just people and just want to be treated with basic respect like anyone else. Please vote no on this bill.

Janine Chapa  
Self  
Georgetown, TX

Keep boys/grown confused men out of women's private spaces. Vote to support women!

Erin Parekh  
self/editor  
Houston, TX

This provision is far more concerned with propaganda than rectifying any possible harm. This is a frivolous and cruel distraction from the urgent business that faces the state; while our state's citizens suffer from the effects of increasingly volatile and deadly floods, droughts, hurricanes, mass shootings, and power grid failures you want to spend special session time making more rules about what bathroom people use?





Erika Lenk-Hatfield, Mrs

Self

Rockwall, TX

Pass SB 8

I respectfully ask for your support of SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act. Texas families expect schools to provide safe, private facilities where young girls can change, use the restroom, and participate in athletics without fear or embarrassment. This bill is a straightforward step to restore those expectations.

For generations, boys and girls have had separate bathrooms and locker rooms because biology matters. That distinction was not created out of exclusion, but out of respect for privacy and personal dignity. When girls are placed in situations where they must share intimate spaces with biological males, it creates an environment that is neither fair nor safe.

SB 8 affirms what parents know to be true, children deserve boundaries that protect their modesty. This is not about politics; it is about safeguarding the well-being of Texas daughters.

Please act decisively to move SB 8 forward. Our students deserve facilities that are consistent with both common sense and long-standing practice. The privacy and safety of young women is not optional...it is essential.

Charles Farmer

Self

Austin, TX

Oppose. This is egregious. This bill offers no actual protection and instead, has been shown in other state, gives perverts and pedophiles permission to go into bathrooms and ask people to show them their genitals in order to prove they are in the right place. How is this protecting anyone? This is an attack on our vulnerable citizens, and does the opposite of its stated purpose. Please focus on real issues instead of culture war BS.

Esther T

self, data scientist

Austin, TX

To me, the scariest thing about SB8 is the implications on how this will be enforced. The restroom is a place I go to do my business in private. I am much less concerned about using a stall next to someone with a penis than I am about being caught on someone's camera using the toilet. People have already started filming others in the restroom, which is a huge invasion of privacy. As a woman with short hair that doesn't conform to the typical gender norms, how long will it be before someone decides that I don't belong in the women's restroom and tries to do something about it? Along with all other women, I deserve the right to use the restroom without fear of this confrontation. If we are really worried about women's safety in the restroom, why are we relying on vigilante justice instead of having designated guards in the restroom to prevent assault from happening? I'll tell you why. This bill is not designed to protect women's safety. It's about controlling people. Everyone deserves the right to privacy in public restrooms. We do not deserve to have random strangers questioning our gender identity when we are just trying to use the facilities.

Josee Holland

Self

Cedar Park, TX

My name is Josee Holland and I am a lifelong Texan. I am staunchly against SB 8 for a number of reasons. First, as a woman I have never felt threatened by a trans person, regardless of their gender. I have, however, been threatened by a cis-male. This bill focuses on a problem that doesn't exist. Trans people are strong and kind and simply want to be. I could care less about which bathroom someone uses. Second, I'm bothered that this legislature is spending my tax dollars fussing about useless bathroom bills and not ensuring emergency funds for flood victims are available. This legislature's priorities are upside down and I encourage elected officials to focus on things that matter to Texans, not discriminating against people. Texans should not be treated differently from one another - please address real problems.

Pat Baughman

Me

Cypress, TX

No

Sasha Rose, Reverend

Self

Austin, TX

HB 8 is a discriminatory and harmful bill that unfairly targets transgender people under the guise of “safety.” In reality, there has never been credible evidence that allowing transgender people to use the restroom that matches their gender identity poses any threat. What this bill does create is danger: it increases harassment, violence, and humiliation for transgender Texans—especially youth who are already among the most vulnerable to bullying and mental health crises.

By forcing people to use restrooms that don't align with their gender, HB 8 strips them of dignity, exposes them to risk, and denies them equal participation in public life. This is not about protecting anyone—it's about legislating prejudice. Every Texan deserves the right to exist safely in public spaces without fear of being policed because of their identity. HB 8 takes us backwards, fosters division, and inflicts real harm on our neighbors, coworkers, students, and family members.

Connie Schoenrade

Self

Lewisville, TX

Biology is fact and the idea that legislation must be created to address the obvious is unfortunately necessary in today's social climate. Protecting girls and women in restrooms, dressing rooms, locker rooms, prison cells, and any other place of vulnerability to their physical privacy needs is mandated. Severe penalties should be exacted on violators of this inherent right to privacy.

Venues that must offer such accommodations can create spaces that are unisex at their own expense to protect the rights of all, with floor to ceiling lockable single stall accommodations designated as such.

There is no justifiable reason to subject women and girls to such intrusions by a misguided person with identity issues still currently considered as mental illness or others with devious intent.

Do the right thing and pass this bill.

Elena Liem

Self - artist

Austin, TX

All this bill would do is endanger trans women more and take away places for them to be able to use the restroom, all while they are more likely than cisgenders to be victims of hate crimes.

Cis women still get harassed and assaulted regardless (overwhelmingly by CIS MEN, not trans individuals) so this bill claiming to protect cis women would only be unfairly harming trans individuals who should have the basic human right to use a restroom that aligns with their gender. How would places even enforce this bill? How can you know without a doubt that someone is trans? This just seems like a way that some cis women may also get harassed for not looking or conforming to cis norms.

Louisa LeBlanc

self - office manager

Houston, TX

Please support SB 8, Women's Privacy Act. It is an act of perversion on the part of anyone who votes against it. The American public has whole heartedly voiced their support for Women time and time again. Listen to your constituents.

Frank Monacelli

self

Houston, TX

To think that allowing Males in Womens locker rooms is acceptable as championed by Democrates actually goes against everything they used to fight for....Womens Rights!!!! Womens Rights in voting, in the work place and in sports.....it all has crumbled because of Democrates that have do not have the backbone (spineless) to their minority America haters. Not sure how anyone could tell someone this is what they stand for and believe in it unless they are not Americans.

Now they have abdicated their position to uphold women's rights for the miniscule of people that claim to be a woman. We have lost our minds!

Only in America will you find this type of lunacy!

As a Christian, I find that the Democrat Party has lost their moral compass and cratering to pressure from Communist, marxist, Socialists and all those that hate America and have now identified with those against the wishes of the majority population.

Jeff Mcclarty, Human

Self

Fredericksburg, TX

It's ridiculous to even have this as a bill. Morality tell us boys have no business in girl facilities. But because darkness is in our world we need this bill to be passed . I ask you pass this to combat evil.

Mk Parks

Self

Lubbock, TX

Please do what is right unto Lord God Almighty and keep gender and sexes apart EVERYWHERE !

Karlo Dieron, RD

Self

Pflugerville, TX

I, Karlo Dieron, against SB 8, demand your support against this harmful bill.

Laurey Boyd

self

Jonestown, TX

Please protect everyone from the chaos of unrestricted private spaces according to true gender.

Helen Sue (Susie) Carter Carter

Self and family retired

Kyle, TX

"I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

This is it - our daughters are counting on us! Don't let them down.

Katherine Connolly

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the restroom in peace without having our gender questioned or genitals inspected. I oppose SB 8.

Karen Bolt  
self  
Caldwell, TX

I am in support of this bill. It protects biological females in bathrooms and locker rooms from biological males.

Vivian Shiffer  
Self Retired  
Bullard, TX

As a woman who was extremely modest in PE back in school and as the mother of a daughter and now granddaughter who also are modest, none of us would have been willing to subjected ourselves to males in our locker rooms or bathrooms!! Please don't make it hellish for girls by allowing that to happen!! Teenagers have enough insecurities to stress about as it is!

L Horn  
Self, retail manager  
Houston, TX

This is not an appropriate execution of Government. We cannot start policing how people look (that is the only way to enforce this law) in the state of Texas. Our efforts for the protection of women need to be centered around the availability of resources for victims of actual stalking and assaults and changing the way we handle reporting of stalking and assault. We do not need to waste time policing the appearance of women to prevent an imaginary problem and police the existence of transgendered members of our community. Women are being neglected in medical spaces and endangered when their reports of harassment and assault are not taken seriously. Focus on these things and strike this bill. It is government overreach and I as a Texan am against it.

Haley Jones  
Self  
Houston, TX

Texans deserve the peace of mind to not be questioned about their gender when they are going to use the bathroom. Every human is made differently and putting into question peoples gender could create more paranoia than peace which could lead to harm for many innocent Texans.

Tara Kuruvilla  
self  
Frisco, TX

I am against this bill. It will not help Texans and it will harm both trans and cis gender individuals by policing individuals genders. The logic that policing gender in bathrooms in public spaces will reduce sexual assault is simply faulty for many reasons. The first is that it is assuming this is a main or only reason for sexual assault - which we know is false. The second is it puts a burden on public service institutions like libraries and schools on policing individuals, creating an environment of surveillance and fear. Instead, time and money could be invested in gender neutral bathrooms. Further, there is not valid evidence on the causation of trans individuals going into bathrooms of their chosen gender leading to accounts of danger for those in the bathroom. How would you even collect this evidence? The people reporting are people who are people who have likely already assumed that all trans people are bad. I can tell you from being friends and family with amazing trans individuals this is not true. This bill is not addressing a real issue and is instead creating a pathway to policing gender that terrifies even me as a cis-woman.

Tara Evans  
Self  
Canyon Lake, TX

I think it is extremely sad that we have to comment on this!! Everyone knows there are 2 and ONLY 2 genders! We do not need men in women's or women  
In men's restrooms. We need to protect our children!

Barbara Lee

Self

Austin, TX

Against. This bill does not make Texans safer. In fact, every major law enforcement organization and sexual assault prevention group that has studied these policies has said the same thing: laws like this do nothing to prevent crime. What they do is unfairly target transgender Texans — our neighbors, coworkers, and in many cases, our children.

We all want our kids to be safe, healthy, and treated with dignity. Forcing a child to use a bathroom that doesn't match who they are puts them at greater risk of harassment and harm. It tells them that they don't belong in public life. That's not the Texas I know and love.

There are also serious economic consequences. When other states have passed similar laws, businesses, conventions, and sports organizations pulled out, costing hundreds of millions of dollars. Texas prides itself on being business-friendly, and this bill threatens that reputation.

At the end of the day, this bill is not about safety — it's about discrimination. Texans deserve better. We can protect privacy and dignity for everyone without singling people out.

I urge you to vote against this bill and to stand for a Texas that respects freedom, fairness, and community for all.

Ana-Maria Gonzalez

Self - Retired

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

Please protect our privacy and our dignity

Brittany Ramirez

Self

Pearland, TX

This hateful, invasive law does not represent Texans' values!!!!

Carl Lee

Self

Austin, TX

Please vote against. This bill does not make Texans safer. In fact, every major law enforcement organization and sexual assault prevention group that has studied these policies has said the same thing: laws like this do nothing to prevent crime. What they do is unfairly target transgender Texans — our neighbors, coworkers, and in many cases, our children.

We all want our kids to be safe, healthy, and treated with dignity. Forcing a child to use a bathroom that doesn't match who they are puts them at greater risk of harassment and harm. It tells them that they don't belong in public life. That's not the Texas I know and love.

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At the end of the day, this bill is not about safety — it's about discrimination. Texans deserve better. We can protect privacy and dignity for everyone without singling people out.

I urge you to vote against this bill and to stand for a Texas that respects freedom, fairness, and community for all.

Rhonda Lorkowski

Self/retired

Eules, TX

I can't believe this is even up for discussion. protect women

Frances M Moran

self

GARDEN VALLEY, TX

Our priority must be to protect women and girls by assuring their privacy in every way possible. Common decency demands this and we must respond through legislative action.

Sally Fiveash

Self

Carrollton, TX

It seems crazy to me that we need a bill that says that men and women need to be provided areas designated female or male only, but I guess that is the world we currently live in. I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

Ann-Marie Metteauer

Self

Tyler, TX

The safety of our girls and women is not negotiable. Support SB 8 to keep boys and men out of girls locker rooms and restrooms.

Soleil Lajaunie

Self

Leander, TX

Everyone deserves the freedom to use the restrooms in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8

Arthur Cameron, Mr.

self, Retired

Tyler, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act. It is essential that we protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. It is only moral and decent that Texas girls have privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

Gabrielle Hernandez

self, student

austin, TX

SB8 is the bathroom bill that is being heard today. If you are interested, please make a public comment.

Here is a ChatGPT script against it:

This bill does not make Texans safer. In fact, every major law enforcement organization and sexual assault prevention group that has studied these policies has said the same thing: laws like this do nothing to prevent crime. What they do is unfairly target transgender Texans — our neighbors, coworkers, and in many cases, our children.

We all want our kids to be safe, healthy, and treated with dignity. Forcing a child to use a bathroom that doesn't match who they are puts them at greater risk of harassment and harm. It tells them that they don't belong in public life. That's not the Texas I know and love.

There are also serious economic consequences. When other states have passed similar laws, businesses, conventions, and sports organizations pulled out, costing hundreds of millions of dollars. Texas prides itself on being business-friendly, and this bill threatens that reputation.

At the end of the day, this bill is not about safety — it's about discrimination. Texans deserve better. We can protect privacy and dignity for everyone without singling people out.

I urge you to vote against this bill and to stand for a Texas that respects freedom, fairness, and community for all.

Dana Sheehan, Ms.

Self

Austin, TX

As a cisgender woman with short hair and a rather masculine build, I fear the repercussions this bill would have on my ability to use the bathroom. The ability to enforce this bill depends on the ability of individual people to determine the sex of others based on looks, or requires you to pull out identification simply to use the restroom. I fear that the thought process behind this bill could put individuals like me at risk of being questioned in their daily lives unjustly. I hope that the representatives consider the implications of this bill on real woman.

Nancy Abernathy

None

Tyler, TX

Keep Texas safe for women and children. Do not let liberal lunatics take over! Keep Texas conservative!

Jess Samson

Sales Engineering

austin, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Not merely inventing a threat that doesn't exist, but attempting to criminalize and marginalize a vulnerable population. This is literally anti-christian, directly contradicting Jesus instructions to the faithful, since you seem to put such stock in that. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Shannon Schoepflin

self

Austin, TX

I am a constituent of Austin, Texas and I am AGAINST SB 8.

Steven Brady

Self

Dumas, TX

I oppose SB 8. Its political theater and makes a mockery of the actual work that the Texas senate and house should be doing. There are actual victims of natural disasters, like the victims of recent flooding disasters, in our communities that need policy and action to help support their communities. Its shameful that my taxes go towards implementing performative and embarrassing legislation that does nothing to protect our communities in a meaningful way.

Gloria McDonald

Denton County Conservative Coalition

Bartonville, TX

We strongly support this bill. Facilities must recognize male and female at birth to determine which facility each person can use. To allow both sexes to use the same facility is unsafe and uncomfortable for all.

Kathryn Farries  
Self  
The Woodlands, TX  
I support this bill

Heather Howard  
Self - Social Worker  
Richardson, TX

This bill forces the most vulnerable of our populations and all women into misaligned and potentially unsafe environments. This bill overrides local nondiscrimination protections in cities and is therefore overreach by the state. It creates invasive surveillance & legal harassment of women and trans and intersex people. Thank you.

Amanda Petrik  
Self  
Austin, TX

This bill will endanger those in our community that are trying to exercise a basic human action : going to the bathroom. As a Texan that doesn't always look like the sex I was assigned at birth, this bill puts me in harms way. I cannot understand how some of you are so unable to see that this bill will do more harm than good. Penalizing trans people for existing is discriminatory and I am severely disappointed that this bill is even being brought up as a possibility. Also, this is waste of your time!! If you want to protect your constituents this bill is not going to aid you in that!

Colin McKenzie, Mr.  
Self, college worker  
San Marcos, TX

This bill is brutally bigoted, scapegoats a harmless minority, serves no purpose other than cruelty for its own sake. You cannot drive innocent people, including young people, out of public life to distract attention from the misdeeds of Abbot, Paxton and the Republican members of the Legislature!

Deborah Ortega  
Self - HR Coordinator  
Fort Worth, TX

SB8 - I do not support that Men or Transgender Men or Transgender Females (or Transitioning or identify as a female - even if they were not born a female) to not have access and use of certain spaces. Female Spaces should be for females (born at birth) females only. The wannabe females can change in a different closet or bathroom. I do not want to see a man in the bathroom that I am using. I have experienced that and it was very unnerving and frightening as he was over 6 ft tall wearing heels and could have easily hurt me, any other true female or a small / young female child.

Syd Young, Dr.  
OutWellness  
Austin, TX

My name is Syd, and I am the owner of a health and wellness center dedicated to creating a safe space for queer folks. As a person who is a member of the queer community and a woman, I can unequivocally tell you that this bill does not protect women. This bill gives the general public the courage to question women and force them to show their genitals to prove their womanhood. There have already been reports of minors and women in public spaces who have had to do this. If this is what is considered "safe," then I hope you take a long look at what safety looks like. It would be great to see some Flood Relief Bills in the second special session, as the public was told that this would be in the first special session. We need to stop fearmongering and start taking action against the things that actually matter, like environmental issues, helping the unhoused communities, and infrastructure issues as the population in Texas continues to grow. I urge you to vote "no" on this bill, as there is living proof that this bill will not serve to protect women or children.

Jennifer Schirmer

self

spring, TX

This bill is criminal and would stop so many people from getting services at family violence centers. It also means many women will now be harrassed for not looking a certain way while in the bathroom. Why are we concerned with this, when so many Texans are dying from floods and our lack of infrastructure. Or the fact that Texans lose power at the slightest gust of wind. I do not care who is using the bathroom, I am a woman and I am using a stall and no one bothers me. If I am to be attacked it would be by a cis man not a trans woman just trying to use the bathroom. Your efforts are going to the wrong things, focus on what can help most Texans and not what can harm .1% of the Texas population. For a state who doesn't want the government in your business and who had such an issue with wearing masks for people's safety you sure have no problem hurting people who just need to use the restroom, and who are not hurting anyone. For the most part you would never know if a man or woman is in the "wrong" bathroom unless you are looking in their pants, and that is a whole other issue on privacy. This bill is disgusting, harmful and hurtful, this does not help anyone, it only hurts.

Darl Easton

self

Eules, TX

Biological males must be prohibited from all spaces and facilities designated for biological females

Nancy Mossman, Rev.

Rio Texas Reconciling Ministries, a United Methodist Member Organization

Austin, TX

This legislation is harmful to the safety of Trans Texans. People who have transitioned from one sex to another are folks who simply want to live their life. They have no interest in interfering with anyone else. They need privacy just like all people. If this bill passes, you are forcing women to use men's bathrooms and men to use women's bathrooms. Please do not do this. It is harmful.

Linda Lavelle, Mrs.

Self, Retired

Keller, TX

Spaces where a woman needs privacy, such as a bathroom or changing room, should only admit biological women. Allowing men, even males who think they are female, make it easy for rape, assault, and murder to occur. Please do not put women at great risk by stopping this bill. Vote YES.

Alexander Trostle, Mr

Self

Dallas, TX

Forcing wrong bathroom usage is cruel and stupid

Angela Granada

Self

Coppell, TX

Please Vote NO! I am strongly OPPOSED to this bill and authorizing private civil right of action. Please VOTE NO

Andy Tinoco  
Self  
SAN ANTONIO, TX

Hi, my name is Andy Tinoco and I am living in San Antonio, TX. I'm urging you to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Thank you for your time.

Sharon Tryon, Mrs  
Self  
Waxahachie, TX

I am in support of this bill

Carole Worley  
None, only personal  
Wichita Falls, TX

This must be supported in the name of common sense and decency. It goes against the natural order of things, and against God's order of things, to pretend otherwise.

Asher Knutson, Mr.  
Self, Administrative professional  
Austin, TX

I urge you to vote no to Senate Bill 8 relating to the designation and use of certain spaces and Facilities according to sex. There are and never have been presented facts or proof that this bill is necessary. And I urge you to vote no

Emily Edwards  
self, Accounting Assistant  
Dallas, TX

Spending time and taxpayer money trying to pass such a bigoted bill is egregious! We don't want or need a bathroom ban! Stop persecuting trans folks! Just let them be, they literally just want to use the bathrooms in peace and go about their day like any other person. You and the citizens of Texas would be better served if you spent your time and energy on helping Texans where they need it - flood relief aid, combatting the gerrymandering of the state, ensuring access to reproductive care and education, etc. Please drop the bathroom ban and focus your attention on things that will actually help our state!

Andra Haney  
Self  
Fair Oaks Ranch, TX

Of course this should be supported. Keep women safe!

Francesca Vitali

Self

Allen, TX

SB 8 claims to protect women's safety and privacy, yet there is no credible evidence that transgender women pose any threat in public restrooms. In fact, there are zero documented cases in Texas of a trans woman assaulting a cisgender woman in a restroom. By contrast, acts of violence in these spaces are overwhelmingly committed by cisgender men. A 2021 study in *Frontiers in Sociology* found that fears about trans women in restrooms are not supported by data; most incidents involve cisgender individuals misgendering or harassing others.

This bill does not enhance safety. It creates confusion, invites profiling, and puts both cis and trans women at risk of surveillance and harassment. It also endangers girls and women who don't conform to stereotypical femininity. What protections exist for a cisgender girl who happens to look more masculine? Who will defend her when she's confronted or forcibly removed from a restroom because someone assumes she doesn't belong?

SB 8 empowers strangers to police bodies based on appearance — not behavior, not safety, just assumptions. That's not protection. That's profiling.

This legislation also undermines values of compassion, dignity, and respect for all people. Many Texans believe that all individuals are created with inherent worth and deserve kindness. SB 8 contradicts those principles by encouraging exclusion and humiliation of vulnerable individuals — including transgender women and cisgender girls who may not fit someone else's idea of femininity. I ask you to reflect on whether this legislation truly aligns with the grace and humility that many communities of faith and conscience call for.

I also question the legislative priorities behind SB 8. Texans are facing urgent, real-world challenges:

- **Flood recovery**: Over 130 lives were lost in the July 4th Hill Country floods. Thousands remain displaced, and FEMA support is lagging.
- **Water and energy shortages**: Our infrastructure is buckling under population growth, with water scarcity and grid instability threatening millions.
- **Healthcare access**: Cuts to Medicaid and mental health programs are leaving vulnerable Texans without care.

Why are we spending time on a manufactured issue that stigmatizes less than 1% of the population and solves no documented problem?

I urge you to reconsider your support for SB 8. Trans Texans deserve dignity, safety, and access to public life — just like everyone else. And so do all girls, regardless of how they look. Let's focus on policies that unite and protect all Texans, not divide us based on fear and misinformation.

Tyler Vornberg  
Self  
Rockwall, TX

Hello. As a Texas citizen, I request that you do not move forward with passing this bill. Attempting to regulate who can go in what bathroom in accordance with draconian standards will bring nothing but harm to society. I've also noted your efforts to avoid accountability for the consequences of this bill by putting the burden of enforcement on civilians via civil suites, and not on law enforcement.

Of course, I believe you, the reader, are already aware of this and that your support of this bill is solely rooted in your desire to send a message to rage-fueled supporters that you are "winning" the cultural wars. You find it necessary because if you lose the primary election, you lose your job. And if you lose your job, what good can you do, right? Was that the kind of person you wished to become when you first desired to run for public office? Someone who sacrifices their integrity, and chunks of their constituents, to cling to power? I believe there's a better person in you who wishes to set a better example, and I believe that person is capable of achieving so much more if they were brave and stood up for what's right. If you and your colleagues banded together for a good cause, you would win. Easily.

Or maybe I'm wrong about your stance. Maybe you actually do fear the idea of transgender people using the public restroom meant for the opposite sex. Maybe you worry that perhaps a bad-faith actor could attempt to spy on, or even abuse, people of the opposite sex in public restrooms under the guise of being transgender. In this case, I would challenge you to find examples of times in which a person successfully has done this and got away with it because current laws were unable to lock them away (and this bill would've stopped them). I'm very confident you'll find none, but you'll actually have to go looking for it, first. After all, you're the kind of person who relies on logic and not feelings, right? The kind of person who cares about being right and doing right, and not just feeling right?

Or maybe perhaps you feel this bill won't do any harm, so there's no harm in pleasing the masses, right? Well, if we're lucky, it won't; many of your constituents, after all, are better than you. But what then, has tempted you to propose such a bill? Some sort of demand clearly spurred you into action. Some segment of the population whose vote you're counting on craves to do harm to those who identify as transgender. Did you think affirming those beliefs will make them less likely to insult, bully, attack, abuse, or kill the people they hate?

I hope you take the time to listen to the many people in opposition of this measure that who will hear from as you consider this bill (and I apologize for the more mean-spirited ones; I'm sure there's gonna be a few of those). I hope you reflect upon their stories and the burdens you would further place on them by passing this bill. Be kind - life is too hard to look down upon others.

Katherine Regis  
self engineer  
Wimberley, TX

I vehemently oppose SB8. This bill will be completely impractical to implement as a law, is hateful, and is not needed. Many state and local government employees, both transgender and cisgender, will not be able to continue working if this law goes into effect.

This hateful bill is contrary to values of independence and freedom we as Texans aspire.

Mitzi Money  
Self  
Greenville, TX, TX

Texas needs to stand for moral truth, for the rights of men and woman. Men should not be allowed in private spaces intended for women and women should not be allowed in private spaces intended for men. Passage of SB8 would protect these rights.

Abhijit Madhu Kumar, Rev

Self, Engineer

Austin, TX

This bill is a waste of time and resources for this legislative body and the state of Texas. This regulation is not enforceable and can lead to "biological" women themselves being excluded from the spaces designated for their sex based on a subjective opinion of what someone decides what a women should look like. We as a state should be focused on real issues such as affordability, housing and taking care of our homeless population.

Ramona Day, Mrs.

Self

Rockport, TX

This is the first time I have made a public comment on any Senate Bill. SB 8 is damaging to the health and well being of trans Texans. I have seen from first hand experience the anguish and danger that such a bill would cause. Trans people using public restrooms they deem necessary are not a threat to the general public. Trans people are marginalized enough. Please do not make it worse for them.

Anne Griffin

Self

Red Oak, TX

I strongly support this bill to be passed. Anne Griffin. Ellis County GOP precinct chair.

Aspen Frisch

Self, student

Killeen, TX

This bill will subject cisgender, "biological" females to scrutinization regarding their secondary sex characteristics. Under this bill, a tomboyish young girl suspected of being transgender could be forced to expose her breasts to "prove" her sex. A transgender man, or "biological woman" with male secondary sexual characteristics, who for all intents and purposes appears as a cisgender, "biological" man, could be forced to use a women's restroom. Even those who vowed to "keep men out of women's restrooms" will be harmed by this bill.

Samuel Potasznik

Self - Software Engineer

Austin, TX

This is a gross government overreach that only serves to harm and terrorize citizens. Stop.

Jamie Stoops, Dr.

Self

Houston, TX

I am writing to urge the House to vote No on SB 8. I believe that this bill, while purporting to protect women and girls, will in fact lead to harassment and violations of privacy for all women, whether or not they are trans. In other states with similar laws, there have already been numerous reports of women being harassed by people who assume they are trans based purely on their appearance. I fear that, like those laws, this bill will inevitably lead to women's bodies and appearance being policed in public spaces. As a cis woman, I can tell you that trans people in public bathrooms do not represent a threat to my safety or privacy. I do, however, fear that this bill would threaten both if passed. Please vote no on this intrusive, overreaching bill.

Georgina Butcher

self

Hurst, TX

Hello, Please protect women in all spaces and facilities to the fullest extent possible to ensure that we can be confident that we will remain safe. Thank you!

Andrea Carter, Dr

Self, dog trainer

Cedar Creek, TX

Quit legislating about gender and start working on topics that are important! Get Texans in high risk areas some flood sirens already! Leave us and our genitals alone already, and keep your legislation out of the bathroom!

Jennifer Stasney

Self

Rosenberg, TX

I urge members of the House Committee to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that you vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Olivia Kelly

Retired Texas Public Educator

Plano, TX

Relating to Safe & Equal Restroom Access: As a retired Texas public school teacher and principal, I oppose the criminalization of people choosing not to use a restroom that is not aligned with their assigned gender at birth. My opposition is based upon 1) a care for the safety of all people, particularly children, 2) respect for the non-discrimination of all people, 3) the pragmatics of school function, and 4) the inappropriateness of severe criminal penalties aligned with access to restrooms. Using the safety of cis-gender people, particularly girls and women as a rationale for this legislation is a farce. Incidents of assault by a transfeminine person in a women's restroom are non-existent; however, assault on trans people, including children is well documented. To criminalize the use of someone not committing any harm to another creates victims in trans people, and it solves nothing. As a principal, I have dealt with multiple sexual assault cases. As a principal, I have dealt with multiple transgender adolescents using a restroom of their choice. Through all of these incidents, one has never led to the other; however, I have dealt with multiple cases of assault on a transgender student by a cis-gender student. The bill makes no provision to require public facilities to create gender neutral restrooms. It simply creates a forced choice for trans people to either risk breaking the law and incurring the penalties of that law or risk assault in the restroom assigned by law. Creating gender neutral restrooms addresses some of the safety concerns people may have, yet requiring its use is discriminatory by its very nature. This bill creates a scenario of entrapment for trans people in that there is no reasonable resolution, even a discriminatory one. Even if the above concerns were invalid, even if one grants the erroneous contention that trans people create safety concerns for cis-people in restrooms, and even if there was a documented issue that needed to be addressed. Even if these are true, enforcement of this bill would create exponentially more disruptions in the function of schools that currently exists. Imagine teachers and principals investigating each and every time a student claimed a trans student was in a restroom not allowed in this bill. Imagine in a typical urban high school of 2,000 - 6,000 students and the load that this creates. Imagine how this detracts from the actual safety from violence and the primary goal of schools to create safe and meaningful learning environments. It is a task without a problem or a solution that would unduly burden educators, students, and families.

While criminalizing this creates harm, legalizes discrimination, and unduly burdens schools, the most egregious infraction of this bill is to fine anyone...anyone \$5,000 and \$25,000 respectively for entering a restroom. Keep in mind that the fine for an actual sexual assault in Texas is \$10,000. Keep in mind that everyone has entered "the wrong restroom".

Dolores Hailey  
Self Retired  
Georgetown, TX

So sad that laws are needed to force common sense outcomes -- no men in women's private spaces.

Savvy Cornett  
self  
Austin, TX

I am from Austin, TX, and I am against this bill. It is a blatant distraction from issues actually affecting Texans, such as access to health care, education, climate disaster preparedness, disaster recovery and relief, and community support programs for affordable food and housing. This bill is no different than racist segregation bathroom and public space laws that forced people of color to use different facilities than white people. Bills like this not only endanger trans and gender non-conforming people, putting targets on our backs when we are merely existing in a space, going pee and poop, changing our clothes, whatever, just like everybody else, but they also endanger anyone who doesn't look the way any given person expects them too. This bill doesn't protect anyone assault and harassment, in fact, it invites and encourages it. You are manufacturing fear and suspicion based on your flawed assumptions of how biological sex works. Trans, gender nonconforming, and queer people are using the facilities they feel more comfortable in because they feel more comfortable there, period. Just like any cisperson, trans folks also use the bathroom to pee and poop, locker rooms to change clothes, and so on. To quote the famous children's book, "Everybody poops" and it's has nothing to do with your fragile cis feelings and insecurities. Stop making queer folks your scapegoats and starting doing your job to represent and protect the people of Texas.

mag franzoni  
self  
The Woodlands, TX

i want to remind you that all Texans, no matter what their identity, deserve respect, safety and privacy, and urge them to vote no on SB 8!!

Beatriz Menendez  
True Texas project member  
Houston, TX

For years, woman have had the need to protect our sports, our right to vote, for education. We also deserve equal rights of protection in private spaces like the restroom and locker rooms. Woman should not be expected to allow unwanted males into their private settings.

Travis Riddle  
Self, Production Supervisor  
Austin, TX

This bill erodes children's basic human rights to freedom, safety, and dignity. It will inevitably cause emotional trauma and family turmoil which will result in developmental harm, which is something we should be avoiding if our goal is supposedly to be caring for Texas children.

There is already news from Minnesota about a teenager who a restaurant worker forced to expose herself to in order to prove her gender. Is this the type of world we want to create for ourselves and our children?

The legislature is intent on wasting valuable time and taxpayer money on harming trans, genderfluid, and intersex Texans. Instead, if they truly want to protect our communities, they should focus on addressing the REAL issues that impact ALL Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas this past year and ice storms of years past.

Ashley Kinard, Ms.

Self

Tomball, TX

I'm urging my representatives to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that Senators vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Allyson Garro

Self, small business owner

Austin, TX

This bill is an embarrassment to the state of Texas. Why are Republicans so obsessed with genitals? This bill claims to have an interest in protecting women's safety, but you all are currently protecting and bowing to the convicted rapist and known pedophile sitting in the White House. If a man wants to sexually assault a woman in a public restroom, why would he go through all the trouble of transitioning his gender, when the penalty for assaulting women is practically nil, meanwhile being Transgender is criminalized without reason. Furthermore, if a biological woman doesn't fit into some idealized fantasy of what femininity should look like, will we be asked to prove our gender by the Panty Police? I shudder to think how this will actually play out.

Lastly, I would like to add that I work with and have many friends who are Transgender. They are sensitive, loving, and compassionate people. This bill is a disgrace to our humanity.

Marcia Solmes

Self - retired RN

Cleburne, TX

This is a no brainer. There is no safety when women's private spaces are open to whomever takes a notion they are something besides their biological sex. It's not safe or comfortable for girls/women of any age group

Mari Cornelius

Self- na

Austin, TX

Please support women's privacy once and for all

Sydney Underwood

Self

Denison, TX

Having this bill pass means I can not travel more than five hours from home in Texas without probably having to go to the restroom. That is even worse if it is a round trip which then is only 2 1/2 hour trip. I can not go to a movie, out to a nice place to eat, or go to the Texas Fair without fear. is this truly America land of the free?

Ginger Treuting

Self

Katy, TX

I am writing in strong opposition to SB 8. As a native Texan and the mother of two young children, I want my kids to grow up in a state that values fairness, dignity, and safety for all people. This bill does the opposite.

SB 8 puts transgender and gender-expansive Texans—especially children—at risk of harassment, exclusion, and violence. It denies basic dignity to people who are simply trying to live their lives, and it teaches my children that it is acceptable to target others because of who they are. That is not the Texas I know and love, and it is not the example I want set for my family.

As a parent, I want my kids to learn compassion, respect, and acceptance. This bill sends the opposite message. Instead of strengthening schools, families, or communities, SB 8 wastes energy on singling out a vulnerable group for harm. It also puts everyone at risk by encouraging policing of gender and opening the door for harassment of anyone who doesn't conform to someone else's idea of what they should look like.

I ask you to consider the real harm this bill will cause, and to remember that your responsibility is to protect all Texans—not to exclude or endanger them.

Please do the right thing and reject SB 8.

Austin Mills, Mr

self Manager

Carrollton, TX

I OPPOSE this and urge you to vote NO. Delegating the right to sue is a way to get around our Constitutional rights.

Jennifer Shin

Self, IT Support Specialist

Pflugerville, TX

Why is time and money being spent on something that does not actually help or protect anybody? What sort of resources would be spent trying to enforce this, with inevitable situations where it is enforced incorrectly and only causes discrimination and harm to all woman?

Charlotte Craff

self

Houston, TX

I am Senator Middleton's constituent and I strongly oppose this bill. 1) There is no realistic way to enforce it without violating people's privacy including children's privacy. 2) This will lead to bullying and harassment of an extremely vulnerable population of people. 3) It will not improve protection of women in any measurable way as there are already laws against sexual harassment and public indecency, and there is no meaningful evidence of trans people harassing women in the bathroom while there is a significantly large amount of evidence of trans and cis women being harassed in bathrooms because of legislation like this. 4) bathroom bills have been routinely reversed in court and this will happen again, so this is another wasteful use of our taxpayer dollars to pay for lawyers to fight a culture war that will fail. 5) this helps no one and makes the employees of state funded institutions who are charged with enforcement have to be the face of a poorly defined, unenforceable and easily abusable bill.

Grace Jensen  
Self  
Flower Mound, TX

I strongly oppose SB8. Texas should be focused on real issues—education, healthcare, jobs—not policing where people use the restroom. A so-called “bathroom bill” is nothing more than state-sanctioned discrimination dressed up as policy. It targets vulnerable communities, solves nothing, and wastes taxpayer time and money. We don’t need lawmakers playing bathroom monitor; we need leaders who defend equal rights and fairness. At the end of the day, everyone deserves dignity—not a political witch hunt over where they wash their hands.

Kristina Puerto  
Self, sales support professional  
Austin, TX

This bill is a disgrace. It is unnecessary, unethical and unTexan. As a woman I have never felt unsafe in a bathroom regardless of who I was sharing it with. I HAVE felt unsafe in my day to day life knowing this governing body would rather waste time talking about the genitals of the people who pay your salary than introduce and pass legislation that actually improves our lives, like flood protections, education access and the staggering maternal death rate of this state. It is an embarrassment and anyone who falls in line and votes for this nonsense should be ashamed. You’ll answer to your god someday and this pure cruelty to other humans will be a black spot on your soul. I am a high income earner who drives business and economic growth for this state and I will be leaving if this passes. You may hate us, but you still need us to pay your bills despite how much money you get from dark sources. Be a good person. Get your head out from under my toilet stall and find ways to ACTUALLY protect women in this state. Funding foster care could be a cool start!

Amy Price  
self  
Conroe, TX

I am writing to respectfully urge you to oppose Senate Bill 8. While I understand the bill’s stated intent, it raises serious concerns about fairness, safety, and unintended consequences.

This legislation singles out and stigmatizes transgender Texans, particularly children, who are already among the most vulnerable in our communities. By restricting access to bathrooms and locker rooms, SB 8 would put them at higher risk of bullying, harassment, and harm, rather than making anyone safer.

The bill also creates enforcement challenges, inviting unnecessary lawsuits and penalties against schools and public institutions. Instead of fostering safe and welcoming environments, it encourages suspicion, division, and costly litigation.

Texans value freedom, dignity, and equal treatment under the law. SB 8 does not reflect these values. I urge you to stand against this measure and focus instead on policies that genuinely protect all children and families.

Samantha Borek  
Self  
Cedar Park, TX

Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Meanwhile, I am a cis woman and I don't want to go out to dinner and be followed into a bathroom and told I have to expose myself to prove I'm a woman just because I wear a baggy t shirt one day, just like what happened at a Buffalo Wild Wings recently as well as other incidences. This is an egregious overstep by government. I urge all representatives with moral conscience to vote No on this bill.

Kathryn Pacheco

self and home educator

Austin, TX

I am writing in opposition to this disgusting bill. As a cis gendered woman, and a mother of two young boys, I vehemently oppose this bill. First, as a woman, this bill if it were to pass, makes me feel FAR LESS safe. This literally opens the door to men that are not transgender entering our restrooms with bad intentions. How would that ever be controlled?? I feel far less safe with men in my presence than I EVER have around a trans person. And, if you are not female, maybe you have never noticed how many public restrooms have LOCKS on the inside. Also, as a mother that travels frequently alone with my boys, I feel extremely uncomfortable sending them in a public restrooms in a gas station with out an adult. I have at times brought them into the women's restrooms with me in certain areas. And for quite some time, I have been worried someone would be nasty with us about it simply because of the rhetoric around these bills. I do not believe this bill would make anyone safer, in fact I believe it will do the exact opposite. Aside from these points, trans people are HUMAN too, and just want to be left alone to live their lives. There are FAR more important issues at hand than attacking a very small group of our population that evidence shows pose very little threat to anyone.

Megan Torres

self, therapist

Houston, TX

Please vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Please do not waste valuable time and taxpayer money on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, you should be using this limited time in a special session to on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem.

Deborah Beck, Dr.

self

Austin, TX

I think this bill is complete nonsense, and frightening to me as a biological woman. What is to stop anyone who feels that I am somehow not the "right" kind of woman from demanding that I prove to them that I am a woman and entitled to use a women's restroom? How is that helping to make bathrooms safer? It is making bathrooms the site of vigilante gender justice, which is ALWAYS going to make them more dangerous. Much more dangerous than just letting people do their bathroom business where they think best and leaving, which is what everyone actually does in the bathroom. Studies show that there is NO CORRELATION between transgender people in bathrooms and increased violence in those bathrooms ("There was no evidence that violent victimization by strangers increased as a result of transgender people having, by law, access to restrooms that accord with their gender identity", <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/safety-in-restrooms-and-facilites/>). On the other hand, studies show that forcing people to use a specific bathroom that is not the one that they feel is appropriate endangers those people. No one is in danger in bathrooms except for transgender people themselves and women who would face an elevated risk of harassment from bathroom vigilantes if SB 8 becomes law.

Please focus on flood relief, not on making vulnerable people's lives more dangerous and wasting public resources on this non-issue that evidence shows is not actually a problem. We need public policy based on facts, not on ideology.

kathleen born

self

Richardson, TX

Why is it, that voters overwhelmingly voted for sanity (no illegal immigration, no DEI, no men in women's sports and vice versa), but the Texas legislature continues to ignore "us" the voter and try to give voice to the extreme left. I can only assume that Republicans in the Texas legislature are wolves in sheeps clothing. The same holds true for abortion drugs that place the women is great danger when she is alone and at home. I suggest you grow some appendages that give you courage and step out and represent we the people of Texas in what we are asking for. Men are men and women are women.

Emily Goodman  
Self, attorney  
Fort Worth, TX

Transphobia is not a good look. Texas is failing in education, infrastructure, emergency preparedness, the list goes on. And this is what you focus on. Be the party of small government that you claim to be and keep the government out of our pants and bathrooms!

Lauren Granada  
Self  
Flower Mound, TX

I strongly oppose SB8. Texas should be tackling real challenges—education, healthcare, jobs—not policing bathrooms. This so-called “bathroom bill” is nothing more than discrimination disguised as policy. It unfairly targets vulnerable communities, solves nothing, and wastes taxpayer dollars. Texans don’t need lawmakers acting as bathroom monitors; we need leaders who stand up for equal rights and fairness. At the end of the day, every person deserves dignity—not a political sideshow over where they wash their hands.

Adrienne Fields  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I support SB8!!!

Janna Oswald  
Self, prosecutor  
Houston, TX

This is an ignorant bill with little actual thought on how it will be implemented in actuality. It causes far more harm to people than it does protect anyone. I have prosecuted child abuse crimes for 10 years and I can tell you that when pedophiles want to abuse children it not by dressing up as the opposite gender and using a restroom for access. They gain access in their homes or churches or sports camps or schools. This protects no one and hurts the most vulnerable. It is a hateful bill and takes focus away from actual problems.

Shannon Bass  
Self  
Burleson, TX

NO MEN IN LADIES RESTROOMS!! No men in ladies sports etc vise versa

Alison Renee' West, Ms.  
Self  
Austin, TX

Your intrusive extension into peoples lives is embarrassing for Texas, and it's just wrong. Transgender girls presenting as female will be UNSafe if forced to use men's restrooms. Women are well equipped to deal with the extremely rare cases of a trans person in a bathroom. Focus on more important issues please. ?????

Denise Brady  
Self, retired  
Spring Branch, TX

I am FOR this bill. Bathrooms should only be used according to your sex.

heather ledet

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Everything should be classified by birth gender.

Ashley Ellis

Self, nonprofit manager

Austin, TX

I oppose this with every fiber of my being. Stop legislating bathrooms this is nonsense

Tawnee Sadler

Self

Tyler, TX

Support SB8

Chelsey Brimer

Self

Austin, TX

Vote NO on SB 8. This is a waste of our time and tax dollars to be debating this nonsense again. You have been told it will not keep women "safe" as we are not unsafe currently. If people are allowed to check our genitals as a result of this bill, we will be unsafe. But it has nothing to do with Trans people and everything to do with vigilantes that think they have the right to check our private parts. MAKE SINGLE STALL BATHROOMS IF YOU ARE AO WORRIES ABOUT THIS. There, I solved the whole issue. Stop wasting Texans time and tax dollars with this nonsense and get to flood relief legislation. Vote NO on SB 8.

Janessa Smith

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I'm in favor of SB8

Stacey Hadsock

Self

New Braunfels, TX

In favor of SB 8

Sebastian Marroquin

Texas

Cibolo, TX

I am in support of SB 8

Erik Grimm

Myself

New Braunfels, TX

I am in favor of protecting women's and girls spaces.

Pamela Ruhe Seeds

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Yes! Separate bathrooms by birth gender.

Melanie Chavez

Self

New Braunfels, TX

In favor

Crecia Hill

Self

Seguin, TX

As a Christian, I support SB 8 because I believe God created us male and female with intentional design and purpose (Genesis 1:27). Protecting the integrity of sex-specific spaces honors that design and helps preserve safety, privacy, and order in our communities. This bill reflects values of truth, compassion, and accountability.

Arthur Gonzalez

Self & Spouse- Investigator

Fort Stockton, TX

There are only two sexes and two genders. Each should stay in their own spaces. Keep men out of women spaces and women out of men spaces. Texas needs to stay strong on this and not turn into another Virginia or other Lib state.

Jeff Coulter

Self, retired military

New Braunfels, TX

I fully support SB 8. People should only use restrooms based on their gender at birth, not their opinions!

April Drosche

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am in favor of SB 8

David Drosche

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I say YES to SB 8. 100% in favor

Alex Gonzalez

Self

Fort Stockton, TX

Please continue to make Texans proud. As a father of 6, five daughters...and now 4 granddaughters , protecting them can be a full time job. Please help me protect them.

Nora Fields  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

Keep men out of women's spaces! I support SB8

Jeffrey Fields  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I support SB 8

Sam Martin  
Self  
Frisco, TX

As a woman, I could not care less if trans women share my bathroom. I and my children are statistically safer around trans people than we are around evangelical men. We want flood relief not transphobia.

Elizabeth Ward  
Self, teacher  
Roanoke, TX

I am absolutely opposed to this bill. Not only will it NOT protect cisgender women the way it claims to, it will also cause immense harm to our transgender community. I am commenting as a cisgender woman myself and I feel incredibly uncomfortable with this bill. Transgender people are not the people causing harm to cisgender women. It is cisgender men who time and time again are the ones causing direct harm to women. If this bill passes, it will only embolden cisgender men to harass citizens simply attempting to use the restroom. There is absolutely no need to be policing people who are simply using the restroom that aligns most with their gender.

I have zero issues with transgender women using the women's restroom, including while I am also in said restroom. I have an extreme issue with the possibility that I, or any other citizen of Texas, can be harassed for using the restroom they choose to walk into. This bill is not protecting anybody. This bill will only cause extreme harm. Please do not allow this bill to pass.

Jeannine Lee  
Self  
Garland, TX

Shame on everyone who continues to push forward a bill that does nothing but open up these private spaces for any homophobic person who thinks a person is suspect. Do you want your daughter (more likely to happen than in the men's room) pulled out of a bathroom and having to prove she's a woman? Once again this is a cruel and twisted agenda pushed by a religious doctrine and not representative of all people who have rights. These bills are a waste of time. We have more important issues like healthcare, education, infrastructure that could use "real" leadership to address. These issues require leadership. Something Republicans have not shown. Vote NO for SB8.

Francine Erickson  
myself  
Georgetown, TX

Thank you for drafting and filing the bill. There have been times in my life that a boy or man in a restroom, or girl's locker would have forced trauma. Even today going into a dressing room of a department store with large cracks between the stalls and open bottom stalls, you can see a man's pants drop to the floor could cause trauma. So what's the harm?

For the greater good and health of our children as well as society we should protect innocence and protect families. For the rape victims they should be able to find safety in a dressing room. For females at a workout club's dressing room, a woman should not have to see the penis of a man that she is not married. For the young boys and girls in the middle school dressing rooms who are undressing for the first time in front of their peers they should not have the visualization of partially undressed opposite sex forced upon their learning day. For those same students whose bodies are starting to change it shouldn't be made more uncomfortable.

As a young 20 something I'll never forget going into the bathroom at the Temple Mall and realizing that a male was in the next stall listening to me go to the restroom. I was completely freaked out and I didn't know who to tell. Later I read that a man had been caught in the restroom there doing that same thing. This is perversion. During that same time period a man did a sexual act aimed at my friend while I was there. He was doing it in the open, while looking at us from across an apartment parking lot. Without this bill's passage we are allowing legalized trauma and failing to protect the innocence of children. Without this bill we are allowing potential safety problems to be one step closer to a rape or an escalation of the perversion of "getting off", just as that man did in front of us that day.

I am in favor of the bill. I would like to also thank Representative Swanson for the identical bill and Shofner for presenting the bill.

Julie Pitzel  
self  
Pearland, TX

I do not support this bill. There is no evidence that trans individuals endanger women and girls. There is substantial evidence that women and girls are endangered by people enforcing this type of law. Passing a bathroom bill will encourage abuse.

Tammy Pinon  
Self  
Azle, TX

Human autonomy is essential to our democracy! Please! Do not pass HB 8 Middleton! Stand up for the rights of all of us. No one should be forced to use certain facilities by the government! We must be allowed to use facilities of our choice! Thank you!

Anna Worthy  
Self/ engineering mgr  
Austin, TX

Quit targeting vulnerable Texans & spreading fear. ICE is the only group that needs to be controlled and restricted from public & private places. Do not spend my tax dollars on regulating where Texans potty!!

Kelly Espinoza  
Self  
Celina, TX

This is ridiculous. Stop it wasting tax payer dollars drafting laws protecting no one while you allow women zero freedoms concerning our bodily autonomy and health.

Lauren Trujillo, Mrs  
Self, full time mother  
Tomball, TX

I am opposed to SB8. It is entirely based on prejudice and not evidence. Across the US it is very clear that men do not need to transition genders or dress differently to assault women or children. This bill is a hateful waste of resources.

april coleman  
self  
Haltom City, TX

please vote against this bill

Rebecca Davenport  
Self  
Austin, TX

I oppose SB8 because it is government overreach that polices where people can and cannot use the bathroom. It targets and endangers transgender Texans (who have been consistently shown to be victims not perpetrators of abuse), creates fear and division, and solves no real problem. Politicians have no business legislating private, everyday decisions. Texans deserve dignity, safety, and privacy—not discrimination written into law.

Kate Thomas  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

People should be able to use the restroom wherever there are facilities! Toilets don't know gender! Neither do sinks!

Crystal Pena  
Self  
Castroville, TX

It's against the diversity and freedom based on gender. As a nation that discriminates against something that only heterosexual people/politicians feel uncomfortable to feel like going back to the "old days" and/or say it's against religion. Are the those that need to go back and reread that within based on history is made for a better purpose not taken away.

Jessica Zamora  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

As a member of the community you are trying to take this right away from, I believe there are bigger issues that need to be addressed. The ability to use a public restroom when needed should not be defined by sex. The focus on where I can go to the restroom should be redirected to more pressing issues such as pedophilia and the lives and security of our children.

Taylor Christian  
Self/parent  
New Braunfels, TX

In favor of SB 8, men do not belong in women spaces. We must protect girls and women.

Anne Mashek  
Self  
BELTON, TX

This bathroom bill is trash. Parents use whichever bathroom is fastest for their children, and nobody gives a rat's arse about it except the current Congressman Middleton and their republican colleagues. It's weird. I oppose this bill, wholeheartedly. It is the year of our lord 2025, and anyone concerned about a stranger's private parts in the bathroom needs a different hobby. This fact this made it to a bill for debate and voting is shameful and disrespectful to all Texans. It's a waste of time and an irresponsible use of the session.

Colin Frey  
Self, music teacher for preK, elementary, and middle school  
Beeville, TX

This is a bigoted and unnecessary bill, which demonizes transgender Texans and denies them dignity. I urge the Texas House to listen to the public comments against this bill, and I join with my fellow Texans in opposing it. What are the logistics of this bill? Have the authors thought about cisgender folks who might be mistaken as transgender? Are there going to be genital inspections before someone uses the bathroom in these places? Public spaces should be open to everyone. I understand that Conservatives want to force trans and LGBTQ Americans out of public life, but that is blatant bigotry, and it's not something we support here in Texas. This is a shameful and dangerous bill. Please oppose it. It is illogical and will complicate life for hundreds of transgender Texans, as well as cisgender Texans. It will also make our state even less of a destination for out-of-state and international tourism. Why don't we focus on funding for the recent flood in Kerr County? Why don't we focus on fixing our schools, and our roads? Why don't we focus on keeping our schools safe from gun violence? When you author and support a bill like this, you are making trans folks into a bogeyman that doesn't exist. There aren't trans people assaulting people in bathrooms. Perhaps we should look into the real problems that Texas faces, instead of policing people's genitals.

Debra Jones, Ms  
Self  
Huntsville, TX

We have entered into a nationwide extremely mean society which is getting worse minute by minute. We have laws upon laws of total invasion of civil liberties. God is NOT dead and still rules and the only one who can judge. All we have is total ABUSE of power. Please put good sense, empathy, knowledge and honesty back in our nation. I can safely say "God ain't happy." What happens when you run out of skeletons in the closet? Just open up the world's largest prison. Bunch of two faced bast- - - !!!!!!!

Lauren Harcourt  
Self-admin  
Spring, TX

Am I supposed to let my 8 year old son go into the men's restroom alone??

Brittany Klemmack  
Self  
Round Rock, TX

First this has nothing to do with flood relief. How long will you make Texans suffer for your ego power trips  
Second in my entire life I have never been worried about a trans person in the public bathroom. How pathetic to make this a boogyman, rather than deal with sexual busters in state govt and churches . Third this opens women to being sexual abused by any man in any position by them just saying yeah don't think you are so show me . Do you want your teen daughters having to show their vaginas to store security cause this law will let that happen. Think before you push through this abusive bill.

Melissa Covey  
self  
San Antonio, TX

This bathroom bill is putting trans people at risk of being assaulted and putting people who don't look like the social norm of their gender at risk of being assaulted or violated. Cisgendered people have already been accused of using the wrong bathroom and berated. With keeping an individual's dignity, how are we suppose to lawfully express one's gender? Instead, I propose that we spend our time and energy tacking the thousands of untested rape kits, and have law enforcement find and arrest the rapists. Studies show a rapist will rape multiple times before being caught, which means for every one caught and convicted rapist, several future rapes have been prevented. This bill is a waste of time, energy, and money, and sets people up for an escalation of harassment.

Tirza Kaylene Holguin  
Self  
Kerrville, TX

Checking private parts at any restroom is sexual harrismnt. It's disgusting, and it's shameful to violate any person in this way. Stop this disgraceful homophobia.

Susan Kennedy  
self  
Waco, TX

This is a waste of time and money, when the focus should be on improving disaster and emergency preparedness and the electrical grid. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Sebastian Carzola  
self  
Austin, TX

I oppose this bill along with millions of other people in Texas. I originally planned to write about how this bill is an invasive violation of the privacy of all of us, discriminatory against intersex people, transgender people, and all of us who do not present how the most bigoted among us imagine we should. I think that it is a waste of time to tell you all that. Anyone voting for this bill knows that they are voting to create an environment of hatred, fear, and discrimination. They already know that they are enormous hypocrites for constantly passing laws that invade every aspect of life with government surveillance. You already know that this law will do absolutely nothing to protect women.

Instead of wasting my words telling you what you already know about your intentions, I will discuss how this law is built on a false premise that ignores basic biology. Intersex people are born with physical features that are outside of either of the two definitions provided in the bill. As it is written, the bill ignores the existence of intersex people and provides no answer to what bathrooms and facilities they are legally allowed to use. The challenges that this bill creates and the impossibility of defining biological sex in reality means that it is a cruel waste of resources and will forever be challenged by exceptions and impracticalities.

Rachel Murph  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I'm favor of bill SB 8

Cameron Glaser, MX  
self, medical professional  
Wylie, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Cameron and I live in Wylie, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.  
Instead, I would really love to see the committee address gun control the cost of living crisis or any other topic that affects ALL Texans. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Leah Runyan, Ms  
Self  
Austin, TX

I am a woman biologically at birth and I would definately feel more unsafe with this bill and recognize it for what it is: nonsense. Women are already being subjected to harassment in bathrooms if we don't look womanly enough as these nonsense bills are passed. Ditch this waste of time and start actually protecting women instead of making up a fake problem.

Megan Ewert  
Self  
Austin, TX

I am a Texan woman and I have NEVER been threatened by or felt my privacy was invaded by a trans person in a bathroom or anywhere else. I feel that this bill demonizes and threatens the safety and privacy of trans people under the guise of protecting women's privacy. This bill is a slippery slope into invading women's privacy rather than protecting it.

Noreen Giga  
self/Research Manager  
Houston, TX

I oppose SB 8 because it takes public resources away from urgent needs like flood relief and puts them toward unnecessary and unfair bathroom rules. This bill does not protect women, despite what some say. In fact, it makes us feel less safe. I am very concerned that similar bathroom bills in places like Minnesota have been used to single out young girls based on their appearance. If politicians truly cared about women's safety, they would not consider bills like HB 7 that limit access to needed health care. It is upsetting to me that protecting vulnerable people is not the real priority.

I used to work at GLSEN, an organization that works to ensure that LGBTQ students can learn and grow in a school environment free from bullying and harassment. As a former staff member at GLSEN, I saw how bills like SB 8 negatively impact students' academic success. Let's help young people learn and grow in safe, supportive schools. I urge you to oppose SB 8 and support policies that create safety, inclusion, and real protection for all Texans.

Joseph Espinoza

Myself

Celina, TX

I'm writing as a concerned constituent in Celina to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 8. This legislation undermines public safety by forcing local law enforcement to act as federal immigration agents, eroding trust between communities and police. SB 8 encourages racial profiling, diverts resources from real public safety needs, and politicizes law enforcement. Our sheriffs should be focused on protecting all residents — not enforcing federal immigration laws without proper training or funding. I urge you to stand against SB 8 and support policies that promote safety, fairness, and unity in our state.

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Jef Tingley

Self

Dallas, TX

This bill is just plain stupid! There's no need for government to be in the bathroom worrying about people's gender. I oppose this bill and the vile, hateful republicans behind it.

DONALD SICKAFOOSE

Self

SPRING, TX

Please support SB8 to designate certain spaces and facilities according to sex and authorize a civil penalty and a private civil right of action for those that do not want to keep people safe according to their sex. Protecting women from men should be a priority for all of us that fought for Title IX rights. Let's fix this for Texas and support SB 8.

Breiana Herrera

Self

Georgetown, TX

It's a basic human right to use the restroom, if a trans woman needs to use the restroom they should have the right to use the women's public restroom. If a trans man needs to use the restroom they should have the right to use the men's public restroom.

Michelle Green, Dr.

Self

Buda, TX

There are so many ways you could be helping the people of Texas. This bill addresses a non-existent problem and only serves to ostracize and harm a particular group of people (including children) that conservatives dislike. What happened to smaller government and less overreach? I am vehemently opposed to this bill.

Cameron Douglas, CPA

The Texan People

Irving, TX

This bill is downright embarrassing and an obvious attempt to harm the transgender community, which represents <1% of the USA's population as of July 1, 2025. There are SO many other topics that need to be addressed, relevant to the other 99% of the hardworking Americans who deserve to be able to feed their families, earn a fair wage (lest we mention the Texas minimum wage, unchanged since 2009), and live the American Dream life we were all promised.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/aug/20/trans-people-us-data>

<https://www.census.gov/popclock/>

<https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/trans-adults-united-states/>

Carolyn Somes

Self

Austin, TX

I am against SB 8. This bill opens girls, boys, women and men up to humiliation and degradation by having to prove their sex to strangers. It is a disgusting and transparent wedge bill used to foment discord in the non-oligarch classes. It is fascist. It is right at home in Nazi Germany, as is anyone who votes for it.

B E

self

San Antonio, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

P.S. Because of the hate and physical threats made towards anyone who supports trans people's rights I have only included my initials and not included my real address because they will be published in public record but I verify I am a Texas resident.

Adrian Walker

self

Austin, TX

This legislation is disrespectful and flies in the face of the phrase "Texans take care of Texans". Transgender and intersex people are part of our neighborhoods and workplaces. This bill makes us all unsafe and is a ridiculous cruelty. One study on the experiences of 3,700 trans teens in schools, researchers found that in schools with anti-trans bathroom policies, 36% of trans teens are sexually assaulted.

I urge you: please do not move forward with this bill.

Lauren Bordignon

self

Denton, TX

If this law is passed, it opens up potential for predators to do "genital inspections" for their own sick pleasures. Note how the verbiage around this bill is about "protecting women" yet opens up the door to strangers looking at a person's genitals for a \*suspected\* crime. How is this protection? If someone is behaving inappropriately in a bathroom they need to be removed & banned from the establishment regardless of what genitals they have. If our law makers can't distinguish between appropriate & inappropriate behaviors in bathrooms without the ability to inspect someone's body, then our lawmakers need to lose their jobs.

This is a disgusting & frankly, dangerous way to treat citizens.

Deborah Ritter

Self

Austin, TX

I am against this bill. There is no evidence or data showing that any of the things this bill supposedly will prevent are happening. If passed, it will only cause more risk to the safety of all people trying to use the restroom, regardless of gender.

Jack Evans

Self, student, cashier, musician

Denton, TX

I'm a man, born a man, stayed a man. I like using the restroom in peace without having to worry that if I don't look manly enough someone could legally ask to see my cock. I didn't know that was a right that could feasibly be infringed upon, but congrats on finding a way. I oppose SB8.

Sandra Vela

Self

Mission, TX

This is a gross overreach by the state government. It is a breach of privacy of trans individuals and also cis-gendered people. The government has no right to see what is in between the legs of a person. It is disgusting and perverted. This will affect cis-gendered women as well. Anyone that is deemed to be not aligning with what society considers to be a "woman" will be affected as we have started to see in this state and in other states. Women who have been violated and assaulted just because they are not "feminine" enough. It is dangerous. Hands off our bodies now!!!!

Oxford DeLarverie

Self

Austin, TX

I oppose SB8 / HB214.

In February, two natal male Sheriff's deputies in Tuscon interrupted a 19 year old natal female as she was locked in a ladies room stall while urinating. They forced her to lift her shirt to prove her sex.

In March, Walmart fired the natal female employee of a Florida store after an angry natal male customer followed her into a ladies room and falsely accused her of being transgender.

In May, a natal female in a Boston hotel ladies room, locked in a stall while urinating, was interrupted by a private security guard who was a natal male. He demanded she show her identification, which accurately documented her to be a natal female. He kicked her out of the hotel anyway, for "looking like a man".

Earlier this month, an 18 year old natal female in Minnesota was followed into the ladies room of a Buffalo Wild Wings restaurant by a natal male employee who demanded she show her breasts to prove her sex.

Current assault laws protect women in restrooms. This bill does not make them safer. It opens them up to harassment...or WORSE...from presumptuous, incorrect natal males.

Further, I ask you...if the natal females you love...your mothers...your wives...your daughters...would feel safe in a ladies room with a female-to-male transsexual, possibly bearded, muscled, standing up in the next stall.

Is this truly a special session priority, in a Texas that proclaims to value individual privacy, freedom and small government?

Meanwhile, over 130 Texans died recently in historic floods. Including at least 28 children. And what has this House done about that?

Please do not advance bill SB8. Thank you for your time.

Andra Haney

Self

Fair Oaks Ranch, TX

I totally support this bill because every woman and child deserves privacy and safety in all facilities and environments. Please vote for SB 8.

Brian Wood

Self

Pflugerville, TX

I believe this is a recipe for excessive harassment. The act of entering a bathroom in and of itself does not harm anyone. The most likely outcome of this bill would be to increase the amount of pointless altercations across the state. Rather than debating bathroom policy we should be discussing the future of our state and how to best improve the general welfare of its citizens.

Guillermo V Garza de Alexander

Weird City Sister The Austin House of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence

Austin, TX

I'm writing to ask you to take a step back and consider the impact your actions have on others. By denying the existence of transgender people and pushing your singular views on religion through elected officials, you're not only hurting individuals but also undermining the principles of representation and diversity.

With over 4200 religions documented, it's striking that one heavily monied conservative group can dominate elections and silence the voices of others. This isn't about freedom of speech; it's about imposing one group's beliefs on everyone else.

As someone from Texas, I'm sure you're aware that bullying is already illegal in the state. The consequences of bullying can be devastating, leading some to feel so isolated and hopeless that they consider ending their lives. The irony is that these same individuals are often met with condemnation from those who claim to follow a religion that preaches love and compassion. Science tells us that human identity is complex, and there's more to being human than just two binary categories. Perhaps it's time to stay in your lane and let experts in their fields inform policy decisions.

I urge you to reflect on the harm your actions cause and consider the value of empathy, understanding, and inclusivity. Everyone deserves respect and dignity, regardless of their background or identity.

Stacy Rose

Self

Austin, TX

I'm writing today to speak out against a bill that is deeply concerning to me, and should be to all of us. This bill, which seeks to regulate who can use what restroom or locker room based on their sex, isn't about safety. It's about fear and prejudice.

Imagine for a moment what it would be like to be told you can't use a public space that aligns with who you are. To face scrutiny, hostility, and even violence every time you need to use a public facility. This is the reality that this bill would create for our transgender friends, neighbors, and family members.

Bills like this don't protect anyone; they only serve to make a vulnerable group of people even more vulnerable. They create a legal framework for bullying and discrimination. They send a message that some people are less worthy of basic dignity and respect.

I believe in a community where everyone feels safe, respected, and included. We have to stand up for our trans community and create a safe, inclusive environment for all.

Asha Petrich

Self

Temple, TX

Please protect women's spaces that future generations of Texas women can be saved from predators and violent men.

Madelyne Frech

Self, Registered Behavior Technician

Round Rock, TX

This is not flood related legislation and as a Texan I do not support it. This bill will make me feel more unsafe as a woman in restrooms, not more. Stop wasting our resources when Texans need help.

Kevin Allen  
Self / Advocate  
Lubbock, TX

As a proud citizen of Lubbock and West Texas, I, Kevin Allen, strongly support SB 8 because every woman and child deserves privacy, dignity, and safety in every environment. Lubbock has consistently shown leadership by standing firm on family values, and this Act ensures that our state remains committed to protecting women and children in the spaces where they are most vulnerable.

SB 8 strengthens protections in facilities such as women's shelters, schools, locker rooms, prisons, and even in public restrooms, ensuring that privacy is respected and safety is prioritized. West Texans know that safeguarding these spaces is not only about policy but about upholding our community values and protecting future generations.

Just as Lubbock has led the way in defending life as the largest sanctuary city for the unborn, we must now lead in defending privacy for women and children. Supporting SB 8 ensures that Texas continues to put families first and rejects the dangerous cultural shifts that undermine safety for the sake of political agendas.

As someone who has advocated for legislation as the Patient Advocate for the State of Texas, I strongly urge passage of SB 8. Protecting privacy is protecting life, and failure to do so will jeopardize the dignity and safety of Texans across our communities. I stand ready to work with legislators to advance this critical cause.

Kevin Allen  
lonestarlung@gmail.com

806-438-4938

Destiny Bickel  
Self  
Austin, TX

Would be really great if you used my hard earned tax dollars to solve actual infrastructure problems that could actually improve your constituents lives instead of wasting valuable session time and resources on deciding who's allowed to pee where. I have probably shared a bathroom with plenty of trans folks and didn't even know it. I literally could not care less what's in their pants. Really wish you'd use this energy on finding a way to make I-35 less of a statewide nightmare instead.

Nikkolette Vela  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

It's my understanding this topic only addresses people as female (assigned at birth) and male (assigned) at birth. Firstly, this is a limited view of biological sex that does not include intersex (previously known as hermaphrodite). These people may not ascribe to only one gender as they have visible and nonvisible anatomy that belongs to traditionally male and female people. Secondly, this affects people who are either nonbinary and people in the binary (male/female) that don't fit traditional beauty standards. There have already been reported incidents of females who identify as female being forced to "prove" their gender. Anecdotally I have never felt unsafe when a drag queen, or non binary or trans individual has been in a bathroom with me. Predator come in all genders and will cause harm if that's their intent. Bathroom bills don't help anyone and encourages citizens to police and make spaces feel unsafe for queer and gender nonconforming people

Wendy Gruber, Ms  
Self  
Howe, TX

Girls/women should not have to subject themselves to a situation where there are boys/men in a place where a level of privacy is expected. Allowing this invasion of their space also allows for the potential of harassment and/or abuse. I don't care what the boys/men think they are, they can pretend to be anything but they should not be allowed in girl's/women's private spaces.

Stefanie Crock

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is extremely problematic and will harm people's civil rights. How will you verify that people are using the bathroom of their sex? How will you keep people from harassing people in bathrooms? We're already seeing women being harassed because others don't think they look female. Republicans claim to want to protect women, but you're just opening them up to harassment and violence in restrooms.

Fonda Wilkinson Seitz

self, parent, writer, human-centered designer

Austin, TX

As a parent of two with a background in the performing arts, and as someone who works in the field of human-centered design, I oppose SB 8 because I know it is impractical, is dangerous to adults and children (all of us, not just trans people), will cause confusion and divisiveness, and will waste money.

Restricting bathroom use according to a person's sex as documented on a birth certificate is highly impractical and a Draconian response to a simple fact of modern life. Single-user restrooms already exist in many public locations, including restaurants, airports, and schools, and are better for everyone than gendered restrooms. From a universal design perspective, single-user restrooms allow more privacy for everyone and solve other problems like disproportionately long lines for accessible stalls or women's restrooms. Instead of putting the onus on individuals, and especially on children whom we are all obligated to protect, to "prove" what gendered bathroom they should use, Texas should provide support to businesses, schools, and other public institutions to modernize bathroom facilities with single-user restrooms.

Beyond practical matters, SB 8 is dangerous, demonstrates Senator Middleton's abnormally sexualized perspective on everyday life, and reeks of fear of something he clearly just don't understand. I'm proud to have been in community with people whose gender is fluid and nonconforming and with trans people for all of my adult life. As a former performing artist, as a public school parent, as a former university staff member, and as a corporate employee, I can tell you that trans and gender-nonconforming people are everywhere, in all walks of life, and communities are doing just fine without the state policing how they interact and behave. Restricting bathrooms by genitalia or a sex assigned at birth is a disgusting overreach of government that will cause backlash and empower only those who, like Senator Middleton, spend their time thinking about other people's genitalia.

In conclusion, this bill will waste money, fail to "succeed" in its supposed goal, and empower sickos. It won't make anyone safer. Please move on to something important and less harmful.

Sincerely,

Fonda J Wilkinson Seitz

Austin, TX

Lucy Frost, MS

Self

Manchaca, TX

I strongly oppose SB 8. This bill is not about safety or fairness—it is about targeting, isolating, and endangering Texans, especially transgender youth.

For decades, bathrooms have been shared safely by everyone. SB 8 invents a problem that does not exist. Instead of protecting anyone, this bill places students, workers, and everyday Texans at risk of harassment and violence simply for trying to use the restroom.

SB 8 creates government intrusion into the most private parts of people's lives. It forces teachers, coaches, and even strangers into the impossible role of "bathroom police," undermining trust in schools and workplaces.

It also directly harms the health and dignity of transgender Texans. Forcing people to use facilities inconsistent with their gender identity increases depression, bullying, and suicide attempts among youth. At a time when our state faces a mental health crisis, SB 8 would make things worse.

And let's be clear: Texas families want real solutions—better schools, affordable health care, safer communities—not a divisive bathroom bill. SB 8 wastes time and taxpayer resources on political theater instead of addressing issues that unite us.

Finally, this bill risks serious economic fallout. The last time Texas tried a bathroom bill in 2017, business leaders—from the Texas Association of Business to major corporations—warned it could cost billions in lost jobs and conventions. Passing SB 8 now would repeat that mistake, damaging Texas's reputation as a place open for business.

In summary: SB 8 endangers kids, undermines personal freedom, damages our economy, and does nothing to improve safety. I urge you to reject this harmful bill. Texans deserve legislation that solves real problems—not laws that pit neighbor against neighbor.

Vote NO on SB 8.

Danelle Edgerton

Self Tech

Austin, TX

Who is checking? Are we going to order people who others don't think look feminine enough to drop there pants. We've already seen this happen to a masculine looking woman and she sued and won. Thats what we are asking for. Lawsuits. Cut it with this anti trans nonsense. They make up less than 1% of the population why are we making all women's lives more complicated over nothing. Men go in women's rooms and do harm all the time and they are not held accountable so clearly women's safety is not the motivation here. The backlog of rape kits in Texas makes that very clear.

Twyla Clayton

Self

Temple, TX

I am in support of HB 7!! Pass it!

Breanna Kennon

Self pharmacy tech

San Antonio, TX

This isn't flood related quit wasting our time and money

Alene Sartwell-McDaniel

Self

White Settlement, TX

Again, nothing about the floods! This emergency session was too address the FLOODS. This bill will increase assaults on women. Stop wasting our Texas resources on this nonsense bathroom bill.

Alexandra Yost

Self

Austin, TX

I am against this bill. How do you enforce this? Is there going to be a potty police checking everyone genitals before they pee? This is a transphobic bill that not only harms trans people but also women who don't perfectly resemble Barbie (which is the majority of women).

Andrew Fenstermaker

self

Rowlett, TX

I strongly oppose SB 8. This bill is not about safety. It is about targeting and discriminating against transgender Texans by legislating where they can and cannot exist. The notion that non-trans men (arguably the most entitled demographic in our society) would pretend to be transgender (perhaps the most marginalized group among us) just to enter a restroom is absurd.

In fact, many trans men present more "masculinely" than the very legislators pushing this bill, undermining the entire premise of its so-called protections.

SB 8 does nothing to improve public safety. Instead, it creates confusion, harassment, and real danger for everyday people simply trying to pee. This is a culture war stunt, wasting precious legislative time and taxpayer resources that should be directed toward real issues Texans face like reducing excessive healthcare costs, fixing our infrastructure and power grid, and improving our education rank in the United States rather than inventing problems that don't exist.

Kelli Bryant

Self

Edgewood, TX

This bill is so asinine. It is only gonna create more women getting hurt by people trying to police the bathroom. And it could possibly create increased cost for places with public restrooms.

Kathy Ponce

Self

Maypearl, TX

There are only two genders. You are either a male or a female. And you should use your personal spaces according to your biological sex. This bill should have been passed a long time ago.

Rachel Sherinian, Dr.

Self, veterinarian

Austin, TX

As a cisgender woman, a veterinary doctor, and a Texan, I must speak out— this bill does absolutely nothing to protect women. We have seen time and time again that bills such as this one lead to the unfair targeting of anyone who does not fit the stereotypical mold of what a “woman” should look like. It blatantly harms cisgender, as well as trans, women and girls. Furthermore, trans women ARE women, and they deserve the protection of their cisgender peers. It is protection that myself and every woman I know are willing to offer. Cisgender men enact violence against ALL women, cis and trans. Laws clearly do not stop them from doing so. This bill only serves to harm, not protect, and we should be ashamed that Texas is again in the spotlight for promoting nonsensical legislation. Using the restroom is not a crime, and anything that happens in a restroom and harms women, is already a crime covered by other legislation. If SB8 passes, I look forward to breaking the law every time I sneak into an empty men’s room when the line to the women’s room is too long. Will you prosecute your wives and daughters for this? I can’t wait to see you try!

Sincerely,

Dr. Rachel Sherinian

Tony Canterino

Self/ small business owner

Harker Heights, TX

I am in favor of SB8, mainly keeping men out of women's bathrooms. As a father to three daughters and a grandfather to six grand daughters, the subject of predators occurs many times throughout the month in our families, with "Stranger Danger" being the common theme.

I find that there is usually a men's bathroom in close proximity to a ladies bathroom eliminating any reason for a man to enter a women's bathroom, unless it is for nefarious purposes. Make no mistake, these men, possibly dressed like women are a special kind of predator. Let me be clear in saying that these are the same men who would ask a child to help them find their lost puppy. Once again, I am strongly in favor of SB8.

Tony Canterino

Eryn Zavaleta

Self

Austin, TX

(OPPOSE SB8) Identifying and Recognizing Anxiety Disorders and Politically Weaponized Abuse in Proposed Legislation: SB8 promotes Androphobia (fear of men) and Targets Marginalized Communities.

Bathroom bills aren't about safety. They're about fear—often fear of men, called androphobia. That fear can be very real, sometimes rooted in trauma or cultural experience, and it deserves compassion. But there's a difference between internal fear and external danger. Fear is a personal experience. It is a "feeling". Danger is an objective reality. For the purposes of legislation, a "danger" must be based on statistical evidence that supports the need to mitigate a threat. Legislation should respond to real danger, not to projected fears.

This bill essentially posits that men may choose to dress as a woman to enter a women's bathroom with the intention of abusing women and children. Therefore this bill also groups trans women, who are entering the bathroom simply to use the facility, as threats to women in bathrooms as well, despite the fact that there is NO statistical evidence or credible documentation of these incidents occurring. There are also no documented cases of cis-gendered men masquerading as women to gain access to facilities. This bill manages to not only irrationally vilify trans women, it irrationally vilifies cis-gendered men. But why would the authors do that?

Education is the first step toward healing since many people have not been officially diagnosed with Androphobia and do not recognize the symptoms:

Androphobia is an extreme, irrational, and uncontrollable fear of men that can cause significant distress and interfere with daily life (such as a fear of encountering a man in a public restroom). It often stems from negative/ traumatic experiences with men such as sexual assault, physical or emotional abuse, harassment, or neglect.

Treatment typically involves medication/ therapy and can help individuals develop coping skills to manage their anxiety and regain a sense of safety.

If someone is feeling unsafe in a multi-stall public bathroom facility, they can seek immediate relief by locating a single-stall public bathroom until they are able to seek the guidance of a professional.

Internal feelings of anxiety and fear deserve compassion, care, and treatment. However, projection and weaponization of internalized fear onto marginalized communities or perpetuating the myth of men being inherently "dangerous" for the purpose of winning culture war points is not only unconstitutional and morally reprehensible...it is politically malignant.

I truly hope that Mr. Middleton and those sponsoring this bill receive the treatment they deserve since so much time, effort and tax-payer money was dedicated to this bill and others like it over the last decade. I also hope that those who may have been re-traumatized by this bill either by being targeted as a political pawn or from re-living previous abuse will find legal and therapeutic remedy.

Jo Foley, Ms.

self

Henderson, TX

I am FOR SB8. I am a woman, a real, biological woman. A trans 'woman' is NOT a woman, but is a biological Man. It is very insulting to be referred to as a 'cis' woman. That term is unnecessary as a person is either a man or a woman, determined by DNA and reproductive systems. No other clarification is necessary or correct. I have experienced a man dressed as a woman coming into a restroom I was in. I was alone so I practically ran out as I felt uncomfortable and apprehensive. That should not happen. Some trans and supporters try to guilt or shame others into normalizing trans being treated as their desired, but unrealistic, gender, even saying we would accept them if we were Christians. I say, GOD made man and woman, HE did not make trans, man did. No woman, or man, should have to accept a person of another gender in what Should be our private spaces. Please vote Yes on SB8 and FINALLY pass this bill so your children and grandchildren do not have to feel what many women have. Take biological men OUT of Our private spaces. It is common sense.

Arianna Berry

Self

Greenville, TX

This bill is bad for Texans and will result in more assaults on women. Stop wasting resources on this and focus on flood relief.

Lindsey Machamer

Self

AUSTIN, TX

This bill is a terrible idea. It is not important to designate restrooms by gender and it is cruel to people who don't identify as one gender and to trans people. We don't need to judge the gender of other people. I do not support this and I urge decision makers to reconsider.

Mary Lynne Barrow

self/ retired teacher

San Antonio, TX

Our privacy is essential. Please pass this bill !!

Suzanne Champagne

Self Mother

Austin, TX

Opposed!!! I want people to use whatever restroom makes them feel comfortable. No one should be peaking at anyone else's genitalia to see if them match the sign on the door! Do your business and mind your own business

Kendra Kinsey

Self

Liberty Hill, TX

I assume this is the trans bathroom ban. Please: Mind your own business. This is nothing but legalized harassment and bullying. This trans panic has already led to harassment of cis women in the restroom in other states. Women shouldn't not be expected to prove their gender to go to the bathroom. This is extreme overreaction and overreach to a nonexistent problem. I don't feel uncomfortable sharing a restroom with other people- trans and otherwise. Often young boys also go into the restroom with their moms. It's not a problem for people to self police the spaces they belong in because only they know. Intersex folks also should be able to use the bathroom they are most comfortable in (they are not technically either male or female exclusively, and this legislation ignores their existence). This is nonsense. No legalized bullying.

Marla Sekel

Self

Lakeway, TX

This bill doesn't make anyone safer. What it does is put transgender Texans at even greater risk of harm. Transgender people are already far more likely to be harassed or attacked in public, and forcing them into unsafe or inappropriate bathrooms only increases that danger.

All people deserve to feel safe doing something as ordinary as going to the restroom. No one should have to make themselves smaller, plan their day around bathroom access, or live in fear of harassment for being who they are.

Beyond the harm to individuals, this bill burdens schools, employers, and businesses. It creates confusion, invites discrimination, and hurts our state's reputation.

Texans value fairness, privacy, and respect. Privacy in bathrooms is already protected by stalls and doors. Respect means treating people with dignity, not targeting them. And fairness means that every Texan — including transgender Texans — should be able to go about daily life without unnecessary government intrusion.

Jonah Popp

self

Austin, TX

This bill is completely absurd. Do not vote for this bill. The government does not need to be policing our bathroom usage. If the legislative body is interested in protecting vulnerable populations, perhaps start with harsher penalties for those who commit sexual assault.

Shannon Taylor

Self, bartender

Austin, TX

I oppose SB 8 by Middleton because it targets transgender and gender-nonconforming individuals by forcing them to use public spaces based on sex assigned at birth, not their gender identity. This bill promotes discrimination, strips people of their dignity, and puts them at risk of harassment and violence in everyday settings like schools, workplaces, and public facilities. It invites invasive policing of people's bodies, raising serious privacy concerns for everyone, not just trans individuals. The enforcement mechanism, which allows for civil penalties and private lawsuits, encourages harassment and weaponizes the legal system against vulnerable people, as well as the institutions trying to accommodate them. Schools, businesses, and local governments could face legal uncertainty—torn between complying with this state mandate or following federal nondiscrimination protections, particularly Title IX. SB 8 does not enhance safety; instead, it creates a hostile and fearful environment while solving no documented problem. Everyone deserves access to public spaces without fear of discrimination or retaliation. This bill undermines the principles of fairness, freedom, and respect that Texans value. I urge lawmakers to reject SB 8 and instead support policies that protect the rights and dignity of all Texans.

Nelson Caraballo, Lt Col (ret)

self / government contractor

San Antonio, TX

I do not support this bill. This bill takes away rights of U.S citizens and helps no one. This bill is transphobic and hateful.

Karen Tarson

Self

Sugar Land, TX

We don't need laws about who can use restrooms. Stop using distractions like this. This does not represent the will of the people.

Margie Frasier

Self retired

Temple, TX

The rights of women and children need to be protected. Tired of weak men who will not take a stand against the perversion being promoted in our public facilities. Time to say my wife, my daughters, and all women and girls everywhere need this. We do not need men claiming to be women in our facilities. They usually have nefarious ideas in mind.

So start acting like the men and women of God you pretend to be. Be strong and courageous and take a stand for righteousness, not evil.

Rachael Herrington

Self social services

Fort Worth, TX

This bill is unconstitutional and harrasinging. I have no problem with a woman presenting person going into a bathroom with me. I WOULD have a problem with someone looking like a man in there with me. I have never been harassed in a bathroom by a woman. But I have had men follow me into bathrooms and harrass me and assault me. I know that men have assaulted women presenting men in mens bathrooms. The common denominator in this is men thinking they know somethign when they do not. The only way anyone would know for certain that someone is not of the sex they're dressing as is if the person being questioned is stripped and has to show their genitals. This is ABUSIVE and if forced on a child, CRIMINAL! If passed, this bill will only give people who do not like the way someone looks authority to question if someone is allowed in a space.

Emily Morton

Self

Hockley, TX

Leave trans people alone and stop using them as a scapegoat to fear monger your uneducated constituents.

Cynthia Pursell

self

Harker Heights, TX

I strongly support SB 8 by Sen.

Middleton, carried by Rep. Orr in the House

because every woman and child deserves privacy and safety in all facilities and environments, including but not limited to

V prisons

V women shelters

V locker rooms schools

V

bathrooms (TX Capitol +)

Nicole Davis

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am in complete SUPPORT of this.

Jeremy Boman

Self- Realtor

New Braunfels, TX

I support this bill!!!

Nichol Boman, Realtor

Self realtor

new braunfels, TX

I support this bill!

Geneva Lopez

None

New Braunfels, TX

In support of

Brandon Riddle  
Myself and family  
New Braunfels, TX  
I support this bill

Susan Narvaiz  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX  
I support the bill.

Misty Marroquin, Mrs  
Self  
Cibolo, TX  
Im in support of SB8

Julienne Morales, Ms.  
Self, hospital OR  
New Braunfels, TX  
For the protection of individuals.

Timothy Davis  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX  
Please protect my daughter and pass this bill. Thank you!

Shani Belcher  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX  
In support of SB 8

Rene Monette, Mr  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX  
I am in support of SB8

Todd Reavis  
Life Church NB  
New Braunfels, TX  
I am FOR sb 8!

Marta Evans

Self, editor

Austin, TX

As shown by the recent incident in Minnesota in which a cisgender teenage girl was harassed in the bathroom because someone doubted her gender identity, these kinds of "bathroom bills" put women and girls in more danger, not less. There is nothing unsafe about allowing people to use the bathroom that aligns with their identity, as we have done for years. The danger comes from laws like these that make the decision political and suggest that it's someone else's business which bathroom you use. Please do not pass this bill.

Lane Thigpen

Aclu

Sugar Land, TX

It is extremely dangerous and has already caused harm for all, including cisgender people. It is blatant hatred and just a massive witch hunt.

Jeri Davis

Self/ Tech

Hondo, TX

Are we seriously wasting time and resources on another bathroom bill!? Aren't there more important issues to consider like why so many of you guys lost your spines and are rolling over for a tyrant?

Taylor Locke

Self

Rusk, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Taylor and I live in Rusk, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address {name an issue you are passionate about that impacts you and/or your community}. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Remus Horton

Self

Humble, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Remus and I live in Humble, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address {name an issue you are passionate about that impacts you and/or your community}. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Linzy Foster

Self

Austin, TX

We already have laws that protect women and girls in bathrooms. Trans people are at the highest risk in the population of experiencing assaults and harassment. They deserve protection as there is an overwhelming evidence that they are the most at risk of violence. This bill doesn't solve any problems and in fact just creates avenues for pedophiles to request to check genitals of kids and also for cis men to just pretend to be trans men and go into the women's restroom anyway. This bill will create more harm to the trans community, anyone who is gender non conforming, cis women, and also kids. Please stop focusing on gender stuff and get to work improving the real problems in the state of Texas.

Katie Brown

self

Lucas, TX

Legislating where people use the restroom is really not needed. Some trans men have beards, do we really want to see them in the women's? Ask yourself if a trans woman with obvious breasts is safe in a men's room? We really don't know or need to know what a person has in their pants. This law is not going to make women safer, there is no data to support this claim. If you vote for this bill you are simply pandering to the far right Christians who have probably never met a trans person and therefore cannot judge.

Jessica M Villarreal

Self, stay at home mom.

Mission, TX

Instead of targeting trans people, lawmakers need to focus solely on addressing real issues impacting all Texans, like SCHOOL SHOOTINGS, improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Greg Kay, Mr.

Self

Cypress, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Greg, and I live in Cypress, Texas. As a Texas voter and your constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address badly-needed infrastructure-improvement issues, which too often go unaddressed. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

K C, Ms

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs Committee,

My name is K, and I live in Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you

Fiona Brown

self/ dancer

austin, TX

overstep of government to be concerned with people's genitalia. not addressing a real problem but rather increasing conflict between groups of people.

Bobby Hall, MR

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Bobby and I live in Central Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

I AM NOT AFRAID OF TRANS PEOPLE.

I am afraid of massive government overreach, like SB8 proposes - stay out of our bathrooms.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address property tax reform, making Texas more affordable for home owners. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm a minuscule proportion of citizens - trans Texans.

Paige Poe  
Self, Office Admin.  
Houston, TX

My name is Paige and I live in Houston. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. That is a very small group of people to focus on, and it's a niche issue, especially in light of all the challenges we face statewide. Instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Natural disasters will continue to hit our state, and we should do our best to create protocols and allocate funding for recovery and repairs for the next one. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans. Thank you.

Susana Carranza, Dr  
self, retired engineer  
Austin, TX

Please oppose SB 8. This bill will enable people harassing others when they are just trying to go to the restroom.

You keep saying you are trying to protect girls and women when passing these ridiculous bills.

Yet, time after time when we hear about predators, it is consistently cis-man. And sometimes they are enabled by awful cis-women, such as Ms. Maxwell, as mentioned by another witness. You know, Maxwell, the woman who groomed many, many kids to be abused in Epstein's island.

And now that woman was illegally transferred to a minimum security prison in Texas. I have not heard any of you publicly condemning the transfer.

Maybe you should be addressing real threats against kids instead of caring about where anyone goes to the restroom.

Sebastian Hunt  
self, teacher  
San Antonio, TX

As a teacher in the United States, I know that students have enough to be worrying about when it comes to schooling (at all ages). Whether or not they are going to be penalized for using the restroom-- a basic human necessity-- should not be one of them. Transgender people, especially transgender kids/teens, are not a danger to society in the ways that certain people have been implying. This bill addresses a non-issue that should not be prioritized as it is. Trans people just need to pee; they're not going in there to attack people. A predator doesn't need to wear a dress and pretend to be a trans woman to be a predator; grown, straight men do it all the time, regardless of the signage present. This bill will make it so much harder for an already marginalized group of people to exist, and with the ridiculous culture war going on against transgender individuals, I fear for the mental health and well-being of my students, my colleagues, and my friends who fall under this label.

I can scarcely imagine being so scared of another human being that I forbid them from using public restrooms; it shouldn't have to be said that everyone deserves the right to pee. The cost of healthcare in this country is already ridiculous-- don't make certain people's bills skyrocket because your law forces them into getting UTIs from lack of urination.

Transgender people aren't the problem, but they *\*have\** become the scapegoat, and this law furthers that. For the sake of EVERY Texan, not just the ones you agree with politically or in their lifestyles, DO NOT let this bill come to pass. It holds very real risks for very real people.

Monica Jew-Gonzalez

Self

Houston, TX

SB 8 is a dangerous attack on the rights and dignity of transgender and nonbinary people. By attempting to ban access to restrooms, locker rooms, and dorms in government buildings that align with a person's gender identity, SB 8 puts people at risk of harassment, violence, and exclusion from public life. Everyone deserves safe and equal access to basic facilities—yet this bill deliberately singles out and stigmatizes an already vulnerable community. Beyond being cruel, SB 8 is harmful to mental health, disrupts education and employment, and creates unnecessary barriers to daily life. It undermines privacy and safety for all by encouraging invasive scrutiny over who “belongs” in certain spaces. Instead of solving real issues, SB 8 distracts from urgent needs while promoting fear and division. Protecting transgender and nonbinary people's access to public facilities is about fairness, safety, and human dignity. This discriminatory bill must be stopped.

Kim Godek

Women's Liberation Front

Justin, TX

I SUPPORT SB 8 and urge the legislature to vote in favor of this bill. Females are female, males are male, there's no inbetween, and it's not possible to change sex. Women's and girl's privacy and dignity especially requires freedom from males where we undress and attend to our uniquely female biological functions. There is no legitimate purpose, outside of those detailed in the bill, for people to be in the opposite sex facilities.

C A

Self - Finance operations

Leander, TX

This bill is an absolute waste of taxpayer dollars,, and shouldn't even be up for consideration. I have NEVER felt threatened in a restroom by a Trans woman. In my 50 years on this Earth, NOT ONE TIME has it happened. This obsession with using genitals to determine restroom usage is obscene, and needs to stop. Literally no one cares about passing this except bigoted troglodytes. Meanwhile it harms some of the most fragile and marginalized members of our community. Shame on you for deliberately ignoring the harm you are causing, FOR NO REASON. STOP.

Emilie Christy, Mrs

Self

Lakeway, TX

My name is Emilie Christy. I've been a resident of Travis County for over twenty years, and I'm speaking on my own behalf. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I urge you to vote against SB 8. First and foremost, vilifying trans people, for whatever reason: be it classic fearmongering, a distraction from corruption, or a lack of understanding basic biological facts-- whatever the case may be, vilifying trans people is wrong.

As Maya Angelou said, "Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

Representatives, do better. You have the information.

SB 8 is being sold as legislation to protect women, when instead it is certain to put women in physical danger. This bill will sow fear, mistrust, and bladder infections, as anxious, or perhaps just prudent, people: grow too afraid to use bathrooms outside their own homes, ever. That of course puts places that should be accessible and safe out of reach for many.

Have you considered just how bizarre and unnatural it is to have to be concerned that some random stranger or troublemaker might decide that you don't look feminine enough to use a particular toilet? To wonder if that will lead to having to show your genitalia to other strangers?

There are no women who will be made safer by this bill, but so many more than you imagine-- than you INTEND, will be subject to violence because of it.

Representatives, do better.

If your goal is to protect Texas women, address the floods, install real warning systems, and remember that trans women ARE women.

This is a ridiculous waste of our time, when you could be addressing the real needs of Texans.

Thank you

Susan Lloyd

Self- Nurse

Austin, TX

This targets trans folks & makes spaces less safe for women, girls, and marginalized people.

Charlotte Fuller

Self/ shop clerk

Austin, TX

I quite literally do not care what bathroom people use. I have used bathrooms where the stalls are shared and so is the sink space. I've still felt safe as a woman who was born a woman. The only time I would not feel safe is if there was someone telling others which bathroom they should use. What is this elementary school? Bathroom bills are so bad for not only for our trans brothers and sisters but also for the people who do not identify as trans. Why should I have to justify my genitals and gender to random people. That's so gross.

Mel Martinez, Rev

Self

Wichita Falls, TX

Please do not vote in favor of this bill. It is unnecessary. Policing this will be difficult, if not impossible. And people who do not fit any other individual's expectation of gender expression, even if they are not among LGBTQIA+ communities, will become targets of misogynistic and fearful accusations. This will further cause issues with parents of children (male parent with female child and vice versa) and youth who are non gender-normative, but who also may not identify with LGBTQIA+ communities. VOTE NO.

Amie Klager

self, quality manager

Kingwood, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Amie and I live in Kingwood, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address AI data centers wasting our water and power, preparedness for hurricanes, or educating our children safely and fairly. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Stephen Sprinkle, Dr.

Episcopal Church of St. Thomas the Apostle

Dallas, TX

SB8 and its companion bill in the Texas House are an unnecessary waste of state tax money pursuing a narrow, sectarian culture war issue—something our state has no business writing into law. I urge every state senator and house member to vote NO on SB8. I and millions more trans allies vote. I will hold every affirmative vote accountable for supporting this horrid legislation.

Wendy Salome

self

Austin, TX

Why doesn't the Texas Legislature concern itself with the real problems that are affecting Texans - flood relief, inflation, and our water crisis?

The government has no place and no business concerning itself with who uses what bathroom. If you are worried about keeping women safe, you should impeach Ken Paxton. He represents the greatest threat to the women of Texas.

Jacobi Edwards

self

Desoto, TX

I do not approve of this bill and I am against its passage. Please vote no.

Zenyth Gale, Ms.

self - store manager, performance artist

Austin, TX

As a woman, I would feel safe and protected by allowing transgender people to use the bathrooms of their choice. What's in someone else's pants is none of my business, and I have never been assaulted or harassed by a transgender woman in the woman's bathroom. Passing this bill would not only be governmental overreach, it would actually do the opposite of its purported purpose; if transgender men (assigned female at birth) are expected to use the women's restrooms only, it would open up the possibility for any man to walk into a restroom and claim to be transgender. Additionally, i absolutely do NOT want security guards, police officers, or ANYONE policing people's gender and genitals in or near a women's (or any) restroom. This is quite frankly DANGEROUS and potentially life-threatening to not just transgender and queer people, but anyone who is even accused by another or suspected by an authority of not following these laws. To those of you who are not aware of the transgender people you may be interacting with in normal public and social situations, those of you who have no transgender friends, and are not close to queer people, please listen to the reasoning of those of us who do. If this passes, it does not erase transgender people from existence as you may be wishing, try to have some empathy for people you may not understand. You know, like in the bible. Judge not, lest ye be judged. Love thy neighbor. Why don't you selectively choose to believe and act from the parts of the bible that reflect the acceptance of misfits and kindness to all people that were Jesus' teachings? Better yet, realize that your personal religion is not and should not be the basis for any laws in a land supposedly built on freedom of religion. Be impartial. See that this is discriminatory and harmful. Listen to your constituents. It's not too late for you to do the right thing.

Amy Knop

self - not representing any organization

Austin, TX

I urge your opposition to SB 8 which unnecessarily limits the liberties of individuals in Texas to use public facilities freely, at great detriment to their employment opportunities, freedom of movement, and personal safety. This bill serves no public benefit and is a wasteful, uninformed use of taxpayer time and resources.

Brenna Matejka

Self

Katy, TX

Vote No on this bill. It's an unnecessary waste of time and undue burden on places to check IDs for restrooms. It appears to be a mean tactic to further demonize the trans gender population.

Jake Wilson

Self - CPA

Fort Worth, TX

I support SB 8 per my testimony to the Texas House State Affairs Committee on Friday, August 22, 2025.

China Young  
Self  
San Angelo, TX

NO to SB 8

Quit pretending you are protecting women. You can NOT rationally pass both this and HB 8 under the guise of protecting women.

How many assaults by transpeople have there been, especially compared to how many transpeople have been victims of assault. This bill will empower hateful people to assault both women and transwomen. How will it be enforced through any mean BUT assault?! We have already seen women be harassed by strangers because they are androgynous. Banning transwomen from women's restrooms will not prevent them from being trans. It might make them stay home so you don't have to see them, but that will also mean they are not contributing to our economy through leisure activities, because why would they?

If there are so many transpeople that this bill is necessary, then making them go back into hiding is going to further tank our already failing Trump economy.

I have grown up with transpeople and have never once felt in danger around them. I HAVE felt in danger around white supremacists and misogynists who follow me down the streets or onto trains, or who stare at me like they are either undressing me or dissecting me with their eyes (neither of which is appropriate).

Oh, right, by the way, I am one of the biological woman you are claiming to be protecting with this bill. But here's the thing, I didn't ask for this protection, especially not from lawmakers who are currently protecting rapists and pedophiles in their own government and police forces.

Absolutely NO to SB 8

Joseph Langeway

Self  
Austin, TX

This is a pro-bullying bill that undeniably reduces the safety of women. Not just trans women, but all women. It encourages the worst Texans to police the femininity or masculinity of their fellow Texans in public bathrooms. That is bullying. Its only purpose is to satisfy the sadism of the worst people in Texas. It is an assault on basic liberty.

Erin Wolter

Self  
Austin, TX

This bill is an absolute farce. If the legislature cared about women at all, it would be supporting places like Planned Parenthood. You would be investing money into women's healthcare and research. You would be doing things like investing more in education and childcare. This isn't about women. This is about hatred. Bigotry. I am sick of politicians using me, a woman, as an excuse for their vile rhetoric and actions. You do not care about me. You have made that abundantly clear. This bill will not only hurt trans people, but will do the exact opposite of what you were claiming it will. This endangers women everywhere. It makes it OK for people to "other" us if we aren't feminine enough for them. Or to "need to examine" us for "proof" of our womanhood. This is a bathroom for god's sake. We use neutral bathrooms in so many public places already. Why should this be any different? I've never once felt in danger or threatened by a trans woman. But I do feel threatened every single day by the state legislature.

Jessica L

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Jessica and I live in Dallas, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address homelessness and affordable medical care. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Kyle Lorehn

Self

Austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Kyle and I live in Austin. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address {name an issue you are passionate about that impacts you and/or your community}. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Sarah Masterson

Self

Austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs Committee,

My name is Sarah and I live in Austin, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address {name an issue you are passionate about that impacts you and/or your community}. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you,

Sarah Masterson, a Seventh-Generation Texan Mom, Taxpayer, & Voter

Beverly La Rock, Mrs.

Self-RN

Galveston, TX

This is a an unfair bill targeting a small number of people who are unfairly maligned. My daughter is transgender and she wants to be as low key as possible in a restroom. If you look at the statistics cisgender males are the ones who have caused incidents in bathrooms. A law will not stop these bad actors but will hurt the transgender population.

Mary Salazar

Self

San Antonio, TX

I implore you to vote no on SB 8. How folks present themselves in the world is none of our business! This is not an issue that needs policing. Honestly, I would rather that this legislature spend time on proving care and services for the fires in Kerr Co. and think about the shortfalls our seniors, working poor and youngsters are going to experience. I would rather that these special sessions be called for dealing with our foster care system! LGBTQ+ folks are not asking for special rights!. LGBTQ+ folks must be afforded the same civil rights as everyone else. It is not LGBTQ+ folks that are threat to women or children, it is straight guys with a weird perversion for what is going on in people's pants! Honestly, the legislature and the governor need to spend more time dealing with gun violence! We need laws passed to see if a gun-owner can be a responsible gun-owner! I am more afraid of gun-owners than I am of using a public bathroom. I have never had an issue in the bathroom! Furthermore, this obsession on how women and men should dress is more hostile to folks. I am often mistaken for a guy because of my boyish haircut and tom-boy ways and I wonder, should I use the men's bathroom to make everyone comfortable? No, I use the women's bathroom but am I gonna have to drop my pants to prove that I made the right choice to use the facilities? This bill is a waste of time! Go better services for working families. Quit avoiding the work of finding real solutions to very real problems!

I implore you to vote NO on SB8! Knock off this ridiculousness!

Mark Manning

self

Wichita Falls, TX

I am against this bill. People who have either changed their sex or are oriented to the opposite sex outlook should be allowed the usage of the facilities meant for that sex. (Such as bathrooms.) Many people are obsessed with trying to make every "straight" but unfortunately, science has shown that there are at least six different types of sexes in human beings. Thus, we should tolerate and not obliterate these people. Nor should we return to the "All Whites Only" mentality. That mentality is one of an obsessed child who's intelligence can be rated in the single digits. Everyone else knows they are there to use the facilities and not harm anyone nor try to change anyone. So I reject this bill and say my vote is no. Thank you.

E Cornelius

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Ember and I live in Fort Worth. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address resource and emergency response. It is disgraceful that we are spending our

time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Kimberly Ihle  
self  
Pflugerville, TX

This is the United States of America, where we ALL have the right to LIFE, LIBERTY, and the PURSUIT of HAPPINESS. This cruel bill strips rights, dignity, respect, and the right to be who we are. Stay out of our public restrooms.

Eric Mauer, Rev.  
Self-Quality Managed  
Pflugerville, TX

This is a solution in search of a problem, and excuse to harass people who simply want to relieve themselves. We're already seeing the results, with anyone who doesn't fit some individual idea of what a gender should look like being abused in public (including my wife, for the public crime of being taller than average). This bill, and the fearmongering behind it, needs to go away.

Craig Henderson  
Self, psychologist  
Huntsville, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. Enforcement will be very difficult and based on a cursory examination of whether the individual visually presents as "male" or "female" enough. There are many documented occurrences of this leading to invasive methods to document one's gender, and in some cases can lead to violence if someone visually presents as the gender they identify with and not the one they were born as. What it is purportedly designed to prevent is an extremely low baseline event. Therefore, despite the pretext of the presumably noble intentions, in actuality, it appears to be a way to target a group of people (transgender individuals) for political gain.

Reid Bordie  
Self  
Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing the actual reason it was called. SB 8 has nothing to do with the floods that wracked Kerrville and the surrounding area, and trying to slip in these pointless and cruel restrictions instead of focusing on actually helping those impacted by the aforementioned disaster is shameful and weak. Thousands of trans Texans have been using restrooms without issue for decades, so it's hardly an emergency item. Save the obvious political performance for a regular session where it belongs.

Thanks

Leif Mealer  
Self  
Abilene, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Leif and I live in Abilene, Texas. I would ask that this special session be spent addressing real issues that are impacting Texans, rather than wasting our time and money on bills like SB 8. The only thing this bill has the potential to do is harm trans and intersex Texans. The committee ought to use this time to consider housing alternatives, and explore affordable housing initiatives, and focusing on recovery after the Kerrville and Central Texas floods. Bills like SB 8 only set up for more people to be hurt, and it's shameful to put trans women and men on the chopping block just in an effort to win on some culture war nonsense that impacts next to no one except the people the bill harms. Help lift Texans up instead of dragging them down. Thank you.

Steve Martinez

Self

CHANNELVIEW, TX

Why would the session waste their time with this bill? How many people does this truly affect? How many people would benefit from this passing? What would the positive outcome look like? This is a nonsensical waste of time targeting what is perceived to be an easy group to target for the purposes of scoring points among those constituents who likely don't know any better. It's a waste of time in the face of the floods that have hit us, it's a waste of time in the face of the current economic hardships civilians are going through, it's nonsense all around. Why not focus on improving the livelihoods of the constituents and protecting the lives of the innocent instead? Let's focus on literally anything else but bathroom regulations.

Evan P

Self, Teacher

Meadows Place, TX

My name is Evan and I live in Denton, TX. SB 8 is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. I do not understand why the state legislature is entertaining bills such as this that directly harm Texans and help no one. Just as my job is to teach, your job is to serve. Neither of us has been charged to harm, so please act in the best interest of ALL Texans and kill this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

Marcy Sutton

A4TE

Waxahachie, TX

As an ally to the Transgender community I am deeply concerned for their safety. I didn't think you have thought this through and the consequences of showing so much hatred to a very small group of human beings.

Can we ask who is going to be inspecting genitalia upon entry to a very private event?

Texas is becoming the hate Capital due to lack of education, compassion, bias, fear .

I didn't understand how you can possibly pass a bill without any regard to uphold it. Who's going to be the TP police, inspecting private areas of a human being along with what now we all have to carry birth certificates to go to relieve our body functions?

Seriously consider not passing such a unknown, not well thought out law.

Find bigger issues rather than creating ones that didn't exist except in your made up narrative.

Please consider a no vote so this bill can be revised for everyone's safety including the transgender community.

You are creating a very horrible scenario for those who will go to extreme to find a reason to hurt someone because of who they are, whether you agree or not it isn't your life.

In solidarity with the transgender community.

Marcy Sutton

Isleen Ortiz

Self

Austin, TX

I am extremely opposed to this bill. These types of bills typically target trans and queer people which makes it unsafe for the whole community. I do not feel like this is a safe bill to pass in our community.

Jessica Cain

Self, pastor

San Marcos, TX

The safety of our women and children in Texas is far more compromised by existing legislation around healthcare, education, and more than any imaginary harm from students using bathrooms that align with their gender identity. As a pastor, I have heard the cries of the trans community to just be able to exist in peace. As a woman, I do fear for my safety, but only because the men with whom I am already acquainted are far more likely to become dangerous to me than any stranger of any gender. Stop with this political ploy and focus on taking care of the actual needs of Texans--especially the most vulnerable.

Jessie Casteel  
self/educator  
Houston, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Jessie and I live in Houston. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address our struggling electrical grid. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans. Thank you.

Chris Hoffman  
Self, Church Music Director  
Lewisville, TX

I urge you to oppose SB 8 by Middleton. This bill is titled to make it sound that it is all about protecting women. That is a mischaracterization of the substance of the bill. This bill is designed to discriminate against Trans individuals. All people were made in God's image. While some do not understand that Trans people are children of God and were created as intended, singling out one group of people demeans us all and is the opposite of what God intended for us to do. This is a bad bill, is discriminatory, and is impossible to effectively administrate without causing civil damages to a minority group of people.

Bridget Tice  
Self  
Pflugerville, TX

Against

Blaine Carmack  
self, engineer  
Austin, TX

Are you f'real?? First of all, this isn't an issue. No one is worried about "men in women's restrooms". What do you think goes on in a bathroom??? This is all a stunt to make trans people feel like they aren't welcome in public space and I'm beyond livid and exhausted. I've been a queer person in this state for decades. I know plenty of women in my life, and none of them are worried about the bathroom. But I can say that all the trans people in my life are afraid of being publicly shamed or worse simply for needing to go to the bathroom in this world. Also, have you seen trans dudes before?? They tough and gruff and I promise you'd feel a lot more uncomfortable seeing them in a women's restroom than a trans woman.

All of this is hogwash. The simple fact is - republicans hate queer people. They do! They just do. Look at decades of policy in this state. And you know what? It's crap like this that makes me hate straight people right back. I am so over needing to explain myself to survive. So a person doesn't match what you think a man or woman is? Get over it. Nobody placed republicans as the harbingers of what is the "correct" way to live or be an American, and meanwhile they're squashing the rights of their fellow citizens so that Dianne won't have to have a pearl-clutching moment seeing a trans woman walk into the restroom. Get over it. You're small minded, brain washed Christians, and if that's how you want to live your life then fine, just don't shove it in my face and destroy my rights in the process.

Jeremy Johnson  
Self  
Austin, TX

Please vote against this bill. It is u fair to gender diverse Texans and their families and just wrong.

Molly Carter

Self

Houston, TX

I oppose SB8. Enough of your bigotry cloaked in pearl clutching saying it's for the childrennn! You all don't give a damn about children or the women you claim to be protecting. You all grandstand on hatred when you are supposed to be pillars of our community. Does this community seem loving? Does it seem like we are thriving? Stop inciting hate and start doing your jobs by making thiso state a better place for EVERYONE!

Sadé Winston

Self

San Antonio, TX

This bill is dangerous not even just for trans people, but to all women in general. As a black person this feels oddly familiar from America's past attempting, to control which group are welcomed in certain bathrooms back during segregation. Trans people are human beings and for the bare minimum they should use a bathroom without fear of being harassed by the public.

Johanna Eckler, Dr.

Self, psychologist

Austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Dr. Johanna Eckler and I live in Austin, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. It also harms a lot of people who are not trans but who might not exactly fit someone's image of male or female. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address important issues like strengthening our power grid and improving access to healthcare. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans--and that squander the resources of all Texans. Thank you.

Lilia Ortiz Villarreal

Self

Brownsville, TX

Please vote against SB8 to protect women. The way this bill is drafted is dangerous to everyone in 2 different ways: First, it opens the door to scrutiny and questioning of any person that goes into a restroom that does not conform to the idea of how a man or a woman should look like of the person in charge of the facility: a female teenager with short hair and a flat chest, a teenage boy with no facial hair and long tresses, a woman with a moustache because of PCOS, there are many reasons why a person might not conform to the traditional idea of gender. How will a woman prove that she is indeed a woman? Would she have to show her private parts? This law will put women at the mercy of any employee that demands that she proves she is indeed a ciswoman.

Secondly, this law, if passed, will open the door to actual cisgender men going into the women's restrooms. Why? Because this law will force transgender men to use the women restrooms and, as you may know, a transgender man might sport facial hair so how will those in charge be able to differentiate between a transgender man forced to use the women's restroom and a cisgender man taking advantage of an ill-advised piece of legislation?

Women are not at risk because of a transgender woman in the restroom, but they will be at risk if this law forces transmen to go into women's restrooms by normalizing people with facial hair going into women's restrooms.

Kaitlin Cruise  
self  
Lewisville, TX

Texas representatives need to be address disaster relief and preparedness before anything else. It is dangerous and a disservice to Texans to waste time addressing transphobic bathrooms bills that put women at risk of harassment. We do not need to be emboldening people to interrogate strangers based on their presentation which bathroom should be used. This administration and Texas leadership's obsession with genitalia is disturbing. It truly explains your support for the concealing of the Epstein files and willingness to defend and support a self-reported peeping tom of children.

Molly Carnes  
Self  
Cypress, TX

Stop thinking about, talking about, focusing on, debating and obsessing about people's private parts. Stop it. Pass legislation that makes our lives better. Nobody cares who is peeing next to them. It is gross and unChristian. Stop.

Lauren Miller, Ms  
Self  
Dallas, TX

SB8 is extremely short-sighted and will create tremendous problems for parents. There have been many occasions where my toddler has been desperate to go to the bathroom and there has been a long line for the women's room. Under this bill, if I were to take my child into a small single bathroom, I would be subject to significant penalties if that bathroom happens to be designated a men's room. Additionally, there is no way for this bill to be policed that doesn't encourage sexual assault of women. This bill endangers women and punish parents of young children. I oppose HB8

Mary Wood  
Self  
Pflugerville, TX

I do not support this bill. No Texans want bills like this to pass, especially when Texans still are recovering from the flood. Please stop wasting our resources on Potty Police bills!

Evan Boston  
self  
Austin, TX

AGAINST. It should be up to the individual organization and location to set rules-- legislating these issues only proves to increase assault and abuse.

Mary Anderson  
Self  
Houston, TX

This is such a waste of time. I am not afraid of trans women in my bathroom. I am afraid of men controlling my reproductive rights. I am afraid of the men who support MAGA initiatives. The fear-mongering around bathroom usage is pathetic, and a distractor from the actual problems happening in Texas. DO BETTER.

Camila Romney

self - mother

Murphy, TX

I feel uncomfortable that hateful bigots will stop me when I go to a public bathroom and demand proof of my gender. Transgender people are not the problem. The "gender police" will be the problem.

We have already seen who this emboldens. Creeps will see this as permission to publicly humiliate anyone who looks funny to them.

Ex: <https://www.nbcnews.com/nbc-out/out-news/minnesota-teen-says-server-forced-prove-gender-restaurant-bathroom-rcna224562>

Matthew Finger

Self

San Antonio, TX

This is not a flood bill and the flood should be addressed before any of these performative nonsense bills. Work on real issues, please, and stop solving things that are not problems.

Michelle Affek

Self

Rowlett, TX

To Texas Lawmakers,

I'm writing to strongly oppose the bill that would force people to use bathrooms and facilities based on their sex assigned at birth and allow private citizens to sue for violations. This bill is harmful, unnecessary, and based on misinformation, not public safety concerns.

There is no credible evidence that inclusive restroom policies put anyone in danger. In fact, a 2018 study published in *Sexuality Research and Social Policy* found no link between trans-inclusive policies and increased public safety risks. Law enforcement organizations, including the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, have repeatedly stated that these kinds of laws are not needed to protect people from assault.

On the other hand, there's real harm in forcing transgender and nonbinary people to use restrooms that don't match their gender identity. According to a 2022 survey by the Trevor Project, 45% of LGBTQ+ youth seriously considered suicide, with rates even higher among transgender youth. Forcing someone into a space where they feel unsafe or unwelcome only increases that risk. A 2016 study from UCLA's Williams Institute found that 59% of trans people avoided public restrooms out of fear of confrontation or harassment.

We've already seen what happens when laws like this are passed. North Carolina's HB2, which mandated restroom use by birth sex, caused national backlash, major boycotts, and ultimately cost the state over \$3.7 billion in lost revenue before it was partially repealed. These laws don't just harm individuals, they also hurt communities economically and socially.

The part of this bill that allows individuals to sue others for alleged violations encourages vigilantism and profiling. We've seen how similar legal tactics (like in SB8) have resulted in people being falsely accused and harassed. This kind of enforcement doesn't protect anyone—it just invites more legal chaos and personal attacks, especially against gender nonconforming people or those who "don't look the part."

Texas should be a state where people are treated with dignity and fairness. That includes our transgender neighbors, coworkers, students, and family members. Lawmakers should focus on real issues—like healthcare access and public education—not punishing people for using the bathroom.

Please vote no on this bill. Discrimination has no place in Texas law.

Emilie Cooksey

Self

Houston, TX

I am a woman residing in Harris county with three female children. This bill makes us all less safe and does nothing to protect my children, or anyone, from being harassed based on how they look. It's unacceptable for this state to not consider the unintended but incredibly likely more dangerous situations they are creating as a result. I do not support SB 8 - and request the politicians of this state to vote against it. I would also like to request that our state leaders STOP WASTING MONEY on useless culture wars and ACTUALLY DO SOMETHING that creates a safer environment and doesn't involve racist gerrymandering. I want support and funding for public schools, safety net programs for the poorest in our communities, better infrastructure and tighter gun control. I would also like healthcare for women - actual, scientifically founded healthcare, to become a priority for this state. Stop wasting our time with putting the 10 commandments in our schools and focusing on ridiculous bills like this, and actually TRY to make Texas a better place to live. I am starting to look around more and more at the state of Texas and wonder why we still live here. Please do not cast your votes in favor of this ridiculous piece of legislation.

Ishrat Kundawala

Self

Austin, TX

This bill does nothing to make any one in Texas safer. This is an egregious civil rights violation and no one should support the policing of our bodies in this way. No one should have to prove their sex to a random stranger in order to be able to use the bathroom in peace. I am strongly against the passage of this ridiculous bill. Stop wasting our time and get to work on legislation that will actually make your constituents safer- like gun regulation or flood prevention.

Ana del Rio

Self

Round Rock, TX

This does not represent my views. This is a colossal waste of time and money! Where is the support for the floods?? Where is the proactive action to prevent floods, freezing with no electricity, tornados, and wildfires?? How about some action to prevent children's heads from being blown off?? And you have dedicated time and resources to bathrooms??? Shame on you!!!

Veronique Krebs

self, Lab Technician

Austin, TX

Bills like this are a waste of Texans' tax dollars and resources, and outright hurtful to the trans community. Bills like this intend to make the day-to-day harder for Texans, cis and trans. This will especially affect students and public servants in their routine, and increase assaults on women and children (by whomever is seeking to report and/or enforcement). This bill is vague with an anti-trans sentiment, which makes it very harmful and a waste of our time and resources. Protect our students and public servants, and all staff and visitors of these public schools and government buildings— don't trick yourself into thinking a bill targeting trans people in bathrooms would protect anyone! Keep the government out of our bathrooms and identities, and focus on making jobs to keep these spaces clean, tended to, and their communities healthy.

Mary Starr

Self

Wimberley, TX

I support the ban of biological men in women's restrooms. This shouldn't even be an item for consideration, it's simple common sense. Think about your wife, sister, daughter, granddaughter, mother or aunt having to share a restroom with a man when making decisions & voting on this matter

Rob Lyness, Mr

Self

Mason, TX

This bill is a colossal waste of taxpayer money. I dont pay taxes to have them wasted on social issues like this.

Leticia Sand

self

Murchison, TX

I urge this committee not to use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Isabella Williams

Self, Student

Cibolo, TX

This bill is intended to protect the safety, dignity, and privacy of women and girls. My concern, however, is the enforcement of this bill will not only fail to provide that but may instead actively threaten these aims. What is there to stop people from simply targeting any woman or girl they deem not feminine enough or too masculine looking in appearance and deem them to be a man? Or someone they may not personally like and are intending to harass? There have been more than a few cases of this happening already where women born as and presenting as women have been harassed or even assaulted by others who assumed they were men in restrooms. I do not see how individuals being able to file these sorts of complaints to officials would lead to anything but rob more women and young girls of their dignity and privacy, and this sort of law would only serve to embolden bad actors who may endanger women in sensitive places where they should feel the safest. I once had to cut my hair short for its health in high school and was mistaken for being male for months afterwards. I would have felt unsafe using the restroom at school had such a law been in place then, and I would certainly feel unsafe as a college student now. When asked if someone would know if an individual was male or female solely by visual appearance, Representative Angelia Orr said yes. Someone's opinion of an individual's appearance is an insufficient and completely unacceptable basis for civil action. I pay for and go to school to learn, not worry about my appearance or whether someone may deem me as being in the "incorrect bathroom" because of it. And I certainly am against any other girls or women needing to do the same, especially at a place such as a school or government building where they have far more important matters to attend to.

Sophia mirto

self

Austin, TX

Why wouldn't the author include an exception for domestic violence shelters so families can stay together when fleeing abusive men? Why is the definition of gender so complicated when gender is a social construct with a really clear definition - whatever someone calls themselves is their gender. Humans self-define gender based on a variety of social and physical factors. This bill completely leaves out trans and intersex folks - on purpose. We are not fooled and we will never consent to violating our right to privacy and our right to go to the bathroom with our girlfriends. This is so creepy and weird that y'all think so much about people peeing.

Monica Farias-Navarro

Self

Temple, TX

I come to you as a mother of 3 children, two of them are my adult daughters. I can say that as they were growing up and their bodies were changing they always made sure there were never male custodians in the girls locker rooms or restrooms. Now one of my daughters who is petite in size and looks like a 16 year old gets followed into a public bathroom and one of the followers is sometimes a transgender who portrays himself as a female. She sometimes texts me to say "Mom, I'm so uncomfortable because I'm in the bathroom and there is a transgender who followed me and is in the next stall and hasn't left. Then after she is out of the bathroom she will call and say he tried to get her attention and talk to her and questioning her as a man trying to pick up a young woman. Our daughters should feel safe being in a facility for biological females, and not be forced into sharing a space with a pretend man in a pretend woman body, just to be a sexual predator. Please keep our Texas daughters safe from these predators who are trying to destroy our daughters lives by making them feel unsafe. They should not live in fear or be forced into sharing a space with men. It does not matter how old our daughters are we should be protecting them and any other females from predators. Thank you for your time and attention on this matter.

Jacqueline Taylor

self

Austin, TX

Please vote no on this bill. It's utterly stupid and a waste of taxpayer dollars. I am a Texan woman and I am not threatened by trans people existing in the world and using the same bathroom as me. Frankly, I feel perfectly safe around trans people. Furthermore, this bill turns Texans against each other and creates a harmful precedent for people to enact violence on one another. This is not an appropriate use of the Texas legislature's time and resources. What is an appropriate use of the Texas legislature's time and resource sin flood relief, which this bill does nothing for.

Katie Spence

self

Austin, TX

SB 8 is a dangerous bill and should not move forward out of committee. Texas already has laws against harassment and assault. This law uses one's appearance as reason enough to suspect they may be using the "wrong" bathroom. Women who are tall, with short hair, women who may not be considered feminine enough could be subject to harassment and danger as a result of this bill. It attempts to codify gender norms. This puts women at risk and it's completely unnecessary. Please don't pass HB 8 out of committee.

Marie Walker, Dr.

Self--Psychologist

Austin, TX

I oppose this bill, because as a psychologist, I am concerned that it creates a significant risk of harm for Texas's more than seven million children under the age of 18. This bill creates a situation that is literally unenforceable without visual inspection of a child's genitals. As written, the bill requires "every reasonable step" to ensure compliance (i.e., to match penis status with bathroom chosen). As a psychologist, I am keenly aware of the harm and trauma that forced inspections can cause our children. I further believe this bill substantially increases the risk of harm from perpetrators who seek systematic access to our youth. This bill would enable them to "legitimize" forced "inspections" in order to "prove" gender status. Forced inspections of a child's sexual characteristics by "gender police" is a form of sexual abuse and sexual assault, and further become a grooming technique for pedophiles to continue and escalate their harm. Thus, due to the bill's unattainable ability to determine sex status without causing harm to our children, I urgently and respectfully request that you vote "NO" and oppose this bill. Thank you.

Rachel Currier

Self

Austin, TX

SB 8 is beneath this governing body. It is a waste of tax payers time and money to even consider it. It's vastly unpopular among constituents, per formative since there is absolutely no evidence of this being an issue in the first place, and INCREDIBLY harmful and dangerous to tens of thousands of Texans. Please OPPOSE! Stop the needless over-policing of lawful Texas Citizens.

Jesus Lara

"Self" HR Coordinator

Austin, TX

I stand against this bill and what it stands for. It will not make certain spaces and facilities any safer and would negatively impact and infringe upon the autonomy of even those it does not intend to target. This bill stands to target our marginalized communities and is a thinly veiled attack on their civil liberties and human rights. Again, I oppose this bill vehemently.

Starlyn Robinson

Self Business Owner

Austin, TX

I would prefer spaces with sex be judged with equality and the people of any sex have access to any bathroom they need that they identify with regardless if it's legally on their identity information or not.

Trouba Derrick

Self

Austin, TX

Please forgive me, but can you imagine a very young girl starting her period for the first time and having a bunch of immature boys in the restroom with her?? Really?? I cannot believe that we have reduced ourselves to having to pass such a bill. I strongly support SB 8

Trouba Derrick

TCRP Pct 360 Chair

Sharon Abbey

self

Arlington, TX

Hello!

I am a current Texas resident and a trans professional. I cannot underscore the necessity of not using trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. I love this state and would love to be able to set roots here, but actions like these make it difficult to envision that future. I have friends and family members who were impacted by the floods who are still struggling to rebuild their lives. It is imperative we prioritize this work.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Silvia Olvera  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

Yes! Facilities should be used according to God giving sex, not what people want to be. Men use men facilities even if they like to wear dresses, and women should use women facilities!

even if they want to pretend they are something else!

TJ Rakes  
Self  
Crossroads, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Candice Kuzov  
self  
Frisco, TX

I oppose SB 8. I'm a mother of three beautiful humans, and I have MAJOR concerns about the health and safety of my children and I in public should this pass.

I have a male toddler that cannot be left alone. I've always taken him with me to the restroom when I need to use it OR to change his diaper. What civil penalties will you levy on mothers caring for their children? Can someone harass, assault, injure or detain me with my own child? What happens to my child if I'm detained by someone using their new mysterious get-out-of-jail-free-card for this undefined "right of civil action"?

I also have a young genderfluid teen that already has some level of anxiety when they have to choose a bathroom. They look and dress androgynously. Have you ever personally tried to convince a very smart and strong willed 14-year-old to follow a rule when they're fully aware that the rule is wrong? If they used the restroom for the sex they were assigned at birth OR NOT, how will you protect them? Can you guarantee no harm will come to them because of this bill? What kind of civil penalties will a 14-year-old be subject to at the hands of grown adults using their "private civil right of action"? What actions did they not previously have the right to that they would gain from this bill passing? Will they be able to force my child to show their genitals? If they refuse can an adult then legally put their hands on my child? Are we allowing assault? Where is the line? Less than 1% of people are trans or have non-binary gender identities. Is plan to give the other 99% of people carte blanche to antagonize, harass, assault, potentially injure and detain MINORS.

What happens if a child (or adult!!) doesn't "LOOK" like their assigned gender (subjective reasoning)? Are we saying we're planning to trust the random first-glance/first-impression opinions of 99% of people to accurately guess other people's genders? If y'all assume bigots aren't going to see this passage as PRIME opportunity to harm trans people, you need to go listen to a trans person talk about the things that have happened to them. You cannot get rid of trans people by barring them from a bathroom. But you absolutely can make them even less safe than they already are.

Please. I am begging you to protect me and my children and oppose SB 8.

E Branagh

Self

Austin, TX

Opposed. We are all very tired of the legislature's focus on non-issues! There is no evidence that there is a problem here - fix a real problem for a change!

Carl M. & Patricia A. Porter

Personal

Navasota, TX

Dear Texas House of Representatives State Affairs Committee Members,

We are writing concerning your consideration of the Texas Senate's SB 8 "Texas Women's Privacy Act".

We have voted the Republican ticket our entire adult lives, but we are very much against this bill for the following reasons:

1. Senator Middleton has repeatedly been asked to present evidence that men who have transitioned to a female (Trans Females) have created crimes in women's restrooms. He has not presented any evidence because there is none. Police chiefs from cities across Texas have testified that they have not experienced any problems except those caused by people who are "scared, offended, or got their feelings hurt, etc.". These are not good reasons to discriminate against Trans Females' civil rights. If there is no problem, then we do not need a law. Period.

2. Has anyone considered that Trans Females may feel scared, offended or be harmed (real, not imagined) by going into a men's room as a Trans Female? Please consider how this law would affect Trans Females' safety and their civil rights?

3. We are Christians, but we think religion and politics should be separate. We have read Senator Middleton's comments, and he stated in a press conference, "These are boundaries that have existed for generations. They're boundaries based on biological truth. They're based on biblical truth, and so what this bill does is it restores those boundaries and makes them enforceable." We should not legislate our Christian beliefs on non-Christians. If you believe otherwise, then the potential new mayor of New York City should have the right to legislate his Muslim beliefs also. Is that acceptable? How would you feel about that happening?

4. How will this law be enforced? Will police stand at the entrance to women's restrooms in all buildings where this law applies? Will citizens be the enforcers? Will law enforcement or citizens ask Trans Females to show their private body parts? Would you favor a bill that requires YOU to show your private body parts to law enforcement or private citizens? All of these enforcement ideas are wrought with problems and potential lawsuits.

5. Safara Malone, policy intern at the Transgender Education Network Texas, said "There's not really a care for how this is gonna affect anyone else. This is more about the messaging, more about getting points with a radical conservative voting base." What she said is the complete and shameful truth.

We have been Republicans all our adult lives, but this Republican-backed bill is shameful because of the unwarranted discrimination aimed at the trans community. We prayerfully ask you not to advance this bill out of the State Affairs committee.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of our concerns.

Carl M. Porter

Patricia A. Porter

Tems Johnson

Self

Abilene, TX

OPPOSE

Lady Leshia

Self

Dallas, TX

I believe this committee should not take rights away from transgender people. I've been trans for 3 years non binary long before that and the women's facility has been my designated restroom for almost 7 years now.. I really think the committee should reevaluate their decision on this bil. Actually look at all the violence that's going on with trans people. There are many of us out here who actually just using the restrooms and minding our business not causing harm or anything towards others, a lot of us are actively becoming Woman or men and are on the meds as well as updating their information on IDs if the city and state we live in allows it.

Meagan Lavender

Self

San Marcos, TX

Please oppose SB 8. I am a women and have never been threatened by another person using the bathroom. This will make it scary in the future and increase assaults on women.

Susan Smith, Ms.

Self

Houston, TX

This bill is wildly ignorant and will infringe on the rights of both cisgender and transgender Americans. This bill will do NOTHING to promote public safety -- in fact, it will erode public safety. Trans people have been using bathrooms for years with no issue. Meanwhile, actual child predators are being elected president and the administration is doing everything it can to distract from the Epstein files. You want to protect women and children? Release the Epstein files IN FULL and Prosecute EVERYONE in them. Pass gun control legislation and flood relief. Oppressing trans citizens does NOTHING for our society!! You NEVER hear of a trans person assaulting anyone in a bathroom. Stop pushing that narrative. The real predators and rapists are in the White House and on the Senate floor.

Frank Netscher

Self state worker

Austin, TX

This is obviously unenforceable and a waste of tax money to build new bathrooms. It creates a class of people, intersex, that are unable to use any bathroom in a public building. Completely unnecessary regulations that will make state government more inefficient

Arielle Laguette

Self

Austin, TX

I do not support this bill. There is not data or reasoning that warrants this attack of individuals who are trans OR intersex (biologically both female and male sex organs at birth) — this will only cause more harm and hate within our communities and continues to be an attack on the LGBT community.

Madison Brown

Self

San Antonio, TX

This bill is not only discriminatory against transgender and nonbinary people but also intersex people. This bill is harmful to REAL people who deserve to use public bathrooms without fearing people being violent against them just for identifying with a different gender or looking a way that someone thinks might be trans. It isn't transgender people causing violence in bathrooms, it's bigoted, hateful people who will punish anything they don't understand without a second thought. Intersex and transgender people are people and need to start being treated as such!

Xochitl Zamora, Rev.

Self

San Antonio, TX

The passing of this bill will do more harm than good to the general public of the great state of Texas. Policing the spaces people can be on according to sex assigned at birth creates a hostile environment not only for the transgender individuals of this state but also for the intersex and cisgender communities. One cannot tell a person's sex/gender from appearances only and this bill will only lead to harassment of people who do not fit what each individual's idea of male and female look like. As a citizen and born-and-raised Texan, I am vehemently against this bill and urge that you vote against this bill.

Hung Nguyen

Self

Austin, TX

This bill not only will do nothing to provide protection to females potentially being assaulted in restrooms (if a person wants to commit a crime, they won't be stopped by criminalizing an act that makes that crime possible), but it also makes MORE people feel unsafe by forcing them into a space where they feel like they shouldn't be and puts them in a situation where they are more likely to be assaulted or attacked. There is nothing in this bill that will actually lead to a reduction in crime or make the public actually feel more safe, and all this at the expense of the freedom of a group that is less than 1% of the population. This bill should be rejected without hesitation.

Shayna Steinfeld

Self, HR

Austin, TX

SB8 invites violence for all people by causing terror and fear for those using the bathroom. NO ON THIS

Elyse Elsenbrook

Self

Houston, TX

I wrote to OPPOSE SB 8. This bill in the special session - Really?

Laws regarding bathroom use invite excessive policing by authorities and civilians alike that make these spaces more dangerous not safer.

We have seen a version of this bill over and over again and it has and still is so unpopular. Why does it keep getting brought up and taking valuable time and resources of this legislature. Time and resources that should be focused on improving lives of Texans, not fear mongering again marginalize groups.

It is insulting that Texas is looking at this bill once again and is against what I (and many!) believe this state should be. I fear for ALL women if this bill is passed for what it encourages. There is no evidence to back up that this is or there is a problem that this bill is seeking to solve.

Please do not give SB 8 any more time. Do not pass this bill.

Michael Gmur  
Self  
Georgetown, TX

This bill sets a dangerous precedent by allowing a persons gender to be decided based on how they look. Rather than protecting Texans it endangers them. Recent cases show that when a persons perceived gender is brought into play when using a bathroom, they are put into dangerous situations. The cases in which a persons gender has been brought into question have also been shown to be incorrect. In a woman was using the women's restroom and was aggressively confronted and misgendered as being a man. This bill will only set the stage for continued abuse of power. This bill also puts an already at risk population in greater danger. Transgender individuals are subject to a much higher rate of violence and their bodies are already the subject of unneeded debate. They are citizens and individuals just like the rest of us and deserve to be treated as such. Further, abuse by transgender people in public restrooms is exceedingly rare. This bill serves only to divide and continues to lead into the culture politics that are tearing this state and country apart. This bill deserves a "no" vote and only a "no" vote.

Judy Pierson  
Constituent  
Belton, TX

There are only TWO sexes, male and female! Restrooms, dressing rooms, locker rooms and anywhere gender is indicated, must be used only for that gender. Anyone that violates this should be subject to penalties and or a civil rights violation.

Michelle McGregor  
Self  
Round Rock, TX

I am greatly in favor of this bill! Being the mother of a 12-year-old girl, this bill is very important to me and my family. It greatly concerns me that biological men are currently able to use what should be safe spaces for females, such as restrooms and locker rooms, along with other young girls who hopefully have never seen male genitalia. I believe it's completely inappropriate for young girls to not only be exposed, but be placed in a position of potential danger by men posing to be women. I was raised at a time when that would've been considered sexual abuse for a girl to even be exposed. This absolutely needs to stop, so I'm letting you know that I'm in strong support of Bill SB 8. Thank you for your attention to this!

Nadia Guillen, Mrs  
Self  
San Antonio, TX  
Please pass SB 8

Colleen Ketchum  
Self  
Austin, TX

Mayes - why are you so obsessed with people going to the bathroom? What an absolute joke. Instead of working to help the families who lost children and loved ones during the July 4th floods, you're co-opting the special session to pass a bill trying to control where people go pee? This is such a stupid waste of time, especially coming from the party that claims to love "freedom" and "small government". Surveilling and harassing people for going to the bathroom is the opposite of both. The Texas Legislature should drop this bill immediately.

Jules Holden  
self, tradesman  
Austin, TX

You are actively increasing the harm that will be perpetuated to women and girls by encouraging the surveillance of their bodies and forcing people to strip at random. This is disgusting and disgraceful for even being given YET ANOTHER vote when it has been rejected by the people and failed to pass every time. Enough.

Stefanie M

self

Austin, TX

Representatives

This bill is ridiculous, it does not protect woman or their spaces; its an attack on the transgender/non binary community.

"committee chair Rep. Ken King, R-Canadian for comments he made.

"How on earth did we get to the point where men are allowed to go into women's restrooms and locker rooms and shower with them, and nobody can do anything about it?" Finger said. "I, for one, am tired of that, I won't put up with it. I've seen it at least a couple of times in San Antonio, and I was tempted to help that gentleman to save money on his transgendered operation by physically helping him get there."

-from the texas tribune 8/22/25

Shame on you for even considering passing a bill that is so blatantly discriminatory.

Zavier McFadden

Self

Austin, TX

I do not approve of this bill. It's extremely dangerous and will lead to state-sanctioned violence, which I believe is already against the law. Do not vote to pass this bill.

Cheyenne Adams

self, Hospital Administration

Mesquite, TX

I do not approve of this bill and I am against its passage. Please vote no.

Al Cerda

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is unconstitutional, will result in extreme harm, and is a waste of our time and political resources.

Krystal Hayes

N/a

MESQUITE, TX

I do not approve of these bills and am against its passage. Please vote note.

Zsevon Adams

self, Aviation Mechanic

Mesquite, TX

I do not approve of this bill and I am against its passage. Please vote no.

Ashton Davidson

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Ash and I use he/they pronouns. I'm a transgender, breast cancer survivor and advocate. I'm here to oppose SB8. In 2022, I had gender-affirming top surgery. During that surgery, my surgeon found a tumor. It was cancer.

I didn't know I had cancer. No one did. If I hadn't had access to that surgery - if my insurance hadn't covered it...who knows when that tumor would have been discovered. That surgery at that time saved me from a far worse prognosis and fate with cancer.

So yes, gender-affirming care saved my life.

But what does that have to do with bathrooms?

Let me explain. I had a PET scan a few weeks ago, because when you've had cancer, you don't just "move on." You live with scans, tests, and constant monitoring - often in hospitals, clinics, or public health facilities. Many of those are state-funded.

Here's how a PET scan works:

Step 1: get injected with radioactive glucose.

Step 2: wait 45 minutes.

Step 3: empty your bladder.

Step 4: get scanned.

But if SB-8 passes, and I'm in a state-funded facility... how do I do Step 3?

Does the tech get punished for letting me pee? Does my oncologist get fined?

Or do I just not qualify for a potentially life-saving scan, simply because I'm trans?

And what if I get cancer again? Chemo infusions take hours. What happens when I need to use the bathroom? Or vomit? Should I carry my birth certificate (which also reflects my gender as male) to prove I'm puking in the correct restroom? Or even worse, if I am forced to use the women's restroom, should I, looking, like this, scare all the women in that bathroom who are also undergoing chemo, when they see a man in the women's restroom?

Or maybe I just shouldn't show up for treatment at all. Because clearly, the audacity of having cancer while trans means I'm not worth the care, right?

These so-called bathroom bills are written with no understanding of their true reach and impact. They ignore logistics, humanity, and reality. They hurt trans people and they put healthcare providers in impossible positions. We continue to see how these bans affect cisgender people too. When people have to show their breasts to strangers in the bathroom at Buffalo Wild Wings to prove they belong there, we have lost our humanity as a society.

If the goal is truly about protecting women and children, then maybe the focus should shift to predators in office, or the lack of care, support, and resources for families after people are forced to give birth under abortion bans. But me, vomiting in my lap during a chemo infusion, because I can't legally access a toilet isn't protecting anyone.

This bill won't keep anyone safe. But it will absolutely put lives at risk. Including mine.

Kenneth Watkins

Self

Garland, TX

I do not approve of this bill and I am against its passage I vote no

Brittany Marino

Self

Austin, TX

I do not support this bill

Megan Guilbeaux

Myself

Austin, TX

As a cis woman born and raised in Texas I can assure you that the biggest threat to my safety has always been cis men. I have been raped, sexually assaulted, sexually harassed, stalked, physically abused, and have had attempted kidnappings by only cis men ever. They are the biggest danger to my safety. Trans people have never EVER made me feel unsafe and most definitely have never actually been a threat to my safety. My older sister is a trans woman and she has been and will always be my fiercest protector and so I will do my best to be her fiercest protector in these dark hours for trans rights. It has been proven that policies like these not only increase the danger for trans people but also increase the danger for cis women. Do not attempt to hide behind the "protect women" mentality when this bill simply does the opposite of protecting us. As a Texan woman that has experienced so much harm at the hand of cis men I can testify that that's where your attention should be not in the policing of bathrooms. We all know that it's not about the bathrooms, this is simply another attempt to stamp out the existence of trans people. Trans people have always existed and will always exist and there's nothing you can do to change that.

Tracy Deagan

Texas Therapists for Social Justice

Austin, TX

As a trauma psychotherapist for the past 35 years providing front line community mental health for all in the Central Texas trauma therapy provider organizations, I know adding any more stress and moral injury and distress to any person is wrong and unhealthy for our community. This bill also is a fraud; I have never, in 35 years, had a client "traumatized" or "threatened" by any transgender or queer person. Generally the abusers and molesters they identify as white, males - often in domestic, religious, or business situations where these men use their power to harm others they should protect as fathers, bosses, and religious elders. Not transgender folks. My experience is that transgender individuals are very aware of others boundaries and very law abiding with others, especially strangers. Especially in a state such as Texas which has demonized these people while often giving white, supposedly "straight" men, even adjudicated criminals, the benefit of the doubt and a "pass" on their harmful actions. This demeans those actually harmed an actual abuser has perpetrated against and scapegoats innocent Texans that just want to wash their hands. Please reject this harmful unnecessary bill as the fraud it is. Tracy Deagan CPTP, LCSW, LPCS

Mary Wood

Self

Pflugerville, TX

I do not support this bill and I don't know anyone who does. We do not want policing in private spaces. We want FLOOD VICTIM SUPPORT. Please stop wasting Texas resources on this.

Lori Cofano

Self

Driftwood, TX

I do not want my eleven year old granddaughter sharing a bathroom with a male. This is a formative time in a young girl's life and they are going through many changes that already make them uncomfortable. Please protect our children by designating restrooms based on sex at birth. A concerned grandmother.

Yves Philippe

Self, bouncer

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. Transgender people are not a threat and are being targeted as a scapegoat by our government officials who ought to be protecting the people they represent; not attacking them. I oppose SB8.

Travis Spiegelhauer

Self

Pearland, TX

Politicizing where folks use the toilet serves no one. Regulating toilet use and adding fines is the opposite of small government Texas values. I do not support this bill.

Lilly Blackmon

Self

Austin, TX

I am a born and raised Austinite. I've lived here my whole life, grew up going to school here, and have lived here into my adulthood. I was never particularly popular or pretty in school, and I definitely got bullied for it. I always had a really hard time connecting with my peers until I got older, and I was able to branch out. I never really upheld the "normal" beauty standards for young women my age; and I cannot imagine how different my experience might've been if I grew up in a city or a state or a world where the politicians and elected officials who pass the bills and the laws in my state made it more difficult for me to use the restroom. Made it even more difficult for me to just exist in a world where growing up is already hard. As adults we have the duty to protect the generations beneath us, and the children after us. We have a duty to take care of them, and right the wrongs of the generations past. Not go backwards over a decade. I believe truly that y'all do not care about protecting the children, or protecting women. All you care about is protecting yourselves. I think the amount of time y'all have spent focusing on people's genitals is egregious, and should've and could've been put to many other more important issues. Please choose to do the right thing and vote no for SB 8. And please choose to do the right thing and focus on more important issues in the future, and be more transparent with what your real intentions are.

Susanne Kerns

self

Austin, TX

To the Honorable Chair and Members of the House State Affairs Committee:

My name is Susanne Kerns, and I am a parent of two public school students in Senate District 14. I respectfully submit this testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 8. While framed as an effort to improve the safety and privacy of girls, this bill endangers the safety, health, and dignity of both transgender and cisgender students. By encouraging policing of who belongs in restrooms, SB 8 increases the risk of harassment, humiliation, and real physical harm, creating a hostile environment that undermines learning for all children.

As parents, we want every child to feel safe, respected, and able to focus on learning. That's why legislation like Texas Senate Bill 8 which restricts bathroom access for transgender students, is so concerning. These policies don't protect children—they put all students at risk.

For transgender students, bathroom bans cause real harm. A national survey of more than 12,000 trans and nonbinary young people found that those who avoided bathrooms had almost twice the risk of attempting suicide in the past year. Many reported urinary tract infections and other health problems from "holding it" all day, while others stopped drinking water just to avoid bathrooms. These are heartbreaking trade-offs no child should face.

But these laws also harm cisgender kids. In Boston earlier this year, two women with short hair were kicked out of a hotel restroom after being mistaken for men. In Minnesota, a teenage girl was forced to "prove" her gender to a restaurant employee. Stories like these show how bathroom policing encourages harassment of anyone who doesn't fit narrow ideas of how a woman or girl should look.

Schools should be safe havens, not places where kids are humiliated for using the restroom. Policies like SB 8 fuel bullying, embarrassment, and division, while undermining health and dignity.

As parents, we know our children thrive best when schools are welcoming and inclusive. Every child deserves to attend school in an environment where their basic needs are met with dignity, not suspicion. I urge this committee to reject SB 8 and instead prioritize policies that foster safety, inclusion, and respect for all Texas students. Our children's well-being, health, and ability to learn depend on it.

Sincerely,  
Susanne Kerns

Kate Phillips

Self

Taylor, TX

I do not support this bill in any form. It will not protect women, but the opposite. As a tall, cisgender woman, you endanger me with this bill as well as every transgender person in Texas. It is wrong. It is against actual Christian ideals.

Ally Raskin

self

Dallas, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law

Ezra Gomez

Self

Austin, TX

I am transgender. I was born as a female and I have now transitioned into a male. I went to the public testimonies this morning at 8AM and I was not allowed to speak due to the allotted time. When I went to the JHR building, I needed to use the restroom. When I went to the front desk to ask where the restroom was, the state officer behind the front desk pointed me towards the mens restroom, because that is where I belong. I have a full beard and muscles, I'm covered in tattoos and I'm hairy. I should be in the mens restroom.

This bill would mean that I would be washing my hands next to your grandmother. Your aunt. Your wife. Your daughter. I think that would make everyone, including myself, very, very uncomfortable. I understand the need to protect women, but I don't think this is the way to do it. Texas is the only home I've ever known, and I love the Lone Star State but this is not the southern hospitality I grew up with. I oppose SB8.

Karen King

Self

Wimberley, TX

Biology is real. We are a sexually dimorphic species and every single cell is impacted by our sex as we develop. It is dangerous to pretend to believe that reality does not exist. We don't agree with people who believe they should be one armed nor do we treat them by cutting off their arm. We treat them by helping them accept who they are biologically. It is hurtful and destructive to allow identity to take priority over reality at all levels of society.

Jessica Bunting, Mrs.

Self

San Marcos, TX

Regarding SB 8 'bathroom bill', I personally do not feel a difference between a biological woman versus a trans woman in the same bathroom as me. I would likely feel uncomfortable if someone who identifies as a man were forced to use the women's room, more so because they would likely be visibly uncomfortable. I would also like to add that I have utilized gender-neutral bathrooms in the US as well as other countries, where all genders are able to use the same multiple stalls, and didn't have any issues. So, maybe the solution is gender-neutral restrooms and minding your own business.

Michelle Tull

Self

Austin, TX

Leave trans people alone. They do no harm by living their lives and using the restroom where they feel they belong. Your efforts and our tax dollars would be better spent protecting voter access, ending government corruption and, fighting gun violence and hate crimes. Maybe protect gay and trans people from hate crimes.

Stephanie Thornburg, Ms

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Stephanie Thornburg, and I am writing to tell you how deeply I oppose SB 8.

I am the mother of a transgender son, Rigby. He was born and raised in Texas, but he no longer lives here. He left for Massachusetts because he did not feel safe in his own home state. He could not live under the constant threat of bills like this one. And do you know what that feels like as a parent? To know that lawmakers in Texas made my son feel so unsafe, so unwanted, that he had to leave everything behind? It shatters me. Every day, I live with the heartbreak of knowing that my child was pushed out of the place he loved.

Let's be honest: SB 8 is not about safety. It's not about protecting anyone. It's about fear. It's about cruelty. It's about singling out kids like my son and telling them they don't belong. That they are dangerous. That their very existence is a threat. That message is poison, and it comes directly from you, the people elected to represent us.

You say you care about families, but you are driving families like mine away. You say you care about children, but you are telling my child—and thousands of others—that they don't matter, that they don't deserve to exist in public spaces. Do you know what that does to a young person's spirit? Do you know what it does to a mother's heart to watch her son feel hunted in his own community?

I am furious. I am devastated. And I am ashamed that Texas keeps choosing hate over love, cruelty over compassion, and fear over truth. You are hurting children. You are breaking families. You are destroying lives. My family is living proof of that.

Reject SB 8. Stop attacking kids like my son. Stop pretending this is about safety when it is nothing but discrimination dressed up as law. History will remember the harm you chose to inflict. And I will never stop fighting for my child.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Thornburg

David Sims

Self

Huntsville, TX

Boys should be banned from girls bathrooms and dressing rooms

Rachel Preston

self/teacher

Austin, TX

Let this bill die in committee. This sets up a dangerous dichotomy enabling ANYONE, including people who aren't trans to be threatened and questioned. This makes women less safe. If you care about protecting women and girls, vote against this bill. Most importantly, this is a bill that will make trans people feel unsafe. If you want to make sure privacy is respected, pass a law that requires bathrooms to have fully closed-off stalls in any public space or individual full restrooms instead of demonizing our non-gender conforming community members.

Erika Bodoin, MRS

SELF

Austin, TX

Is there a reason why adults in power have become so obsessed with the private parts of children? I'm legitimately confused as to why this has become such a central topic. This moral panic around gender has become a witch hunt that is actually quite damaging to non-transgender children and adults as well. I've raised my children to be outspoken Texans with a moral center, and to be upstanders for people who are marginalized historically and indeed, all matters where someone is unfairly targeted or persecuted for simply living their lives. If that's what "woke" means to you, then I guess I do have an agenda --- to ensure my children notice inequities and stand up for what's right. Historically, this has been called being on the right side of history as others seek to power hoard and target our most vulnerable members of our community. In this case, the writers of this bill intend to target both transgender people and children. What I want to know is HOW adults will be confirming the sex of the child. Will there be "privates checks" if a child's gender expression is in question? If this bill does what it says it will do, which is allow private citizens to enforce a form of bathroom gatekeeping contingent on the appearance of male or female genitalia, I as a parent of two children, am extremely concerned that adults will be appointing themselves to ascertain the sex of my child. As an educator myself, I can see this bill is incredibly harmful to all school children. Not only does it send the message that all are NOT welcome here, it robs a child of their agency and right to pee in peace without an adult hovering. As a speech language pathologist in the school districts, I've seen that sexual predators look for opportunities to harm children. Children with disabilities are extremely at risk for sexual and other types of abuse. Why put them as well as other children at a higher risk for abuse by assigning random adults to determine their "actual" sex? Do the legislators behind this bill truly believe these children are a risk to our schools? If so, will these same legislators work to ensure that our children are safe from sexual predators as well as gun violence, both of which are exponentially higher in terms of risk to a child's body and mental well-being than peeing next to (or after, or before) a transgender child? This bill honestly disgusts me and has no place on Texas legislature. I am enough of a realist to understand that this is part of a cultural war on our children. I am also enough of an optimist to believe that in the end, Texans and other Americans will not stand for this attempt to roll out the red carpet for actual abusers. Do not let this bill pass.

Jennifer Ayers

Self

Austin, TX

This bill puts vulnerable Texans at risk of harm. It's none of anyone's business what other people identify as, and as a woman, I support our trans sisters and brothers using whichever bathroom makes them feel safe. This bill DOES NOTHING but trample people's privacy and safety, and y'all should be fucking ASHAMED to be wasting time and our taxpayers' money on shit like this instead of, oh I don't know, maybe stopping school shootings with some sensible gun laws? Great, you want to protect kids from ACTUAL threats? DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE UTTERLY LAX AND DANGEROUS GUN LAWS!!! I cannot believe we're the ONLY country that this is normal. WHY ARE SCHOOL SHOOTINGS NORMALIZED? Y'all call yourselves leaders? Bunch of fucking worthless pieces of shit that need to lose your jobs, or maybe just need to lose your fucking kid to a school shooter for it to finally hit home what your priorities should be. If you pass this bill, and you have kids in school, I hope you lose them. ??

Scott Schenkel, Mr.

Self - retired

Cartollton, TX

I'm against it!!

Sarah Emerson

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. This bill is disgusting. As a cis woman with a child I would fear more for our safety if this bill passed than I do already. We are ALL humans who have to go number 1 and number 2 - we all need access to a toilet. I don't see why it matters which toilet you use! Do you have gendered bathrooms in your house for guests to use? No? Just ONE "guest bathroom" that both women and men use? Then why does it matter in public? Please - we beg of you to NOT pass this bill. Texans deserve better. I OPPOSE SB8!

Bobby Schenkel

self

Odessa, TX

Bill that does nothing but pushes real issues like gun regulation and control to the side. This bill doesn't fix anything. No one is going through years of transition and surgery just to lurk on people in the bathroom. That's not how that works. Please focus on bigger issues at hand and stop trying to push your trans hate agenda.

austin hormuth

self / bartender

Austin, TX

Just absolutely insane to be having this conversation in general, but before flood relief when its well known more things like that will happen? Passing this bill will only damage people and waste tax dollars

Sean Mayer, Mr.

Self

Austin, TX

This bill has the potential to endanger people of every faith and ideology because it puts Texans vs Texans. And it really isn't very Texan like. We allow our neighbors to their own business. It is unnecessarily harmful and demeaning. Leave the people of Texas alone.

Katelyn Mayer, Mrs.

Self

Austin, TX

Everyone should feel safe using all facilities and not have to show parts of their bodies to use a restroom. LBGTQ+ community should have the same rights as anyone else! We are people too with feelings and should feel safe anywhere and everywhere we go without showing our body parts.

Rachel McCallister

Self

Austin, TX

I oppose SB8. We all have the right to pee in peace and not have our genitals inspected. This bill does nothing but endanger women, children, and everyone throughout our community. I strongly oppose SB8.

Annabel MacDonald

Self, musician

Austin, TX

This is un American. I oppose SB8.

Rency Zhang

Self —student

Austin, TX

We do not need to have our genitals inspected to use public facilities; it is inhumane and a gross violation of our right to privacy. People who commit such offenses already have no respect for the law, yet all people—including those who adhere to binary gender norms—will face scrutinization based on appearance and perceived gender. In Texas where we laud individual freedoms, why must the government interfere so fiercely in our private existence?

Melissa Glouchkova

self

ROUND ROCK, TX

The need to urinate/defecate is a HUMAN function - it happens regardless of sex/sexual identity. There have been plenty of times women have brought their young sons into the women's restroom and NO ONE balks at it or demands the child go elsewhere. There have been times when the women's restroom line was soooooo long, I chose to use the "men's" bathroom or face embarrassment for not being able "to hold" it any longer. This bill serves no purpose other than to humiliate people that are trying to be their genuine selves. This bill is trying to strip humans of their dignity and body function. No one deserves to be denied the right to pee and should not have to disclose what is going on in their genitalia. It's NO ONE'S BUSINESS. I oppose SB8. I am so ashamed of Texas and the Republicans parading falsehoods about my neighbors/community/friends - this is just another awful excuse to discriminate against those the Republicans cannot be bothered getting to know.

Noah Valdez

Self

San Marcos, TX

Hello, my name is Noah Valdez, a student residing now in San Marcos.

I'm calling to urge representatives King, Hernandez, and Burrows, as well as Senator Middleton, not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Thank you for your time.

Mary Schenkel

"self" Retired FNP

Carrollton, TX

Hello

My name is Mary Schenkel and I am writing to ask you to please vote against this bill. I have transgender family members who are hard working citizens of Texas. They are college educated, hold down a fulltime job, pay taxes and obey the laws of our land. Our family has been in Texas for at least 4 generations.

I do not understand the need to punish these individuals who have found their authentic identity and cause no trouble in our state.

I think this is petty legislation designed to get votes. I do not believe you are interested in making Texas a safer state.

Please rethink your position on this matter. Transgender Texans are authentic people who bring dignity to our state.

Try being inclusive and not exclusive.

Mary Schenkel

Retired Family Nurse Practitioner

Timothy Clifton

Self

Austin, TX

I am in opposition of SB 8! We all deserve the privacy to pee without the Texas government looking at our genitals. This bill is to target a marginalized group and not one to protect women.

Jade Sterle  
Self, digital strategist  
Dallas, TX

I oppose this legislation. Having to prove one's sex/gender to use a space or facility is grounds for discrimination and humiliation. This is abominable.

Kathryn McArdle  
Self, software engineer  
Austin, TX

As a cisgender woman, I strongly oppose this bill. People should be free to use the restroom that aligns with their gender identity, without question. How exactly will this be enforced, particularly for children, who usually do not have an identification card with them that declares their sex assigned at birth? Will children be forced to display their genitals to someone who will determine which bathroom they can use? The thought of this is horrifying and will surely be traumatic for cisgender and transgender people alike. While I oppose this bill on the grounds of the harm it would cause to the transgender community, it also would likely cause harm to cisgender people who do not fit stereotypical or commonly held perceptions of what a boy/man or girl/woman "should" like. Consider young cisgender boys with long hair who may be mistaken for girls, or cisgender girls with short hair who may be mistaken for boys, and think of the harassment these children would face when trying to use the bathroom under this bill. Do these children not deserve the same concern this bill's supporters purport to have for "children" writ large?

Nancy Huenergardt  
Self  
San Marcos, TX

I'm FOR this bill! Make sure women have safe spaces for women ONLY!

Jennefer Moore  
Self, public school teacher & business owner  
Leander, TX

Please be reasonable. I have female colleagues with high testosterone who naturally grow mild facial hair and don't have strong "feminine" features. This bill not only punishes/targets trans people (unacceptable), but it also punishes and targets our friends with natural hormonal struggles. We all go into our own restroom stalls, wash our hands, and leave. If a predator is lurking - then a PREDATOR is simply lurking, and this bill does nothing to prevent that. By subjecting regular people to such an intense invasion of personal privacy, SB 8 is creating real problems where none lie. I deeply oppose this bill and encourage you to look beyond these "culture wars" and be intentional about protecting our right to liberty and justice for ALL.

Bethany Epstein

self, doctoral candidate/physics graduate student

Austin, TX

SB8 is not about anyone's safety, it's about scapegoating transgender people and driving us out of public life altogether. There is no evidence that bills like this make any women or girls safer. It won't stop bad actors (overwhelmingly cisgender men) and in the dragnet it will catch trans girls who just need to use the bathroom. Additionally, both the legal sanctions and the social climate it fosters will make the simple act of going to the bathroom far more perilous for transgender people, regardless of gender, as well as cisgender people who simply aren't feminine or masculine by traditional norms. They will be held suspect no matter what they do, and if implementation in other states is any indication, they run a material risk of being assaulted. Of course this bill is not just about bathrooms. Forcing trans women to use cash-strapped men's domestic violence shelters, even as trans people are far more likely to be subject to DV, is perverse. Forcing trans women into men's prisons, which practically guarantees they will be sexually assaulted by correctional officers or other prisoners, is psychotic. No real evidence exists that trans women pose any threat to cisgender women in prison or in abuse shelters, and in fact the evidence is far more substantial that trans women are threatened by men.

Bills like SB8 indicate that the Texas government is unconcerned with or actively hostile to the wellbeing of a whole sector of its population. The fact that this sector is relatively small (about 1%) is immaterial; the government actively concerns itself with the welfare of similarly sized minorities such as farmers and combat veterans, and in the most infamous example in history of a state mortally inimical to a minority within (namely, Nazi Germany towards Jews), the minority in question was less than 1% of the population. I am Jewish and deeply haunted by this knowledge. Trans people in Texas and other states that have passed or considered these bills are frightened and seeking out greener pastures in places like New York, Illinois, California, Washington, and Minnesota where the state is not actively trying to push them away. With them, these people are taking away from Texas some of its best minds. The number of trans people I know in physics, computer science, and other fields who are working on the hardest questions of the day and holding up the pillars upon which modern life sits (eg. safe mass travel, internet connectivity, electrical power generation) is hard to fathom. For the state to coldly announce its hostility to us as people and push us away is a mistake not only on a humanitarian level but a strategic one. Of course, not every trans person is a savant, and our worth is not contingent on that but on our God-given dignity as human beings. It should not get to the point where we have to prove our worth as people via what we produce, yet here we are. This monstrous bill will solve nothing and will only cause pain. I urge you to oppose SB8.

Pedro Silva

Self, teacher

San Antonio, TX

We all deserve the freedom of privacy and peace without having our gender questioned. Listen to the people! I strongly oppose SB 8. Vote no on SB 8. Thank you

Pradhitha Boppana

self; student

Austin, TX

Hello! We deserve the freedom to use the restroom in peace. Strict ideas of gender would disproportionately harm gender non-conforming and trans folks, restricting their bodies and preventing them from accessing restrooms. Such a bill would not be protecting anyone, but would only increase violence and perpetuate the lack of safety for folks who are the most unsafe. Having any person's gender questioned and genitals inspected is completely invasive, violating, and should not happen. I oppose SB8.

Alysson Hartmann

self

Pflugerville, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. I have two teen daughters in public school and I think this is a critical bill to protect them and all girls.

Angela Saenz  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I'm in favor of this bill. Please keep biological men out of women's restrooms. Bring back common sense and not allow whatever someone "feels" like that day to govern everyone else

Carolyn Rachaner  
Self  
Denton, TX

Please vote FOR SB 8 to protect women! We deserve safe private spaces where men are not allowed!

Nora Gustafson  
Self artist  
Austin, TX

Wasting time and money with this discriminatory bill is shameful. There are many actual problems you could be tackling, like keeping guns out of schools. Instead, you're fearmongering and launching a baseless attack on the queer community during pride month.

Mary Agnew  
Self  
Austin, TX

The Texas Senate Bill concerning the designation and use of spaces and facilities based on sex raises serious concerns about discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community. By enforcing rigid definitions of gender for access to public facilities, the bill undermines the dignity and safety of transgender and non-binary individuals. This legislation fosters exclusion and poses risks to the mental well-being of those affected. It is crucial to prioritize inclusivity and respect for all individuals, regardless of their gender identity.

Lily McNeely-Pedraza  
Self  
Austin, TX

All Texans deserve to use the bathroom with dignity and peace. Without fear of being subjected to violent questioning and disgusting demands to reveal our bodies. This Bill will do nothing to reduce and eradicate the presence of Queer Texans, it will only cause all Texans to be subjected to oppression. These efforts are meaningless and malicious. I oppose SB8.

Ricky Woodling  
Self  
Bellville, TX

Men or men who think they are women should not be in women's restrooms

Joshua Berntsen

Self

Austin, TX

Love thy neighbor, trash this bill. It is based in nothing but ignorance and bigotry. The bill itself is exploiting those it pretends to protect. Disgusting. Abhorrent. Immoral.

To humor this farce is to maliciously exploit and control a small, extremely vulnerable minority of the population for political points. Because to actually improve the lives of Texans is not within the capacity of the writer and sponsors of this bill.

Perhaps it is surprising, but I do not think the supporters of this bill hate trans people. I think they feel the same way about them that they feel about every Texan. They simply do not care. They lack the instincts to care. If any commonly misunderstood minority of Texans become a viable political target, our worst legislators will chip away at their rights and safety slowly in order to showcase their performative cruelty to a base living in a world of substanceless issues. Supporters also know that community exists to right the wrong they are committing. To support each other in solidarity, in the face of a government that they understandably perceive as wanting them gone. In the face of a state that wants them gone, the community consistently commits to existing together, stronger than ever.

But despite all this, surely these legislators must know where these types of bills lead - an expansion of government power over daily social life. An expansion that ultimately makes life worse for everyone in the state. Although this bill's supporters may think they are paying a small tribute to a culture war, real harm is done with every indulgence and the road to increased, ubiquitous harm is paved ever smoother.

One day, seemingly soon, the true believers, those ideologically committed to hurting others, will take advantage of this bill and all those like it to inflict true pain on the vulnerable. And those who thought they were just playing politics will be too ashamed or too late to stop that pain they helped create.

ellie Martinez

self

Austin, TX

I oppose SB8. Every texan has a right to express themselves and identify as they like. This bathroom bill doesn't actually keep women and children safe. There are other issues that we should be addressing first. Bathrooms are gender neutral. This can create more issues with who gets to police what someones gender being questioned or having your genitals be inspected.

Kristin Clayton

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am in full support of this bill. I have four daughters I moved my entire family from California to get away from things like this. Please protect my daughter's rights !

Donna Caster

Self

Cypress, TX

I am for the passing of SB-8. Girls need to not share their private space with boys who wish to change gender to girls. We must not allow this in public schools. Many parents will take their daughters out of public schools if they are forced to accommodate boys transitioning to girls in their private restrooms and changing rooms.

Vikki Morrison

Self

Jacksonville, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

Jennifer White

Moms For Liberty Williamson County and myself

Round Rock, TX

I am in FULL SUPPORT of this bill. As a mother of two teenaged daughters I'm extremely concerned (even for myself) for their safety everytime they go into public bathroom. I only wish this could be extended to private businesses too. No woman, girl or mother should have to worry about their safety but while there are mentally ill men dressing up as women and being allowed access to private areas that only biological females should have. Women and children in shelters should haven't to deal with men invading their private spaces while they are dealing with the stress of what is going on in their lives. Men who are allowed to be housed in an "all-female" jails & prisons due to their mental illness shouldn't be given the permission to share cells, showers or any other private spaces in a jail or prison. Incarcerated women have no choice but to be housed where they are told but to be locked up with a man in a jail cell knowing they are bigger and stronger and can assault a women should never be allowed. Its obvious that some organizations feel it is okay to allow these types of practices to happen but a law needs to be put into place to stop it AND it needs to come WITH consequences to stop harming women. Thank you.

Celeste Bleeker

The American Citizens

Denton, TX

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB 8, introduced by Senator Middleton. This bill is an attack on the dignity, safety, and basic human rights of transgender and gender nonconforming Texans.

SB 8 is not about "protecting privacy." It is about using the law to shame, isolate, and endanger people who are already disproportionately targeted by violence and discrimination. By dictating which restrooms and facilities people can use, this bill strips individuals of their autonomy and puts them at greater risk of harassment and assault.

This bill also weaponizes civil penalties and lawsuits to punish schools, shelters, and public institutions that try to treat all people with respect. Instead of focusing on real issues that Texans face such as disaster relief, housing costs, healthcare, and infrastructure, lawmakers are wasting time and resources on legislation that harms the most vulnerable among us.

SB 8 sends a chilling message that the government should have the power to police people's bodies and identities. That is not freedom. That is state sanctioned discrimination.

I urge you to reject this harmful bill. Texas should be a place where every person is treated with dignity and safety, not one where politicians score points by targeting marginalized communities.

Sincerely,

Celeste Bleeker

James McLellan, Mr.

Self

Midlothian, TX

Pass this bill. It's ridiculous that we're even talking about this. Men and women are born as one sex or the other. No matter what medical procedures or hormones are administered, clothing worn, or personal grooming applied...men and women are still of the sex they were at birth. People with gender identity issues shouldn't dictate our public policies or force the rest of us to bend to their warped thought processes. Keep sexes to their own restrooms, showers, locker rooms etc.

Levi Rosen

Self

Kyle, TX

I oppose

Christian Menefee, Harris County Attorney

Self

Houston, TX

I submit this comment in strong opposition to Senate Bill 8.

SB 8 does not advance safety or privacy, as its authors claim. Instead, it targets transgender and intersex Texans by restricting their access to basic public accommodations, including restrooms, correctional facilities, and domestic violence shelters. It is legislation rooted not in evidence or public safety, but in fear and stigma.

All Texans, transgender people included, deserve to live, work, and participate in public life without fear of harassment or punishment. Going to the restroom is a basic human need. This bill would make that simple act subject to policing, surveillance, and costly penalties. In practice, it encourages vigilante-style enforcement and opens the door for harassment of anyone who does not conform to someone else's idea of what a man or woman "should" look like.

SB 8 also requires that people in police custody be housed strictly by sex assigned at birth, regardless of their gender identity.

This provision puts transgender people at significant risk of violence and abuse, a concern that has been well-documented in correctional facilities nationwide. Instead of protecting privacy or safety, this bill increases the likelihood of serious harm.

The civil penalties and private right of action created by SB 8 will further burden local governments, schools, and public institutions. These entities could face lawsuits for allowing people to use the restroom consistent with their gender identity, even when doing so poses no threat to others. The fines invite bad-faith claims from individuals seeking to police their neighbors.

Notably, there is no evidence that allowing transgender people to use facilities consistent with their gender identity endangers women or children. The problems this bill purports to solve do not exist.

Despite not solving any real problems, SB 8 directs attention and taxpayer resources toward policing bathrooms, when our state faces urgent challenges that deserve real solutions—disaster preparedness, infrastructure resilience, and public health, to name a few. Texans expect lawmakers to address these pressing needs, not to manufacture divisions that harm already vulnerable communities.

For these reasons, I urge the legislature to reject Senate Bill 8. Texans deserve laws that protect and unite us, not ones that target and endanger our communities.

McKenna Mirsky

self

Austin, TX

Everyone deserves the right to privacy. No one should be harassed or put in an unsafe situation just because of how they identify or how they express themselves. I oppose SB8.

Terri Lindgren

Self

Dale, TX

My family has been in Texas since the late 1800s. I'm here today because I love Texas and believe in the dignity and freedom of all people who call this state home.

SB8 isn't about safety. It's about creating fear. Transgender Texans are already our neighbors, coworkers, classmates, and family. They use restrooms every day; they do so quietly, safely, and respectfully, just like everyone else. I use the same restroom with my trans and nonbinary colleagues 5 days a week. We go in, relieve ourselves, wash our hands, share polite conversation and go back to work. What this bill would do is put them at risk: risk of harassment, risk of violence, risk of being treated as less than human.

Texans value liberty. We value the right to live our lives without unnecessary government intrusion. This bill does the opposite; it invites government into the most private parts of our lives, telling people which doors they're "allowed" to walk through. That's not freedom. That's not the Texas I grew up in.

Beyond the harm to individuals, this bill would hurt families, schools, and our economy. Businesses across Texas and across the country have said loud and clear: discrimination is bad for business. We should be building a future that attracts talent, investment, and opportunity, not pushing it away.

I ask you to remember that behind every debate, every statistic, are real people. Kids who just want to feel safe at school. Our granddaughter, Samantha Johnson, was bullied in school because she wore her hair short and her clothes loose fitting. She was a butch 13 year old. Her Mom, thinking she was helping, bought her some feminine clothes, Sam tried them on smiled, and said she liked them. When her mother left to go to the video store Sam put her old clothes back on, got her hunting rifle, climbed in the bathtub and shot herself in the head.

Today I stand with transgender Texans, not because it's politically convenient, but because it's morally right. Because no child (or adult) should be told by their government that they don't belong. How a 99% majority is so afraid of a less than 1% minority is beyond me.

I urge you: reject this bill. Stand on the side of freedom, dignity, love, and respect. Texas is big enough for all of us.

Jill Dunn

self - homemaker

Dallas, TX

3. You can write your own comment or use this template:

As a Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed "inspectors" to harass those who don't fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

Jeremy Story

SREC SD5 Committeeman

Bastrop, TX

I wholeheartedly support the passage of this bill. Allowing biological men into women's restrooms has done nothing but get various women assaulted in our state. We must stop this misguided social experiment now. Texas should lead the way with any space funded by state money.

William Pickus

Self

Austin, TX

SB 8 does not provide safer spaces or facilities for any individuals - in fact, it only creates hostility and animosity towards a select minority of Texans. We all deserve the right to privacy and to not have our genitalia investigated when trying to use a restroom. I oppose SB 8 thoroughly. It is not to the benefit of Texans, it does not represent Texans, and it does not address any issues relevant to lives of Texans.

Lester Ibarra

Self

El Paso, TX

The involvement of the Texas State Government on what bathroom is being used based off your birth gender v transition gender is a corrupt and ridiculous abuse of power. This is the least of the concerns to our state given the floods, power grid, shootings, and declining education, this will not resolve any of our main issues. Please stop using human beings as pawns for this Christian Nationalism movement.

Danielle Prince

self software developer

Austin, TX

i disagree with this "bathroom ban" bill and ask you to hear my voice and others in opposition. Trans women being in the same bathroom as me doesn't make me feel unsafe in any fashion. i do fear for trans women forced to use a men's bathroom, who will protect them? i fear for the trans men, who will likely not be welcome in the women's bathroom. i fear for any cis women who looks too manly or butch. who's presence might be questioned or invite an attack to prove their sex. I have not heard of credited examples of trans individuals causing harm in bathrooms but I have heard of harm done to them. Under the guise of protecting women and children, this book will simply cause harm.

Samantha Limon

Self. Wellness expert.

Fort Worth, TX

As a cis woman I am disgusted by people trying to control based on assumption of gender due to appearance. It is only controlling ME more by doing this. I don't care about someone's gender I care about the law discriminating against us. It is an abhorrent overreach of power that will reflect back upon you when it is time.

Justice Vaughan

self

Austin, TX

Hello members of the committee. My name is Justice Paredes Vaughan, a proud Texan and transgender woman who served six years in the Texas Army National Guard as an airborne infantryperson. I stand in strong opposition to Senate Bill 8.

During Hurricane Harvey, I was stationed in Lumberton, rescuing people from rooftops and taking them to a public school shelter. It didn't matter what their gender, age, or political leaning was. At that moment, we were simply Texans helping Texans, and that is what I am doing here today.

This bill would take a place of refuge, like that school I took my neighbors to, and make it unsafe for gender-nonconforming Texans in their most desperate hour.

I need this committee to understand the real-world consequences of this debate. The hostile and dehumanizing environment created by bills exactly like SB8 pushed me to a breaking point earlier this year, where I attempted to take my own life. I am not a religious person, but by an act of God, I am speaking to you today. This bill doesn't protect Texans; it just dictates which Texans are allowed to be safe.

It targets children and discourages them from being able to safely complete their education. It targets victims of Domestic Violence and discourages them from seeking safety in a shelter. And for what reason? Because we don't identify with the sex we were assigned at birth.

I am not a man playing dress-up. My existence is not a fetish.

This legislation is a profound distraction. Let's stop the political games and get back to being Texans helping Texans. Remember the flood victims you were supposed to be here for, and remember the Texans you are harming with this bill.

I urge you to vote No on Senate Bill 8. Thank you.

Bill Foster

Self and Ellis county TEXIT

REd Oak, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms."

"It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law!

Dianne Bolen

self, bookkeeper

Austin, TX

We all deserve respect and the ability to pee in peace. Everyone has the right to live as they wish, without having their gender or identity questioned. I vehemently oppose SB8.

Jack McKay

Self

Austin, TX

Transphobia out of Texas

Era Steinfeld

self

Austin, TX

This bill is unconstitutional, a gross invasion of privacy, and is a great example of how an unnecessary government intervention wastes tax payer dollars. This bill makes women less safe. Throw this bill out!

Mackenzie Spence

self, teacher

Austin, TX

This is a horrible act of scapegoating and harassment against women and the trans community. Why is it anyone's business to inspect another person's genitals in a public space? If this bill is passed does that mean that I have the authority to demand that I inspect the genitals of every man I see in the restroom. You claim that this bathroom ban is to "protect women" and yet women are the most harmed by this bill. If you truly want to help the people you claim to represent, then listen to them and **DO NOT PASS THIS BILL.**

Emmett Tassin

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is a violation of privacy, not enforceable, and a waste of taxpayer of taxpayers money. Please focus your time on things that benefits all Texans, such as the power grid and flood aid. Please stop bullying people and wasting money.

Tori Herrera

SELF SELF

Austin, TX

Stop pretending trans people are the reason we are 47th in education. Stop pretending trans people are the reason why you people won't fund our public schools. Stop forcing us to believe trans people are the reason why we don't have good roads. Stop forcing people to believe trans people are the reason we don't have affordable groceries. Or child care. Or rent pricing. Or healthcare. That is because of YOU. Rural Texas will not forget that when we have asked you for answers as to why we have put **ANOTHER 130 BABIES IN BODY BAGS** after the **26 WE PUT IN BODY BAGS YEAR BEFORE LAST** that all you care about is making sure Trump doesn't go to jail for all the kids he touched. **DO SOMETHING THAT MATTERS.** Leave trans people alone. Trans people are not on the Epstein list.  
Enough of this madness.  
This bill is stupid.

Betty Lehman, Mrs.

Self

San Antonio, TX

Pass the Woman and Child Protection Act

Maddy M  
Self  
Leander, TX

I vehemently oppose SB8. I believe every Texan, trans AND cis, will risk losing their dignity and respect doing something as universal, medically necessary, and oftentimes unavoidable as using a bathroom.

Enforcement will rely on mere assumptions and result in invasive genital speculation and inspection. Safe spaces and essential facilities will be taken away from so many people who will be forced to act on their own survival instead of their own happiness on a day-to-day basis.

This is not about protecting women, it is about control, dehumanizing trans people, and creating dangerous scenarios that lead to violence and arrests. SB8 is discriminatory and inhumane.

Peggy Denson  
Self  
Splendora, TX

People who were born with penises should not share a community bathroom with people who do not have penises. PLAIN AND SIMPLE

Melissa Yacovelli  
self - doctoral student and CrossFit trainer  
Austin, TX

Do not pass this legislation into law if you care about the safety of Texans. Forcing trans folk - who are already disproportionately targets of violence as a result of the legitimization of discrimination by way of bills such as this one - into spaces that do not align with their gender place them at even higher risk of violence. This is dehumanizing, and socially sends Texas even further behind than it already is. For those of you who are proponents of this bill, please ask yourself how many trans people you know. Then ask yourself how many people you know who know a trans person. Then ask yourself how you would feel having harmful legislation written about you from people who are so far removed. Center the voices of your constituents. Stop SB 8 now, and try a genderless bathroom near you.

Ashley Quintana  
Self  
Benbrook, TX

I am against this bill. It is completely ridiculous to try to tell people where they can go to the bathroom based solely on their appearance. This bill opens up more issues and can put more people in danger when someone has to try to prove what gender they are. We all use bathrooms for all genders in our homes and other places and do not have problems. This is creating a problem where there isn't one. Please vote against this bill.

Sara Ruffin  
Self  
Austin, TX

WHY ARE YOU OBSESSED WITH PEOPLE'S GENITALS?!?!  
Texans have real needs. Policing our bathrooms and bodies is not your job.

STEFANIE TAYLOR  
Self  
AUSTIN, TX

I opposed this bill due it being a violation of privacy for individuals going into spaces they identify with and feel comfortable in. Government had no right or place to determine things like this

Genny Tassin  
Self  
Lago Vista, TX

Do NOT pass this bill! It is the most hateful and ignorant thing I have ever seen proposed. Do not force trans women or trans men to use a restroom against their gender!!!! Please focus on issues that matter and are what your constituents think are important. You are wasting precious resources focusing on hateful ridiculous bills!

Katie Carnahan  
self  
Austin, TX

This legislation is discriminatory, harmful, and poses significant threats to the safety and well-being of many Texans. SB8 is not about privacy or safety; it is about targeting and ostracizing transgender individuals. There is no credible evidence that allowing transgender people to use facilities aligning with their gender identity increases danger. Instead, SB 8 will lead to increased harassment, discrimination, and violence against transgender Texans, particularly transgender women, who will be forced into unsafe situations. It also creates a chilling environment where anyone perceived not to conform to rigid gender stereotypes could face scrutiny and confrontation. Enforcement of any of SB 8's provisions is deeply troubling and invasive for all Texans, even the "women and girls" this bill claims to protect.

SB 8 undermines the principle of equal access to public accommodations and contradicts the values of inclusion and respect. It wastes taxpayer money on costly litigation and enforcement, diverting resources from genuine public safety concerns. SB 8 is another cruel, baseless attack on the dignity and lives of trans Texans. I urge you to reject this harmful and unnecessary legislation.

Sara Watson  
self  
Sugar Land, TX

Everyone deserves the freedom to use public restrooms in peace without having their gender questioned or their genitals inspected.  
I oppose SB8.

Erika Versalovic  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

As a lifelong Texan, I urge you to vote against the passage of SB 8. Policies like these do not make anyone safer. Think of the Dad looking to escort his young daughter into a public restroom, the overwhelmed parent needing to enter a bathroom with multiple kids. Think of the person just looking for a place to relieve themselves, regardless of their gender. I have never in my life felt unsafe or worried about trans and gender-binary non-conforming folks sharing bathrooms and changing rooms with me. I do feel profoundly nervous, anxious, and unsafe with bodily policing bills like these continuing to be put up for discussion. Policies like these embolden bigotry. We all know policies like these will only be selectively enforced and those who are in the most socially vulnerable positions will be endangered by them. I urge you to vote against policies like these that unnecessarily police genitalia and cause fear in Texans simply hoping to have the privacy & relief of a public bathroom stall. I have friends who are proud Texans who have had to leave the state due to policies like these. Legislation like this makes it increasingly difficult to imagine raising a family in a state that prioritizes issues like these over addressing the actual material needs of those who live in this great state. Please vote against SB 8 and in favor of protecting trans Texans, those who love them, and all of us trying to make this state a safe home for all. Thank you for your consideration of my words.

Isaac Sawyer  
Self  
Seguin, TX

If I'm going into a bathroom, I'm not worried about what the person in the stall next to me has in their pants. I'm there to use the bathroom. This is needless discrimination of transgender people. Do better.

Michele Nuckolls  
Self  
The Woodlands, TX

Please pass this bill to protect biological women's safe spaces.

Faith Miller  
Social Media / Self  
Austin, TX

As a cis gendered woman born and raised in Texas I have never been threatened by trans women using the same bathroom as me. If you are truly concerned with women's safety please use your time to focus on bills related to gun safety.

Michael Easley  
SELF  
Austin, TX

Reducing humans down to their private parts is pretty disgusting. Ban SB-8 and silence the creeps who think someones identity is a means for legal penalty.

Pat Sullivan  
self  
Plano, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Pat and I live in Plano, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address public transportation or city infrastructure. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Allison Watkins  
Self  
Austin, TX

This is a disgraceful, hateful bill that is a waste of taxpayer money and time. Texas has actual problems, problems which only weeks ago took the lives of so many people in the hill country. Texas has preventable problems with gun violence, poverty, housing insecurity, and political corruption. That this body would choose to spend time and resources criminalizing the use of a bathroom is beyond farce, it is beyond insult, it is beyond malice. This bill and all like it must be opposed.

Kanya Lyons  
Self/Communications Professional  
Austin, TX

Please do not restrict access to bathrooms for any reason. People should be allowed to use the nearest bathroom, especially in an emergency situation. As someone with Crohn's disease, I sometimes have to run to the nearest toilet to avoid having an accident. Please do something helpful, not harmful. Government is supposed to serve the people.

Anna Cordaro  
Self  
Conroe, TX

I believe that this bill will harm my community and their ability to exist and participate in society. I am against this bill.

Mark Tassin  
Republican  
Lago Vista, TX

Please cancel Sb8  
You all have a lot to do other than vote where everyone should go to the bathroom

Elle Leigh, Rev.  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

As humans, especially Christians, we need to support human rights. Making a law against a population of American Citizens which infringe on their God given rights and lives is against the words and Laws set by God. Any bills condemning humans from living freely and equally should be blocked. Anyone who proposes or supports harming or segregating individuals is evil. If you all actually care about safety, you need to support safety for All humans...especially Texans and Americans. If you disenfranchise people, you should expect to go to be with the Fallen instead of being able to bask in the light and sounds of Heaven.

Mary Wilson  
Myself  
Kirbyville, TX

Please pass this bill and do not be manipulated by the trans community. Women's spaces need to be just that, for females. Men, trans men and any other male person does not need, and certainly is not entitled to, women's spaces. It's dangerous and it's been percent that it's dangerous and you all need to be concerned with that. Please do not allow the name-calling that you may have to endure sway your vote. There are many in the LGB community who do not support our back the trans community. Do not be deceived. This is absolute delusion and even evil. Stand your ground and vote to support this bill.

Samantha Youngblood  
Self  
San Marcos, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the restroom in peace. Nobody wants to have their gender questioned or genitals inspected in any spaces or facilities. This makes vulnerable people less safe. I oppose SB8.

Patricia Burns  
self  
New Braunfels, TX

Voting for this Bill.  
Keep Men out of Womens private spaces! We need morality to in America. And this is a given right to Women.  
Keep Women protected

Jim Harp  
self  
Austin, TX

SB 8 is not about safety. It's about discrimination. Studies show that transgender Texans already face disproportionate violence, homelessness, and health disparities. Passing a bill that blocks them from restrooms only magnifies their risk. It solves no real problem, but it creates new harm.

This discrimination comes with a massive price tag. The Texas Association of Business found that anti-LGBT laws will cost our state \$8.5 billion annually and eliminate 185,000 jobs. We're already seeing the damage - Salesforce offered to relocate all 2,000 Texas employees after SB8 passed, and major conventions worth millions have canceled events here. San Antonio alone lost \$21 million when five conventions pulled out over discriminatory policies.

Our healthcare system is collapsing under the weight of these laws. Medical school applications for OB-GYN programs dropped 16%, and one-fifth of practicing doctors are considering leaving Texas. We've lost entire residency programs, and counties across the state now lack basic maternal healthcare. When doctors flee, economic development follows.

The numbers don't lie. Texas has 1.8 million LGBTQ residents contributing to our economy, yet discrimination costs us \$289-385 million annually just in health disparities. Meanwhile, a comprehensive nondiscrimination law would create 700,000 new jobs by 2045 and generate \$130 billion in tax revenue. Other states learned this lesson the hard way - North Carolina's bathroom bill cost them \$3.7 billion.

Texas businesses employing over 322,000 people have united against these policies because they understand what lawmakers seem to miss: discrimination is bad for business. When we exclude our neighbors, we exclude opportunity, investment, and growth.

Instead of debating how to exclude neighbors from bathrooms, we should focus on problems affecting every Texan. Floods are killing residents, while our power grid is teetering on collapse. Texans need solutions, not scapegoats. Reject SB 8 and show leadership that values people and prosperity, not politics.

David Acosta

self

Austin, TX

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Timothy Hitchcock

Self

Castroville, TX

Pass SB 8, realign sexual identity with biological fact.

If nothing else, in this turbulent world, acknowledge that girls/women deserve to be safe and retain their dignity. They should not have to compromise their selves either in the bathroom or on the competition field. Keep males out of females' spaces and competitions... period. Thank you for putting common sense above political fashion.

Garrett Nafzinger  
Austin LGBT Chamber  
Austin, TX

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Cassidy D'Agostino

self

Austin, TX

My name is Cassidy, and I am a resident of Austin, Texas. I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 8, which seeks to restrict access to public restrooms based on sex assigned at birth — effectively targeting and marginalizing transgender Texans.

This so-called “bathroom bill” is not about public safety. Numerous law enforcement and civil rights organizations have confirmed that there is no evidence linking inclusive restroom policies to increased safety risks. Instead, SB 8 targets some of the most vulnerable members of our community — particularly transgender youth — and puts them at greater risk of harassment, bullying, and mental health challenges.

All Texans deserve to live with dignity, privacy, and respect. For transgender individuals, being forced to use a restroom that does not align with their gender identity is more than just an inconvenience — it’s a daily humiliation and a denial of their identity. For young people in schools, it is a message that they are not welcome or accepted for who they are.

This bill also puts schools, universities, and businesses in the impossible position of policing gender in restrooms, potentially exposing them to lawsuits and putting them at odds with federal anti-discrimination protections, including Title IX.

Rather than promoting safety or fairness, SB 8 fosters division, encourages discrimination, and undermines the inclusive values that many Texans hold dear. It sends the wrong message — that fear should dictate policy and that some of our neighbors should be treated as threats simply for existing.

I urge you to vote NO on Senate Bill 8 and instead focus on legislation that protects the rights, safety, and dignity of all Texans — including those who are transgender and gender non-conforming.

Thank you for your time, and for considering the voices of those this bill would most deeply impact.

Deborah Fite

Self - InsuranceAgency

Houston, Texas 77079, TX

Please vote to pass Mayes Middleton's SB8 protecting women and young girls privacy. This is a common sense bill that would help stop potential assaults on women. Men should not have the right to enter private spaces for women and or young girls. I serve on the SREC Legislative Priority Committee. We work to honor the delegates top priorities and giving common sense laws and protection in locker rooms, and public restrooms are among their priorities. Thank you for supporting this bill.

Loretta Adams

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

August Garry

Self, editor

Austin, TX

My name is August Garry. I am a fifth-generation Texan, and I am here today—on my birthday, by the way—to voice my strong opposition to Senate Bill 8. That's how I would have opened this testimony if I had been given time to speak at today's hearing. I'm glad we had time to hear from all 20 of the people who registered in favor of this bill, but it would have been nice to afford the same respect to the 505 of us who registered our opposition to it. This issue is actually quite lopsided in terms of public opinion—the vast majority is opposed to this bill—but if you listened to the testimony given at this hearing, you wouldn't get that impression. One has to wonder why that is.

I'm a transgender man, which means when I was born, the doctor said I was female. If this bill becomes law, it will require me to use women's restrooms. This bill purports to be about protecting women and making them feel safe in facilities like bathrooms and changing rooms. Do you think women will feel more comfortable in the bathroom around men like me? A lot of transgender men look just like any other man. If you're worried about women feeling unsafe in bathrooms due to the presence of men, do you really think they're going to feel safe next to transgender man they don't even know is transgender?

I can tell you it's not going to be safe for transgender men in women's bathrooms, either. In 2022, a transgender man named Noah Ruiz was attacked for using a women's restroom at a campground. He was told to use that bathroom, like this law would force him to, but a woman using that restroom was scared when she saw a man there. She said, "No man should be in this bathroom." Other campers proceeded to beat and strangle Ruiz until his face turned purple.

And what about women who don't look sufficiently feminine? Just this month, a young woman named Gerika Mudra—who is not transgender—was harassed and forced to show her breasts to a Buffalo Wild Wings employee who accused her of being in the wrong bathroom. Do you want your mothers, sisters, and daughters to be forced to expose themselves to strangers just to use the facilities? Do you want to have to prove what kind of genitals you have every time you go to the bathroom? Does that sound safe to you? Does that sound like "protecting women" to you?

We don't have any record of transgender people assaulting women in bathrooms. What we do have is a record of people—whether they're trans or not—being assaulted in bathrooms because someone assumed they were trans. This bill is not just a danger to the transgender and intersex communities. It's a danger to everyone.

Mars Hines

Self, Student and Graduate Assistant

Denton, TX

This bill discriminates against all people who are gender non-conforming, whether they are trans or not trans. Any person who is suspected of not using the bathroom according to their sex assigned at birth is at risk of being profiled and subjected to invasive genital inspection by police. This policy would disproportionately affect women of color, whose gender presentations are constantly questioned and policed due to eurocentrism. We have already seen young girls who are not trans be forced to expose their genital or breasts to police to "prove" they are not transgender. Aside from negatively impacting cisgender folks, this bill will also do irreparable damage to the safety of transgender Texans who are already at heightened risk of suicide and violence due to their marginalized status.

Jessica Howell

Wildflower Church

Machaca, TX

This bill is going to make it unsafe for people to use the restroom of all genders. Protect people from sexual harassment - do not pass this bill. Trans people are not a threat they are being criminalized for existing. This bill is unenforceable and extremely dangerous giving perpetrators an excuse to harass women and children in particular who do not conform to gender stereotypes.

Andrew Knight

Self; public information & social media

Austin, TX

This bill by nature does more harm than good. It is preposterous to police someone by their genitals, which is essentially what this bill would do. It is science -- not every human being fits societal standards on what "looks" male or female. Straight women may not always "look" like a straight woman. Straight men might not "look" like a "straight" man. Asking someone what they have in their pants as a requirement to use a public space is scientifically and MORALLY wrong. This bill strikes fear in people that don't fit societal standards. Men, women and children will be harmed. This bill is disgusting.

Kelsey Spencer

Self - Graphic Designer

Austin, TX

I am a cis Texan woman and I do not support this bill. A trans woman using the women's restroom does not affect me in the least, and you're weird if you think it does. The posturing of "caring about women's safety" on this issue is so obviously false, as evidenced by HB 7 and the rest of Texas's track record on our safety.

Stop pretending this is anything but a bigoted culture war against, what, 1-2% of our population as a state? Max?

Let them live. Vote no!

Crystal Contreras

Self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose Senate Bill 8. This bill is not about safety or protection; it is performative political theater that fails to address the real issues facing Texans.

Our governor openly supports individuals with histories of abuse and does not take rape victims seriously. That reality makes it very clear: this bill is not about protecting vulnerable people. If our leadership cannot prioritize real victims of violence, then SB 8 is nothing more than a distraction meant to demonize trans people.

Limiting language or anthropomorphic use for trans Texans protects no one. It does not stop abuse. It does not prevent crime. It does not heal survivors. It simply targets and stigmatizes a community that already faces higher rates of violence and discrimination.

Texans deserve real solutions to keep our communities safe—solutions rooted in truth, not in fearmongering. SB 8 fails that standard, and I urge you to reject it.

Bryan Evans

Myself

Mckinney, TX

You must pass this bill as soon as possible to ensure the safety and well being of our women and children. You will not find a biological woman or child who is comfortable with being in the same restroom as a biological man. Having biological men in biological women's restrooms opens up women and children to risk of being assaulted, which should never be allowed. One only needs to look at the example of Lily Tino, a biological male turned female, on TikTok and see the outrage that has happened in response to his videos. Things like this will keep happening unless we put a stop to it. Please do the right thing and pass this bill.

Judi DeHaan  
Self  
Cypress, TX

I strongly support the passage of this bill in order to support women's and girl's privacy in areas normally considered to be protected - bathrooms, locker rooms and other facilities designated as female gender to ensure privacy, comfort and safety. They should be afforded this provision by our legislators . Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Frank Strong  
Self, Teacher  
Austin, TX

This is an unnecessary and intrusive bill. It does nothing to protect women; instead, it dehumanizes trans individuals and makes their existence more difficult and less safe. Please vote against SB8.

Ann Zadeh, Honorable  
Self- city planner  
Fort Worth, TX

I am opposed to this nonsense bill that harms Texans for no good reason.

Joanne Kridner  
Self  
TOMBALL, TX

I can't believe we have come to this confused state of mind that we need a law passed to protect what is just common sense. God only made two sexes, male and female. No person can change their identity based on their feelings or thoughts. Let's get this right and make it concretely clear that no person can arbitrarily decide to change their sex. The chromosomes don't change. Do we need to have everyone who is confused about their gender to take a chromosome test to get this right?! I hope not. In the meantime, confused people need their own spaces and should not be mixed into private spaces of others who are not confused about their gender. This is violation of people's rights that must be protected in whatever manner is needed to make it effective. I support this bill for these reasons.

Sherilyn Bird  
Self  
Dallas, TX

In my experience supervising public buildings, this bill threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed "inspectors" to harass those who don't fit their narrow definition of how a man or woman should look. I urge you to vote no. Thank you for your consideration of real life experiences in working with the public.

Nathaniel Northcut  
Self, Bookseller / Shift Lead  
Cedar Park, TX

I oppose SB8.

Whitney Moore  
Self / Architectural designer  
Austin, TX

SB8 is a dangerous and discriminatory bill that targets transgender Texans under the guise of "bathroom safety". It fuels fear and misinformation, strips people of their basic rights and puts vulnerable youth at even greater risk. Everyone deserves to use the bathroom safely and with dignity. This bill does the exact opposite. Texas should be protecting its citizens not policing their identities.

Kalanee Benson  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX  
In favor of Bill 8

Shaney Clemmons  
Self  
Austin, TX

I oppose SB8. We all deserve the freedom and privacy to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected.

Elizabeth Gravitt  
Myself  
Arlington, TX  
Vote no and I oppose

Jacob Riojas  
Self- Artist  
Round Rock, TX

Last I checked there were more cis straight white Christian men that were dominating the categories of pedophiles and rapists - not trans individuals just looking to take a piss. Stop being creeps and being so concerned about someone's genitalia and place of popping a squat to relieve themselves where they feel comfortable doing so and focus more on stopping the tyrant turning us into a fascist state.

Devon Chandler  
Self  
Austin, TX

I urge you to oppose SB 8 because it directly singles out transgender people and threatens their rights and ultimately their lives. Trans humans deserve support, safety, and respect, not harassment. This bill fuels hate and division, and makes spaces like public restrooms more unsafe for trans people simply trying to exist. I'm asking you to protect all Texans, not pass laws that divide us.

Isabella Thomas

self

Houston, TX

If SB 8 passes, regarding a viewpoint that the majority of texans either disagree with or simply don't care about, we are risking the safety of women, men, and the thousands of trans and nonbinary people residing in Texas. An obsession over people's private history and literally private parts is incredibly disturbing for our lawmakers to continue focusing on, especially as these bills fail year and year again. Texans don't want their bathrooms policed— they want their children to be safe to go to school, affordable housing, and policies that allow lower and middle class families to thrive, regardless of their race/ethnicity, religious beliefs, political opinions, and geographical locations are in this beautiful lone star state.

What do people do if a trans man, an individual assigned female at birth, walks into the women's restroom, because he is forced to use it in order to comply with the law. I can only imagine women and children would be uncomfortable with someone who is very clearly a man, in the bathroom. What about the trans women who are forced to use the men's restroom? What steps does the state of Texas plan to take for sending someone, who is very clearly a women, into that situation, where sexual harassment and assault are bound to ensue. Even if we take trans people out of the equation (which isn't realistic, as trans people will ALWAYS exist, regardless of the state trying to deny their humanity), masculine women and feminine men will be subject to harassment and humiliation. While I can guarantee that trans constituents voting for Texas conservatives who constantly threaten their existence, are more-or-less nonexistent, there are bound to be Texans, in your very district, that vote and actively support you, who will be subject to humiliation and harassment in the bathroom, as a direct result of this law, simply because they don't fit one person's personal view of what masculinity and femininity looks like. I urge our representatives to instead shift focus on issues that are actively harming the lives of our state's citizens, including natural disaster responses & relief, gun control/school safety, and public health.

chloe russell

self, music therapist

Denison, TX

trans people are people

Lindsay Irwin

self, Data Engineer

Austin, TX

This bill is very harmful and should not be passed! Trans and nonbinary people should be able to use the facility of their aligned gender.

Teresa Saenz

Self

Austin, TX

I oppose this bill.

Bill Gilmer, Dr

self

Houston, TX

Thank you, but conservatives do not need a nanny to protect them. I can protect myself and teach my children appropriate actions. Stay out of my business.

Alexis Bryan

Self, Graduate Student

Corpus Christi, TX

SB 8 is a waste of time and resources and cannot realistically be enforced. It can also very easily lead to cis women being harassed for not looking "feminine enough." This bill will ultimately be harmful to both cis and trans people.

Patricia Lynch  
Self, educator  
San Antonio, TX

This bill is solely about hate and prejudice. I have never been in a bathroom where people weren't minding their own business. It's not even a real problem. Why don't we spend time on real problems like gun violence, which actually does harm many in our state.

Stacy Lugo  
My family  
Georgetown, TX

Please protect babies and women by not allowing them to be harmed by abortion pills. They are unsafe and inhumane.

Ava Contreras  
self  
Austin, TX

We all deserve the right to go to the bathroom without someone questioning our gender and being harassed. This can and has opened up a terrible precedent that makes people think they have the right to get proof that someone has full male or female genitalia- a truly horrendous thing to be asked to prove. I completely oppose SB8.

Ashley Tijerina  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

Everyone deserves the right to use whatever bathroom that aligns with their truthful & honest gender identification. Peoples' genitalia is nobody else's business besides oneself.

Alia Callum  
N/a  
Austin, TX

I oppose SB8. This bill is unnecessary, intrusive, and borderline degrading.

Abby Gibson  
Self  
Kyle, TX

Vote in favor of SB8. Women's and girls freedom and safety should not be infringed to placate mental illness.

Perla Muñoz Hopkins  
Self/Mother & Volunteer Advocate  
Leander, TX

Dear Honorable State Affairs Committee Members,  
I strongly support SB 8, The Women's Privacy Act, because every woman and child deserves privacy and safety in all facilities and environments.

Please consider passing this bill.

V/r,  
Perla Muñoz Hopkins, MA  
Policy, Education, Military Family & Parental Rights Advocate

Don Mamone  
Self/entrepreneur  
Richardson, TX

This legislation hurts every Texan. Trans legislation and trans vestigating affects cis, trans and non conforming people in unsafe and offensive ways. It doesn't protect anyone and it's a solution looking for a problem. There is no data that supports this bill and it's a waste of time and money. Stop wasting valuable resources on this unproductive effort and work on infrastructure, human rights and other efforts that benefit Texas

Kim Garner  
Self  
Kempner, TX

Please protect women and children.

Jazmin Gonzalez  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

This is a waste of taxpayer time and money. We should leave people alone.

Sarah Eadie  
Self, tech worker  
Austin, TX

I oppose SB8. This bill is harmful and unnecessary. It does not protect anyone's safety. Instead, it creates an environment of policing gender expression and puts both transgender and cisgender Texans at risk of harassment.

As a gender nonconforming person, I have already experienced hostile looks and comments when using the restroom that matches the sex I was assigned at birth. In other words, even when I "follow the rules," I am still harassed. Unless you have lived through it, it is difficult to understand the regular stress this creates. Every restroom visit feels like a gamble—ranging from awkward encounters to harassment to the threat of violence.

Fortunately, most Texans I encounter in public restrooms are either polite or simply mind their own business, as they should. This shows me that the vast majority of Texans do not see a problem here. The perceived 'problem' SB8 claims to address is a manufactured talking point that exists largely among online culture warriors and in political echo chambers, not in everyday life.

Finally, it is deeply disappointing that instead of focusing on urgent needs such as disaster recovery after flooding, this special session has been crammed with unrelated, divisive bills like SB8. Texans deserve better. Shame.

Christie Slape  
Moms for Liberty Texas  
Round Rock, TX

Honorable Chairman and Committee Members,

I am testifying IN FAVOR of SB 8, a necessary bill that honors the dignity and safety of Texas women and girls. As the Co-Chair of the Moms for Liberty Texas Legislative Committee, I regularly hear from our county chapters' leadership across the state regarding unclear and ever-changing school policies based on the social contagion of gender ideology. From Amarillo to Corpus Christi, from Fredricksburg to Galveston, we are made aware of good policies, bad policies, the lack of policies, and shadow policies regarding who is allowed in private spaces in schools. Texas public schools do not always have written policies regarding private spaces, and they often follow the guidance of the taxpayer-funded lobbyist organization, Texas Association of School Boards. TASB promotes a pro-gender identity, case by case process for deciding if and when males can use female restrooms and locker rooms. In my own school district, Round Rock ISD, there have been numerous instances of a male using a female-designated private space. A female employee witnessed a transgender teacher (biological male) entering the female student restroom. A female student was told by her high school administration that she could find a separate place to change clothes, or go home to change, when a male student chose to use the female dressing room. Girls and female teachers' deserve to have spaces that are exclusive to females only and should not have to experience fear, awkwardness and uncertainty of having a male in their private spaces. Passing SB 8 into law would make a bold and decisive statement that Texas will not deviate from biological facts and will not dilute objectivity to conform to societal and cultural winds. I ask that you vote IN FAVOR of SB 8 and solidify Texas' reputation on treating women and girls with honor and respect. Thank you.

Norola Morgan  
Self  
Houston, TX

I just want for Trans people to be treated like human beings, with the same rights and privileges as everyone else. People should be able to relieve themselves without harassment or fear of genital inspection.

Rebecca Broughton, Mrs  
Self / housewife  
Seguin, TX

I support SB 8 in protecting certain designated spaces such as restrooms, locker rooms, dressing rooms and the like. Without this Bill it will cause undo harm to children and women by letting predators fill their fantasies and cause harm. Please vote yes on SB 8.

Karen Horgan  
Self  
Fort Worth, TX

I strongly oppose SB 8 and I'm asking that it be voted down. This bill is unnecessary and is creating a problem that doesn't exist. This bill is unenforceable. How will you determine the sex of someone entering the rest room? Who is going to be the bathroom police? This is foolish legislation. There is no justification for this bill, no evidence that this is even a problem. Forget this nonsense and concentrate on helping the people of Texas. Spend your time on things like flood relief and weather alert systems.

Marty Hiles  
Salt-N-Light PAC  
New Braunfels, TX

Let's get back to common sense & Biblical principles that require that people use restrooms and changing facilities according to their sex assigned at birth at places like schools and restaurants. We must maintain "public safety, decency, and decorum.

Andrea Martinez

Self

El Paso, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

Miranda Medellin

Self

San Antonio, TX

I do not want my bathrooms policed.

The statistics and numbers show that people of various genders do not assault in bathrooms.

I want the churches policed and schools to stop the grooming of children by straight cisgendered conservative men.

Michael Conway

Self

CROSS ROADS, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

Alex Frank

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is completely absurd and a violation of basic human rights, let alone completely impossible to actually enforce without humiliating someone trying to go to the bathroom. It's disgusting and this party's obsession with genital inspection is grotesque and weird.

Alicia Taylor

self

Kyle, TX

This bill puts all women at risk, most importantly CIS women who may not conform to typical western standards of femininity. It is discriminatory and just plain gross. Please vote NO on this bill.

Matt Farmer, Mr.

Self

Denton, TX

There's a lot to be said about the morality of this strange bill. There's a lot to question about those pushing this bill and how they obsess over other people's genitals. But even if you set those things aside and merely examine if this bill would actually "help women and girls" (as its proponents claim)...

The answer is no. Trans people make up 0.5-1% of Texas' total population. There is no statistical proof that the majority of that very small demographic puts girls or women in danger (straight dudes take the cake on this one).

Stop trying to solve problems that you made up. Show a little human decency. I oppose SB8.

Laura Rios Ramirez

Self

San Antonio, TX

Let us pee in peace! Stop policing our bodies! Trans people deserve to use the restroom in peace. No to SB 8.

Danny Isom  
Arlington Heights Christian School  
Corpus Christi, TX

"I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

This is it - our daughters are counting on us! Don't let them down. EVERY VOICE MATTERS!

Rebekah Randall  
Moms of Liberty Williamson County Chapter / Self  
Round Rock, TX

Please protect Texas women and girls. Allow private spaces to remain private. My daughter is 14 years old and I want to know that she will be able to enter any school locker room as she travels around for volleyball games without fear that a man may enter that space.

Bobby Whitson, Mr  
Self  
Harker Heights, TX

Years ago, my wife took our daughter to the bathroom at the Killeen Wal-Mart on Lowe's Blvd., but there was a man sitting in the hallway to the bathrooms, so she was nervous and came back to me in the store. I escorted them to the restrooms, politely asked the man what he was doing there, and waited with him while my ladies used the facilities. While we waited, He told me he had a right to sit there if he wanted and I told him I was fine with that, but I had to wait with him because he's suspicious and my ladies felt uncomfortable, so I have the right to sit here too and asked him if that makes him feel uncomfortable. He left. If he had been in the ladies' room with my girls, he would have felt much more than uncomfortable, and we would have all been in a lot of trouble. Why put people in that position? Why not make the law clear to avoid these situations as much as possible? Why give credence to the wants of those perverted individuals or those with mental illness?! Make our intent clear. Make the law clear. Prohibit the opposite sex from entering a clearly marked bathroom designated for womens' use.

Randi Gordon  
Self  
Dallas, TX

I've been to many gay bars in my day, which means that I've been in many bathrooms with drag queens or trans women. You know what happened to me? Nothing. Pleasant exchanges. A laugh or several. Good interactions. You all seem to be so scared of what you can't understand. Why not try to understand it instead of pushing back against it? Trans people are not your problem. Your problem is education, rising prices, poverty, homelessness. Focus on the right things and do right by Texas constituents. This isn't it! Leave trans persons alone. They should be the least of your worries at less than 1% of the population.

Marsha McGlasson  
Myself  
San Antonio, TX

Bathroom bills are a waste of time. Never been a problem

Ariana Rodriguez  
Jane's Due Process  
San Antonio, TX

I strongly oppose SB 8. The continuous attack on trans people must stop. Not only will this hurt trans and nonbinary people, it will hurt everyone. Every single person can be questioned when they enter a bathroom, and it will force people to show their private parts to strangers to justify if they can simply go to the bathroom. Texans are suffering under poverty, poor infrastructure, and need help, stop wasting our time and taxes. I strongly oppose SB 8.

Joy Weed-Patterson

Self

Elgin, TX

I'm a married mother of 3, and I'm sooooo damn tired of this bathroom debate coming up all the time. LET PEOPLE PEE WITHOUT BEING HARASSED ABOUT THEIR SEX! I oppose any bathroom bill that discriminates against people who don't look like the gender you think they should be. GET OVER IT! Republicans need to stop being obsessed with other people's genitals. It's weird. Y'all are creepy constantly thinking of transgender people. Leave them alone.

Laura Markham

Self

Lewisville, TX

Opposed.

David Di Piro

Self

Fort Worth, TX

It is disturbing to think that matters like this have to even be brought up. The fallen nature of mankind is on display, don't we have enough to be forgiven for?

Alex Krueger

Self, licensed mental health counselor

Dallas, TX

I do NOT support this bill. Multiple news stories have now come out about cis women being harassed by others, including store employees, who assumed (incorrectly) they were trans. Bills like this make it LESS safe for women to use the restroom or other sex-specific areas in peace, because now anyone can harass a woman in a private space by demanding she "prove she's a woman." It is frankly embarrassing that our representatives are wasting our time and taxes on bills that protect no one and only encourage people to accuse & persecute each other.

Dana Azurin

Self, engineer

Pflugerville, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected I oppose SB8. This bill will have weirdos or drunk men harrassing women to prove their gender and making us feel unsafe.

Deborah Miller

Self

Arp, TX

This bill should also cover All State government offices as well as schools both in public and private. If possible should force businesses to also not allow men/boys in women's bathrooms, changing areas, locker rooms. Men do not belong in women's areas. Same goes for women that want to go into men's areas.

Katherine Metzroth

Self - Senior Manager of Software Engineering

Austin, TX

I oppose SB 8 because I was raised to believe Jesus implored us to love and respect all humans.

Once upon a time, a little girl in third grade wanted to ask out a boy. Her mom said “Nice girls don’t call boys.” The girl thought ‘Well. I don’t know what I am, but I’m not a nice girl.’

Fast forward to my junior year of college. I walked into an 8am speech class at Texas A&M University and spotted someone sitting in my seat of choice. I plopped myself down right next to C.

Having decided I was interested, I went with the age old pickup line “Is that a pencil you’re writing with?” Shockingly, it worked.

Not long after that I emailed C. Forty emails a day for a few weeks led to me inviting C dancing.

On our first official date, C cooked me dinner, we went to Midnight Yell, and then saw The Matrix.

I fell in love with C’s silvery sage green eyes and we’ve been married for 25 years. For the first 23 of those years I spent a lot of time trying to be happy enough for two people.

I didn’t know why C was sad. I just knew that she was.

Every time I left town I worried she might not be alive when I returned. I lived with that fear, a stone in the pit of my belly for 23 years.

She came out to me as trans a couple of years ago and it’s been incredible to see her so happy and full of joy. She’s funnier. She sings. She glows with the light of getting to be herself.

Sadly for me, the rock in my belly is now attached to the fear that someone else will hurt her because of ignorant bills like SB 8. It is nice to have moments of incredible joy with her to soften the sharp edges of my fear.

It’s been mind boggling to watch people who walked through the dark times alongside her pull away now that she’s full of joy rather than embrace discomfort for a little while.

She’s the same person. She was a woman all along.

~~~

Thank you for reading.

Cody Sloan

self

Los Angeles, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Lora Ferguson  
self/athletic trainer  
Garland, TX

I am strongly against the passage of SB 8 for many reasons. Trans and gender non-conforming (TGNC) individuals should be free to use the facilities, including bathrooms, that align with their gender identity. People who are TGNC are more likely to be assaulted for being who they are. These are people who just need to use the restroom for crying out loud! As a cisgender woman, I feel much more comfortable with someone who is trans or gender non-conforming using the same bathroom as me than having people trying to police who is or is not a woman. This is about controlling people and nothing else. There have already been cases where people have been incorrectly assaulted and harassed even though they were cisgender women. This will happen in Texas and people will be hurt. This bill is hateful and will hurt people. This bill should not ever be passed. Also, it will be challenged in the courts and it will be overturned like all the other "bathroom" bills.

Lynda Butcher, Dr.  
Self, Psychologist  
Plano, TX

I am strongly opposed to this bill. It is a mean spirited, unnecessary law that was conceived of out of political gamesmanship. Creating a false narrative that women need protection in the bathrooms with zero evidence of a real threat is creating fear and animus toward any person who doesn't look as "feminine" as she should according to any random citizen, is essentially deputizing those citizens to scrutinize and harass select individuals who are just trying to go about their business. It is dangerous and people will be harmed. You should be held personally accountable for the harms this bill will bring about, as you are only passing this bill for personal political gain. It will protect no one, and it will harm many.

Sheila Bean  
self  
Lampasas, TX

Private spaces for women must be protected by the passage of this Bill. Privacy provides safety and should be provided in locker rooms, schools, prisons, women shelters and all public bathrooms. This is just common sense!!! Family or common bathrooms are available in most public facilities and can be easily accessed by individuals who are 'confused' about their own personal sexual identity.

John R. Bean  
self  
San Antonio, TX

I am the father of 2 lovely young ladies and strongly believe their safety and protection in schools, bathrooms, and locker rooms is necessary at all times. You would no more have them change clothes in public areas so do not allow non-female, confused or deviant individuals into these private places. This would also apply to the safety of women in prison and women's shelters. God made two sexes and we need to protect them both in their private places.

Brian Lozano  
Self  
Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or genitals inspected. I oppose this bill because it's a validation of our free will and body.

William Carter  
William Carter - electrical engineer  
Whitehouse, TX

Please support this bill

Allison Zarate  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

My name is Allison and I am writing in opposition of SB 8 and any other bills that may reflect this legislation.

Sasha St.Martin  
Self  
Austin, TX

I am writing to urge you to oppose the proposed bathroom ban legislation. Far from increasing public safety, these laws actually make women, children, and gender non-conforming people less safe.

Bathroom bans force people—especially transgender and gender non-conforming individuals—to use facilities where they are far more likely to face harassment or violence. They also create a chilling effect for parents with children and women who may be targeted for simply “not looking feminine enough.” These policies invite strangers to police who belongs in a restroom, putting countless people at risk.

Public safety is best served by inclusive policies that respect privacy and dignity. Everyone deserves to use the restroom without fear. I urge you to stand against this harmful legislation.

Birdie Adler  
Self - attorney  
Austin, TX

I am a 29 year old woman. I am an attorney. I am the woman you held the door open for in the elevator and the one you smiled at in the grocery store. I am a regular citizen of Texas and am no more threat to any woman as any other stranger woman is. To force me to use the men’s bathroom does not protect any woman but it puts me in definite danger. You would never know I am trans, and men that want to hurt women will always find ways to do so.

This is cruel and honestly I’m not sure how those in favor of this bill and especially its sponsors sleep at night. How can you call yourself a Christian and then have zero empathy. We are tired. Leave us alone and do something productive for the state of Texas. This bill should not pass.

Elisa Gonzales  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

This bathroom law will only increase harassment and is similar to segregation. By targeting trans gender and nonbinary people it puts everyone in an unsafe situation.

Cadence Palomino  
Self  
Austin, TX

I oppose this bill. None of us are safe until trans people are safe. If we begin to question people on their gender identity, who's to say it'll stop at you? Anyone could be accused, and then be asked to "prove" their worthy to enter a certain bathroom. Disgusting. It would only give those who already display hate for the trans community more ammunition for violence, and will encourage the REAL pervs, to ask women to show them their body parts. All over a bodily function that everyone has to do daily. What do you expect them to do? Not to go out of fear for their safety? We can't keep demonizing trans people. They are not the problem, it's the way society makes them out to be that's the problem. We are all just humans.

Erin Noskin  
Self  
Burleson, TX

No men in women's restrooms, ever !

Corey Royse  
self, Software Engineer  
Bedford, TX

At a time when Texans are still reeling from catastrophic flooding and requiring urgent assistance, I think it is extremely shameful that the Texas Legislature is spending valuable time and taxpayer money during a special session in an attempt to make a political showboat out of a bill designed to hurt ordinary Texans of any gender - be they trans or otherwise. Even if I agreed to the fundamental premise that transgender Texans pose some threat to anyone else, policing facilities by apparent gender will be an agonizing boondoggle to enforce, with money being wasted accusing non-transgender Texans of being trespassers based solely on vague notions of how male or female individuals "ought" to look to the enforcer.

I expect our legislature to represent our interests, and as such I strongly recommend that they disregard this wasteful and ill-intentioned bill as soon as possible and consider action that will actually provide material benefits to Texans that need it most, such as further assistance to those hurting in the wake of the recent flooding or strengthening our emergency response systems so that fewer people are hurt the next time disaster inevitably strikes.

I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Corey Royse (he, him)  
Software Engineer  
Bedford, Texas

Lauren Alindogan  
self  
Pflugerville, TX

SB8 is a dangerous bill that would violate Texans' constitutional right to privacy. All citizens deserve the right to use the bathroom in peace without fear of invasive genital inspections. Secondly, government-mandated bathroom gender policing and genital inspections are a massive waste of taxpayer money. This bill is grotesquely unconstitutional, wasteful, and extremely invasive.

Leo Tyler Castillo  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

?

I am writing today to urge you to oppose SB8. This law is not just restrictive—it is violent. By banning abortion as early as six weeks and deputizing private citizens to police deeply personal medical decisions, SB8 strips people of their autonomy, dignity, and safety. It forces vulnerable Texans into dangerous situations, punishes providers, and weaponizes neighbors against one another. No one should live under fear that their health care choices could lead to harassment, lawsuits, or worse. Please take a stand against this cruel bill and protect the rights, health, and humanity of your constituents.

Stacy Lugo  
Myself  
Georgetown, TX

Keep men and boys out of women's bathrooms! We need to protect our children.

Amber Baldwin  
Self  
Pflugerville, TX

The concept that restroom facilities are currently problematic for public safety is a manufactured issue.

The only people currently at risk utilizing restroom facilities are the people this legislation targets for private civil action.

Stephanie Vela, Ms  
Trans Community  
Saginaw, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the restroom in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

natalie baltazar  
self/bartender  
Austin, TX

Trans women and men should be able to use whatever bathroom they choose to.

Emily Kostiuk  
Self  
Houston, TX

In favor of this bill.

Katrina Taylor  
Women's Liberation Front  
San Marcos, TX

Women's Liberation Front SUPPORTS House Bill 843 which clearly defines sex based terms as written in law.

Women's Liberation Front is a national non-partisan Radical Feminist 501(c)(3) nonprofit that defends, works to restore, and advance the sex-based rights of women and girls. We support HB 843 on the grounds that you cannot protect and advance the rights of that which you cannot define.

The terms "woman" and "girl" had been expanded in recent years to include anyone who "feels" like a woman or girl based on "gender identity," a belief that one may have a gendered soul that could be incongruent with their sexed body. The idea that one may be a girl or a woman by "gender identity" is often based on stereotyped behavior, preferences, or other false beliefs that are not based on the material reality of being female. Because of this expanded definition and the ambiguous nature of what it means to "feel" like a woman or girl for someone who is not, women and girls have had their accomplishments and participation in athletic achievement robbed of them by males who retain their athletic advantages and their dignity, privacy, and safety violated by males who have identified into their spaces and prisons.

A sampling of such instances include Darren Agee Merager, a serial sex offender who identifies as a woman. He exposed himself partially erect to women and a minor girl at the Los Angeles based Wi Spa and later insisted after complaints were filed that there ought to be a "public exposure" exception for men like him who expose themselves in women's spaces. In March of 2022, Will "Lia" Thomas became the first man to win the NCAA Championship in the women's category, thereby taking placements from women along the way. Violent male offenders like Dana Rivers are currently being housed in Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla in recognition of California's SB 132, The Transgender Respect, Agency and Dignity Act, which allows male criminals to be housed at a facility according to their gender identity and be searched by a male or female prison employee according to their preference. Tremaine Carroll, another man who identified as a woman, is currently being charged with two counts of forcible rape that took place while he was housed at that same women's facility.

Women and girls must have their material reality recognized in language and in law in order to uphold fairness in public participation and prevent such offenses from happening.

Women's Liberation Front urges the state of Texas to vote YES on SB 8 in recognition of the sex-based reality we live in when addressing public policy.

Thank you for reviewing our testimony. WoLF is available to serve as a resource for you if you have questions or would like more information about the importance of single-sex sports, or any topic related to gender ideology and sex-based inequalities.

Written testimony prepared by:

Sharon Byrne  
Executive Director  
Women's Liberation Front

Sandra Vela  
Self  
Cedar Park, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Sandra and I live in Cedar Park, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address real violence against women. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harms trans Texans.

Missy Smith  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

For / In favor of. I will be watching this vote.

Mar B  
Self  
Houston, TX

DO NOT PASS THIS NONSENSE. THERE ARE BETTER THINGS TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THAN THR BATHROOM. LIKE HOW MANY PEDOPHILES THERE ARE IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM. DO NOT PASS THIS BILL

Summer Wood  
Self  
Austin, TX

I oppose SB8. We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected.

maureen zachas  
self  
Austin, TX

This is ridiculous.. instead of focusing on getting aid to the Kerville flood. Or making sure teachers/schools have enough founding or literally anything else that's important. You're wasting time debating what bathroom people should use. Republicans claim to be the party that loves freedom, how is this freedom. How will you enforce this rule? Are people going to have to flash their genitals? (i shouldn't even have to explain why that's bad) Or are you gonna have someone guarding bathrooms checking IDs? (another harmful and dangerous and invasive option) Or are you gonna go based off looks? Which is harmful because even biological men and women can have features that make them look more like the opposite gender despite aligning with their gender assigned at birth. Leave the LGBTQIA community alone and focus on helping people get off the streets. Raising the min wage for the first time in almost 2 decades. Literally anything else that ACTUALLY helps the people here in texas.

William McWhorter, Chairman  
Republican Party of Gregg County/Self  
Longview, TX

Good afternoon, I am reaching out to respectfully encourage all committee members to support this critical legislation. It is unfortunate we are at this point in society where this has to be addressed, nonetheless we must do everything in our power to protect women and school aged girls in locker rooms and bathrooms. This policy will ensure these girls have the needed privacy, safety, and dignity. Thank you for your attention and service, and I look forward to seeing this important bill pass.

Emily Hayward

Self

Austin, TX

As a Texan and US citizen, I feel the right to use gender fitting bathroom is one that should be shared by all people- including transgender citizens. I oppose SB8. Please consider allowing all people to use the restroom that aligns with their gender. Thank you.

Mark Delarosa

Self, student

Austin, TX

Ridiculous overreach and a waste of time. Texans are dying from extreme weather and politicians are trying to police who can take a piss and where. This bill is a disgrace to the people of Texas and we wont stand for it. This is a blatant attempt to institutionalize trans people, this bill protects literally no one. Shameful.

Marissa Dickson

Self, Graphic Designer

Austin, TX

My name is Marissa, I'm a born and raised Texan, and a cisgender woman who lives in Austin. I'm writing in opposition to Senate Bill 8. Anti-trans policies like the Texas Women's Privacy Act do nothing to protect women, and if anything, put us at an increased risk of harm. They make women liable to be scrutinized based on our outward sex characteristics, and make us vulnerable to invasive inspections, harassment and assault if we don't meet certain standards of femininity. Over the past few months, we've seen multiple instances in the news of non-transgender women being harassed for entering the women's restroom while not meeting said standards. This kind of transphobic hysteria is what women will become subject to in public spaces if this policy takes effect.

There are plenty of non-transgender women who are, say, over 6ft, muscular, have a masculine jaw, or short hair; some have facial hair, or a flat chest. All of these women will be made vulnerable to the impact of this bill. Trans women do not pose a unique threat against women in shared spaces, and assuming that their presence inherently comes with the threat of violence is textbook prejudice. Again, this policy will do nothing to actually protect women from harm, it will merely soothe conservative anxieties about having to share space on this earth with a trans or gender nonconforming person.

What this policy will do, however, is put trans and intersex Texans at a significantly increased risk of harm. For example, trans people who work in the public sector will be forced to either forgo using the work bathroom throughout their entire shift, or use a bathroom designated for a gender they don't identify with, putting them in danger of assault or harassment. This then creates a barrier to employment, pushing an already vulnerable community further to the fringes. Trans and intersex Texans must be able to move through the world without facing additional barriers for simply being who they are. I urge you to vote against Senate Bill 8.

Teresa Cook

Self

Longview, TX

SB 8 is a common sense legislation. It minimizes the risk of traumatizing young girls in a private setting, limits the young male being alone with a young girl in a non secure setting, and provides added confidence to parents their daughter will be safer when alone in a nonsecured environment.

Lisa Estep  
self retired  
Richardson, TX

I am writing to express my opposition to SB4, which claims to protect women by forcing trans people to use the bathroom of their sex at birth.

I am 64 years old. If you don't include junior high and high school (in which the biggest threats came from gang girls bullying other girls in the bathroom), I have never felt threatened in a public bathroom. Never. In my 64 years of life. Like using isolated stairwells or walking to my car after dark, I use caution any time I enter an empty public space. But it is so rare to be in an empty multi-stall bathroom. If I have concerns for my safety, I choose another bathroom or wait until someone else goes in.

The Texas Tribune tells me that the first bathroom bill was filed in 2015. I remember the bill in 2017, when the threat of economic backlash was so great that the Texas legislature decided it was too risky to pursue it. You all were concerned that the state would lose money if businesses and tourists boycotted Texas.

What has changed? Why are we no longer concerned about economic activity? Why is it now okay to bully and harass a tiny minority of Texans under the guise of protecting women?

I also wonder, why are you not concerned about protecting men from women in bathrooms? I frequently see women entering men's bathrooms at crowded sports games or concerts. Why are you not saying this bill is necessary to protect the sanctity of men's spaces?

Where are the crime statistics that show that Texas has a problem with sexual assault in women's bathrooms? Who is going to monitor the bathrooms? Are you allocating funds for businesses to hire security for that purpose or to protect themselves from false claims?

This bill does not protect women. I think you know that. In my opinion, it is intended only to signal to other MAGA Republicans around the country that you are just as narrow-minded as they are.

Senators, please show respect to all Texans and oppose this bill.

Jason Folks  
Self; Compliance Director  
Carrollton, TX

To whom it may concern:

I don't know how the future will judge us with respect to our concerns about gender, but I'm confident it will - as have we with respect to previous generations - with respect to kindness to others. I have loved ones who are transgender; I've also used public restroom facilities with those I've learned later are transgender. The result was the same: none of them tried to rape me. I was NONE the wiser in the latter case; he (yes, HE) wanted to use the bathroom where HE felt most comfortable. There was never any invasion of my rights, my space, my security. HE only wanted to urinate in a space where HE felt most comfortable. There are multiple states that currently offer mixed gender bathrooms, so men and women could enter the same space and do what they need to do and get on with their day. And, oh, yes. The Cryptid of the Rapist Who Has Been Waiting His Whole Life to Be Allowed Into the Women's Bathroom... this guy doesn't exist. And if he does? He was already angling ways to get into places he doesn't belong to commit his heinous acts. Similar to gun laws, right? We don't have GUN LAWS because we don't want to infringe upon the rights of law abiding citizens. Please, this is such a hateful and pearl-clutching provision. Be better than this.

Savannah Wagner

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Savannah, and I am writing to oppose SB 8. Though bills like this claim to protect women, women will be the most negatively impacted by them. In action, this bill will be invoked by average people policing other average people based on appearance. Cisgender women who have more masculine appearances will be disproportionately targeted. They will be harassed and interrogated in spaces where they should feel safe. This is not a hypothetical. It is already happening, in cases such as Gerika Mudra's, Dani Davis's, and Kalaya Morton's. These women were harassed for their appearances and accused of being transgender, even though none of them are.

This bill is fearmongering about transgender people in a way that will make life harder for trans and cis Texans alike. Trans Texans are not cis women's enemies. Both groups want to have control and privacy regarding their bodies, they want to be safe from harassment in public, and they want to use the restroom in peace. SB 8 will protect neither group, and that is why I oppose it.

Cate Prikryl

Self / Student

Austin, TX

As a student at an incredibly diverse school, I cannot stress the importance enough of all public spaces, but school buildings in particular, of being inclusive and accessible to students and people from all walks of life. NOT just Christians, or Whites, or straight and cisgender people, but EVERYONE. As a 17 year old girl I am horrified that I even have to be doing this in the first place when I should be enjoying my Senior year of high school and focusing on applying to college. I think to myself all the time, "how did we get here"? How has the United States, a country founded on the principles of freedom and opportunity, gone so backwards? I usually love my state, but right now I am ashamed to call Texas my home. My generation will not and should not rest until all of our brothers and sisters are provided with equal opportunity. People act like it's complicated, but it's not. It's basic human rights.

Jennifer Thall

Self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose SB8. This bill is an obscene example of gross government overreach into the private lives of Texans.

Meghan Daniel, Mrs

Self - Senior Product Owner

Leander, TX

I would like lawmakers to stop worrying about who is using which bathroom and focus on making sure our children are housed, fed and educated. The bill will instead of helping girls and women feel safer, mean that cisgendered individuals will be harassed about whether they are in the right bathroom. Transgender individuals do not pose a threat to women or girls and should be allowed to use the restroom they prefer without having to prove anything to anyone. If they break the rules that already exist for indecency or assault, that should be handled with existing laws. Even entertaining and discussing this proposed law is a waste of taxpayer money. Flood relief and supporting Texas schools are much more important things to spend time discussing in the legislative session.

Cary Slape

self

Round Rock, TX

Please vote 'YES' to ensure that biological males must use boys/mens bathrooms and locker rooms and that biological females must use girls/womens bathrooms and locker rooms, no exceptions.

Barbara Smurawa  
Self/Registered Nurse  
Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Barbara and I live in Austin, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans, instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the needs of Texans impacted by the flooding this past summer. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain when our leaders could instead spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on making a meaningful difference for real safety threats, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that are designed to target and harm trans Texans. We can do better! Thank you!

marina ortiz  
self  
McAllen, TX

Extremely AGAINST

Jessica Torres  
Self  
Austin, TX

I am writing to oppose this bill because it directly impacts people like me in ways that may not be immediately obvious. I have short hair, and more than once I've been mistaken for being in the "wrong" bathroom, even though I was exactly where I belonged. Each time this happens, I'm left feeling uncomfortable, singled out, and unsafe in a space that should be private and ordinary.

This bill would only make those situations worse. It invites more suspicion and judgment of people based on appearance rather than who they are. For me, something as simple as going to the restroom could become a source of stress and fear. No one should feel they have to justify their presence in a bathroom just because they don't match someone else's expectations.

I urge you to consider the real human impact of this legislation and reject it.

Susan Barnes  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

There's still time if you can do this right now. Hopefully we've made it easy for you to participate.

For  
HB7 (Stop Abortion Pill Bill) and  
SB8 (Public Facility Privacy Bill to correct CoSA's NDO)  
TODAY

Texas House Public Comment  
For Aug. 22, 2025  
<https://comments.house.texas.gov/home?c=c450>  
TxLege

Sample letter for HB7 to make your own

Please pass HB7 (Woman And Child Protection Act (WCPA)) to help save Women and Babies from chemical abortions and that pollute our water system.

- Texas should be able to protect Texans from companies that sell and profit from abortion pills that hurt people/Texans
  - Texas Women who are harmed by illegal abortions need to be able to have recourse against abortion pill manufacturers and distributors
  - Texas and Texans should be able to stop abortionists and distributors who break Texas laws
  - Abortion Pills harm everybody
    - kill a preborn child who is sharing space, flesh and blood with his/her mom
    - hurt the mom of the preborn child who take the abortion pill unsupervised and unmonitored and many times (1 in 10) have to be rushed to the hospital for medical care to save their life
    - Children are flushed down the toilet and into the sanitary water system (SWS) where evidence proves that Fats, Oils, & Triglycerides, which includes human and animal tissue, clog the SWS and causes Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)
    - Hormonal Contraceptive Chemicals are passed through the chemical abortion and women's urine and blood into the SWS which cannot be removed from recycled, treated water that is consumed by all residents causing many side effects to humans and humanity, and other animals
- Texas is pro-life, yet over the last dozen years, that mostly focused on stopping surgical abortions, the killing of pre-born children has tragically just mutated to chemical abortions. The net effect is that due to the chemical abortion killing pills, approximately the same amount of babies being killed remains the same.

The Texas Legislature needs to stop the killing pill so we can indeed be a pro-life state, protect women/moms, defend babies, and preserve our drinking water for all Texans.

More than 130 Pro-Life Leaders and Organizations have called on the Governor and the TxLege to act to pass the Woman and Child Protection Act and end the hidden invasion of chemical abortion.

The Texas Electorate has made it clear in its voting that they are ProLife and want Texas to be ProLife.

It's critical to know:

•Every "successful" abortion ends a human life.

•Abortion pills are dangerous to women. A groundbreaking study by the Ethics and Public Policy Center, the largest-ever of its kind, examined over 865,000 cases from 2017-2023 and found:

- 1 in 10 women who take abortion pills suffer serious complications, including hemorrhage, sepsis, and infection.1
- These drugs are 22 times more dangerous than the FDA currently reports.2

•In 2023 alone, abortion pills accounted for 700,000 abortions in the U.

Gina Cramer  
SELF  
San Antonio, TX

I strongly oppose SB8 and all disgusting attempts to demonize marginalized communities. An attack on trans Texans is an attack on all Texans!!!

K A, Miss  
Self  
Austin, TX

You all are concerned with the wrong thing here. Your fear is men entering women's bathroom with ill intentions. Trans women are not the issue here, straight men are. And this bill won't solve that

Diane Pope  
self  
San Antonio, TX

With all the important issues that are crying for attention especially after the floods your actions to spend your limited time fighting about who can go to the bathroom where seems trivial. How about how people are going to rebuild homes and business that were lost because the state hasn't had disaster plans in place and regularly checked for compliance. How about insurance companies who are limiting policies to cover fewer losses and increasing prices. How about I upcoming water shortage.

Kathy Boyd  
Self  
Spring, TX

Trans should be allowed to use bathroom they have trans to.

Sherman Moody Jr, JR  
SELF  
Flint, TX

VOTE FOR SB-8

I WON'T STAND FOR MY 6 YEAR OLD GRAND DAUGHTER TO BE EXPOSED TO SUCH NONSENSE. YOU NEVER HEAR OF TRANS GIRLS WANTING TO BE IN THE BOYS BATHS , ALWAYS TRANS BOYS WANTING TO BE IN THE GIRLS. I DON'T THINK THE TRANS PROCEEDURE WAS QUITE COMPLETE. A LITLLE EXTRA SURGERY MIGHT FIX THAT PROBLEM AND THE BOYS MIGHT DECIDE NOT TO BE TRANS.

Erica Gould  
self  
Hutto, TX

As a female with three daughters, I strongly endorse SB 8 protecting biological females from sharing restrooms, locker rooms, women's prisons, government building including all public schools, women's shelters and any other place where women's lives and bodies can be put in danger from a biological male, regardless of identity. For over a hundred years, women have fought for a voice in society and 50% of the population should not be put in a potentially compromised situation without their voices considered concerning their own physical safety and well-being. In addition, government representative, both male and female have an obligation to consider that half of their constituents need and deserve certain common-sense protections. Current statistics show that 23% of reported (not actual) rapes occur in public spaces. Those spaces should be protected by laws that recognize that biological males, regardless of identity, are capable of sexual assault against women. This bill should be passed for all women, including those who serve in the government as representative of the people.

Wendy Gray

Self

Austin, TX

I oppose SB 8 because it takes away personal healthcare rights and lets strangers interfere in private decisions. It creates fear, hurts vulnerable people, and makes it harder for Texans to get safe care.

I oppose this bill because it will increase the instances of women being harassed in restrooms for not looking feminine enough.

This bill does not make our state safe

Please vote against this initiative

Catherine Conley

Self

Austin, TX

It was never about water fountains and it's not about bathrooms. I stand against sb8 and vehemently believe that it will only cause more harm to trans people and the cisgender women that people are claiming that this will "protect."

Syble Crandell

self

The Colony, TX

I stand firmly against this bill. It will cause only harm to an already marginalized group of people, like my son.

Aiden Nance

Trans Texans

McKinney, TX

We all deserve to use the restroom without fear, and as a trans person this bill harms not only me but you as well. See, anyone can be trans. You interact with us every single day and you would've never known. We are your neighbors, your grocery clerk, the person who lets you go first at a 4 way stop, the person that offered to help load your groceries. We are Texans at heart, and we all have one thing in common; southern hospitality. The truth is, we want to relieve ourselves and get on with the errands for the day. Public restrooms are filled with germs and nobody wants to be in there longer than they have to. We are not predators, we do not harm women and children. And if someone does, there must be consequences for that individual but that does not mean to punish a community for someone we do not accept. Maybe we you sat down and had a conversation you would have a different view, and the odds are you probably have. I oppose SB8, I oppose to have my privacy violated, and bless your heart.

Andrea Gonzalez, Mrs

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Please protect our children by not allowing birth males or females to go into the opposite gender restrooms. We need to protect people and especially children. Gender Dysphoria needs to be dealt with in a mental facility. Anyone who goes into the opposite sex bathroom needs to have consequences because it's a psychological condition.

Carisa ESCOBEDO-GARCIA

Self

AUSTIN, TX

This bill demonstrates a gross misunderstanding of equality and human rights. Additionally, it is an embarrassment to believe this bill is in the service of an individual's safety. This directly leads to creating a more unsafe space for a minority of our communities that deserves protection. This bill encourages exposure to threat of a protected class. Shame on the majority for not protecting the minority. A society is only as mature as its representation of how those in power protect the vulnerable.

Victoria Dipple  
Self, IT  
Round Rock, TX

Thank you for allowing the public a place for comments. I fully support this Bill to protect and honor privacy places for women and girls.

Martin Leifker  
Self  
Austin, TX

Not having a provision to accommodate those who have undergone gender reassignment surgery proves this is about making political hay more than it is about protecting anyone. No one goes through that lengthy, expensive, risky, painful process just so they can peep in a bathroom.

I'd ask for a some compassion for transgender people...they don't choose to have gender dysphoria any more than you chose your height. This is just cruel.

Olivia Wildman  
self  
Austin, TX

I strongly oppose SB8. It is nothing but a cruel and continuous attack at a vulnerable population that is the current punching bag for politics. Everyone deserves the right to use the restroom without harassment or genital speculation. Not only is it strange, invasive, and bills like this have only led to harming cisgender people as well, but at the end of the day it does nothing but divide our communities further in mistrust and bigotry. Say no to SB 8, it's just plain weird to care about where people piss this much.

Daniel Hatcher  
self  
Pflugerville, TX

SB 8 is not about safety. It is about fear. It is about branding transgender Texans as threats when the truth is they are already the ones under siege.

Chair Hughes—you are the architect of this cruelty. You know there is no crisis in Texas bathrooms, no epidemic to solve. And yet you drive this bill forward, not to protect anyone, but to score points on the backs of kids already at risk. History will not remember your soft words, only the harm your pen delivers.

Vice Chair Paxton—you present yourself as a champion of children. But this bill endangers children. It forces them into hostile bathrooms, exposes them to bullying and violence, and punishes the schools that try to protect them. That is not safeguarding families—it is betraying them.

Senator Middleton—you drape yourself in “values,” but the values in this bill are shame and cruelty. There is no virtue in humiliating a teenager for existing. There is no morality in criminalizing compassion.

And to the rest of the committee—Bettencourt, Birdwell, Hall, Hinojosa, Parker, Perry, Schwertner—you may not have authored this bill, but your vote gives it life. You know the facts: trans Texans are not predators. They are our neighbors, coworkers, and children. What they face is not suspicion, but harassment. Not safety, but fear. SB 8 will pour gasoline on that fire.

And then—Senator Zaffirini. For decades, you have stood for fairness, equity, and dignity. In this room, you are surrounded by colleagues who confuse cruelty with courage. But you know better. Your dissent can be a torch of integrity, proof that not every senator was willing to etch their name onto this shameful legacy.

Members, let us be clear: sixty-eight percent of transgender Texans already report harassment in restrooms. Suicide rates soar when young people are denied dignity. SB 8 guarantees more of both.

This is not safety—it is segregation repackaged. If it passes, the humiliation, the lawsuits, the violence, the despair—it will all trace back here.

You have a choice today: to legislate cruelty, or to legislate compassion. To follow fear, or to follow conscience.

I urge you—vote no on SB 8. Stand with dignity. Stand with fairness. Stand with Texans.

Lauren Wyatt  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

**I OPPOSED SB 8. STOP DISRESPECTING TEXANS**

Daniel Hatcher  
self  
Pflugerville, TX

Chair Hunter, Vice Chair Hernandez, Members—

SB 8 is not about safety. It is about fear. It is about using the machinery of this Legislature to shame, punish, and endanger transgender Texans.

Chair Hunter—you have chosen to make yourself the face of this cruelty. You know this bill solves nothing. There is no crisis in Texas bathrooms. No epidemic to address. And still, you push it forward—because dividing Texans is easier than serving them. History will remember not your politeness, but the harm you have chosen to author.

Representative Shaheen—you claim “family values,” but there is nothing of family in forcing a child into a hostile bathroom. There is nothing of protection in exposing them to violence and then fining their school for trying to shield them. This bill is not family values—it is family betrayal.

Representative Slawson—you posture as a defender of women, but women are not made safer when you deputize strangers to police their bodies in bathrooms. This is not protection—it is control, echoing the same fear-mongering once used to defend Jim Crow water fountains.

And to the rest of the Republican members—you may not have written this bill, but your votes give it power. You know transgender Texans are not predators. You know this bill guarantees harassment, lawsuits, and despair. And if you choose to look away, your names will still be etched into the harm it causes.

Vice Chair Hernandez—you and your Democratic colleagues have long defended fairness and dignity. I urge you: continue that fight here. Be the moral counterweight in this room, the proof that not every member chose cruelty over compassion.

Members, let’s be clear: sixty-eight percent of transgender Texans already report harassment in restrooms. Suicide rates soar when youth are denied dignity. SB 8 guarantees more of both.

This is not safety. It is segregation, repackaged for a new generation. If it passes, every humiliation, every assault, every lawsuit will trace back to this committee.

You have a choice today: to legislate fear, or to legislate fairness. To side with cruelty, or to stand with Texans.

I urge you—vote no on SB 8.

Melissa Gomez  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

This bill is unconstitutional at its core. It is the very antithesis to what we should embody. Which is inclusion and freedom. This bill is simply another stab at our freedoms proposed by men who only care about women's rights when it's convenient for them. To allow such a bill to pass would be one more failure in a long line of failures. We must do better. We must be better.

Bailey Petty  
Self  
Austin, TX

I believe everyone should have the freedom to be their authentic selves, with access to spaces and facilities without judgement or discrimination. At the end of the day, we’re all human — and supporting one another with respect and empathy is how we create a truly inclusive world.

Manuela Gonzalez  
Self, Communications Coordinator  
San Antonio, TX

Bills such as these propagate the political theater enacted by politicians who enrich themselves off of infighting between the working class. Pressing issues are impacting Texans today including housing crises, the pending impact of tariffs, increased costs of living, inability to feed their children, drunk driving, substance abuse and dependencies, access to quality public education, and so on. The topic around transgender folks, who make up less than 1% of the global population, is a distraction for which Texans pay the price. I beg of you all to quit using this topic as a political dog whistle for your christofascist ideologies. This bill serves to harm, divide, and deepen the gap between who deserves dignity and respect and who does not. Please vote no on SB8.

Brianna Hudock  
Self  
Austin, TX

This is fucking stupid and fascist. As a cis woman, I will only be comfortable when my fellow trans women are comfortable using our bathroom. It's our bathroom. This law wouldn't change that truth, it would only allow your attempt to replace your humanity with a demonic addiction to control and wield power over others to finally succeed in becoming fully realized. I'd wish you pathetic bigots an eternity burning in some fictional Hell, but I think whatever sad, terrified state of hate you are currently too weak to rise above is what Hell actually is. Try being still enough for once in your fucking life to listen to someone else, to imagine for one moment what it would be like to be in the body of anyone but yourself, and then see what you look like in their eyes. Realize your need to dominate others makes YOU the enemy of all of humankind. So what if you win this battle, you will be losing the war to retain your own soul. Fix your hearts or die.

Jenny Garrett  
Myself  
Ponder, TX

I am a trans man. I look like a man. No woman is going to want me in their bathroom. I hurt nobody using the men's room in a stall to pee. This bill is disgusting because why do you care so much about our parts? We are hurting no one. Should be going after the white cis pedophilic pastors. You guys are going after the wrong community instead of worrying about real problems. I do not think we will stand down. There is way more of us. It is smarter to come together rather than tear each other down. We are meant to be land of the free. Who we choose to identify as does not affect you in any way. This In humanizing bill is also going to cause more suicides in LGBTQIA youth. You are hurting children not us. Imagine if a bill passed that for any reason made your kid illegal or even you for perhaps the way your hair looks or for getting a nose job which is getting surgery to change your body. Imagine you can't simply use the bathroom due to a bill and you wet yourself or worse. Then you have to go home from work or miss an appointment. Nobody is hurt by us privately using the restrooms. This seems like an obsessive bill just to see our body parts and if that's really disgustingly what you are into, there is adult porn for that. This bill is sick and makes you all look majorly like creeps. Hope you all make the right decision.

Amanda Blackwelder  
Self  
Austin, TX

I strongly oppose SB 8. This bill, under the guise of regulating bathrooms, will cause real harm to women, transgender people, and anyone who does not conform to narrow stereotypes of femininity or masculinity. SB 8 opens the door to harassment, policing, and humiliation for people simply trying to use the restroom. Women who are not traditionally "feminine presenting" will be particularly vulnerable to being harassed, questioned, or forced out of public facilities. Transgender and nonbinary people will face even greater risks of discrimination and violence. Everyone deserves the basic dignity of safely using the restroom. Our communities are stronger when public spaces are welcoming, not when neighbors are encouraged to monitor and report on one another. SB 8 not only threatens civil rights, but it also encourages invasive surveillance and lawsuits that waste resources and endanger people who are simply living their lives. Instead of protecting anyone, this bill increases stigma, harassment, and the likelihood of harm. I urge you to reject SB 8 and uphold the right of all Texans to access public spaces safely and with dignity.

Jennifer Jones

Self

Bagwell, TX

Why is this even a discussion? Common sense dictates men shouldn't go into women's bathrooms. On 9/11, I didn't worry about the millions of Muslims in the world. I worried about the 11-13 that sought to do Americans harm. This bill isn't about the number of men suddenly declaring themselves women, it's about the 1 that will harm my grandchild. Because if the government keeps overlooking this, it WILL become some parents worst nightmare bc we the people didn't fight against it. Bc we failed our children out of fear of offending someone's delusional feelings.

Ryan Bradley

Self / Writer

Georgetown, TX

People should be allowed the bathroom of their choosing. It's already illegal to sexually assault or harass people. This bill seems obviously designed to hurt trans individuals. It's wrong and you should be ashamed.

Lamar Jones

Self

Bagwell, TX

This should not be even a discussion when it's common sense. Texas, step up and protect your wives, mothers, daughters, aunts, sisters and grandchildren.

Karen Branca

Self, student

Austin, TX

Every Texan deserves the right to use the public facilities for the gender they identify with, without interference from the state. I oppose SB8.

Jennie King

Self

Buda, TX

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB8. This bill imposes rigid, government-mandated rules on the use of public facilities based on sex, which does not increase safety and instead creates an environment of surveillance, confusion, and potential harassment. It puts schools, businesses, and public institutions in the difficult position of policing individuals rather than focusing on their core responsibilities.

SB8 disproportionately affects transgender and gender nonconforming Texans, sending a harmful message that their identities are not valid or respected. Instead of solving real public safety or privacy concerns, the bill invites lawsuits, diverts public resources, and fosters division in our communities.

Texans deserve policies that protect privacy, ensure safety, and uphold dignity for all. SB8 fails on all these counts and would harm both individuals and institutions across the state. I urge you to reject this legislation.

Carl Raines  
Self  
Denton, TX

SB 8 does not protect anyone, specifically women, but simply empowers individuals to harass and discriminate against an already marginalized section of our Texas community. We have already seen, in other states, that bills like these also open cis gender women up to harassment and violence from individuals who, for some unjustifiable reason, do not see them as feminine enough to be counted as "women". Texas has no place for this bill, especially one that is trying to be passed under the cover of speed and shadow.

Mary Beth Lawson, Mrs  
First Ladies Republican Club-- Garland  
Garland, TX

I urge you to support SB8- Women's Privacy Act now! It is imperative that we protect our young women/ girls from having boys in girls bathrooms and locker rooms! This bill  
Must pass and be signed into law! Thank you! Mary Lawson- Garland

Cheri Moreno  
Self retired  
Forney, TX

I urge you to support SB 8 it is critical for the dignity of our precious young girls & young women to have privacy in their locker areas. They deserve to be protected at all times in Texas schools. Support SB 8 please.

Espressohead Fox  
Self  
Tomball, TX

I am against SB 8.

Beverly Roberts  
Concerned Women for America  
Houston, TX

It is insanity to allow men and boys into women's and girls' private spaces! Stop this nonsense and pass the bill to protect us from would-be predators.

Rodney Casey, Mr  
Shackelford County Republicans  
Albany, TX

SB8 needs to be passed! We shouldn't even need to have a bill like this, but because of nonsensical thinking, we need it!  
Please do all you can to pass it!  
Sincerely,  
Rodney Casey  
Shackelford County Republican Chairman

TARA BONNER  
Self- Small Business Owner  
Austin, TX

We all deserve the FREEDOM of using the restroom in peace without our genitals being interrogated. I strongly oppose SB8.

Andrew Benko, The Rev. Dr.

I am an Episcopal Priest.

Austin, TX

I am an Episcopal priest with over 20 years parish ministry experience, a father of two high school students, and possess a Ph.D in New Testament. I oppose the passing of the latest proposed "Bathroom Bill," SB 8, in the strongest possible terms. In my more than two decades of ministry, I have known and loved parishioners of all shapes and sizes. Trans parishioners have been faithful and generous with their time and energy, devoted to good works, and are valued members of their churches. In the Episcopal Church, our Baptismal Covenant charges us to "love your neighbor as yourself," and "respect the dignity of every human being." This proposed bill does not do that, but stigmatizes and criminalizes what should be a simple necessary biological function--going to the restroom. Being forced to use the wrong restroom is disrespectful and dehumanizing. The wave of harm such a bill will do to young trans people, especially, who have no other recourse for bathroom use during the school day, is frightening to contemplate. I fear waves of bullying, teenage depression, self-harm, or even suicide will be the result among students forced, under civil penalty, to use the wrong restroom. This bill communicates that trans people are worthless, in the eyes of the Legislature passing such a bill.

While it is perhaps not as relevant a consideration in this (political) context, Jesus never directly addressed what we might call "trans" identities (or sexual orientation, for that matter) in the gospels; the closest comparable figure, the eunuch of Acts 8, is given full access to baptism and sent on his way rejoicing. Please know that this New Testament scholar, and many Christians, do not understand discriminatory policies like this bill to be compatible with Jesus' teaching and character. If the harm it will likely do is not disincentive enough, also consider that we vote.

Olivia Hernandez

self

San Antonio, TX

I am submitting this to speak against SB 8. This bill if passed will be dangerous in many ways to all Texans, not just transgender Texans. Cis gender women who do not conform to arbitrary feminine standards set by anyone making a complaint suggesting she is using the wrong restroom will face unneeded scrutiny. And when trans men begin using the women's restroom, it will cause many to be confused and possibly cause an assault upon those trans men who, while they were assigned female at birth based only on a visual inspection of their genitalia, look like cis gender men in every way.

Speaking of assaults. There are also many, many Texans who conceal/carry handguns. If a stranger begins to accuse someone and then threaten to inspect their genitalia? What do you think will happen when someone accuses, threatens and begins to attempt to physically assault another for the purpose of inspecting their genitalia. If that happens to a Texan who is carrying a weapon, things will escalate and it WILL turn deadly.

This is an absolutely unnecessary bill. It is simply a method for tormenting a small, marginalized group and is suggesting it is for the purpose of preemptively solving a problem when that "problem" is fabricated. It's made up. It's fantasy. There is not a shred of data that shows transgender Texans are a threat to women in gender assigned spaces.

I am writing today to urge you to vote no on this bill and let it die its necessary death. This will cause undue harm to innocent people and their blood will be your legacy if it passes.

J Doe

Self

Austin, TX

Leave trans/gender nonconforming people alone.

How is this bill supposed to improve the lives of Texans and visitors, genuinely?

Diane Turner

Self

Adkins, TX

Stop policing gender and start helping Texans! No one is falling for your nonsense. Texans have been affected by devastating floods and instead of addressing the real issue, you are trying to turn a very small population into the devil. Republicans are the devil. Do your job and stop targeting vulnerable groups.

JAMES GALLAGHER

self

JONESTOWN, TX

NO BATHROOM POLICE and NO BATHROOM POLICING! If your private parts are going to show then use the bathroom or space with those parts. But NO POLICING of bathrooms. Policing bathrooms is BIG GOVERNMENT run amok.

Laura Mae Lubash

Self

Austin, TX

“I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.”

Gracen Daniels

self, caretaker

Austin, TX

We all deserve the privacy to pee in peace, and this bill will result in mostly cisgendered people, even potentially minors being forced to expose themselves to prove they deserve to use a RESTROOM. To relieve themselves...That is so frightening and frankly ridiculous. There is also no reason to believe someone being gender non-conforming is in any way related to them being likely to sexually assault someone in a bathroom. Lesbians exist, and gay men exist, and if this was an actual issue and not just pure hateful discrimination, it still wouldn't fix the alleged 'problem' of people being in the same bathroom as the gender they're attracted to. This bill needs to be struck down immediately.

Andi Medrano, Mrs

Self, housewife

Lindale, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, The Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

Chelsea Williams

Myself

FORT WORTH, TX

OPPOSE. Trans people are not predators. They are simply trying to live their lives as authentically as they can. If you really cared about protecting women and girls, you wouldn't be supporting the felon and rapist in the White House. Stop scapegoating Trans people and using them as distractions from your own indiscretions.

lindt no  
self  
no, TX

I urge you to protect the right of anyone to use the facilities they are most comfortable in. Regardless of how you feel about transgender people, this bill impacts everyone, even you. According to this bill, anyone could call for penalties such as nonconsensual genital searches just because they dislike you and claim you're "secretly transgender". Do you want this to happen to you or your loved ones? It's ridiculous that precious government resources are being spent considering this instead of more important things like disaster preparedness and replacing crumbling infrastructure.

Deborah Rohan  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

Please pass SB8 to protect our young women. It is a national disgrace that women must live in fear of being molested in public restrooms and locker rooms. We need teeth in laws protecting the right of women in this great country.

Regards,  
Deborah Rohan

E B  
Self  
AUSTIN, TX

My name is concerned constituent. I live in Austin, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans-instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersection Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address assistance to victims of natural disasters. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youths. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans. Thank you, Concerned Constituent

Tanya Guthrie, Ms.  
Self / Retired  
Austin, TX

As a person of faith, I urge you to oppose this bill. I believe in dignity, safety, and justice for all and this bill would make Texas feel unsafe for trans and nonbinary people.

David Porter  
self, retired  
Bellville, TX

Gender ideology activists actively deny the truth about male and female bodies. This has led to policies allowing men into women's spaces – bathrooms, locker rooms, shelters, and other sex-segregated areas – that violate privacy and endangers the safety of women and girls where they are at their most vulnerable. This is unacceptable...period. There is no valid argument to support this violation of privacy and must be stopped now.

Latricha Dunn  
Patriot women  
Van Alstyne, TX

Pass this Bill, please

Max Bellman-Seeskin

self. Therapist

El Paso, TX

This is ridiculous, punitive, and discriminatory. Just let people go to the bathroom they feel that they should use!

Nelly Paulina Ramírez

self

Austin, TX

How many times must we ask this body for humanity? Denying trans men and women access to bathroom facilities is a violation of their rights. You will say, "We aren't denying them the right to a bathroom, it just has to correspond to their birth certificate." Well, that is denying access. This law will subject trans individuals and any individual that doesn't present in gendered stereotypical dress and haircuts to horrifying searches and request for documentation at bathroom entrances!! Have a daughter who likes short hair and is coming from soccer practice, desperate to change their pad before they have an accident? Well, ANYONE, could decide to harass your daughter for having short hair and deny her the right to a bathroom. Are we supposed to give our kids birth certificates to carry around? And that daily scenario doesn't even begin to address the egregious violations that our trans community would be subjected to? Will my trans son ever be able to go into a public bathroom safely again? Probably not? Will my trans son ever step foot in this state again after this law? Probably not. Is that the goal? Yes. What this state and this body want is to intentionally discriminate against an entire class and that is what should be criminalized. The bigotry in this state is causing our families irreparable harm and you should all be ashamed of yourselves.

Lily McKay, Ms.

Self, corporate training leader

Austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is L\*, I'm a 40 year old trans woman, and I live in Austin, TX. As a constituent, I urge you to consider compassion and human dignity for my trans, intersex, and gender expansive compatriots while considering SB 8. This bill not only perpetuates misinformation about the trans community, it puts all women at risk of harassment even beyond the LGBTQIA+ community, as proven multiple times across the country.

Instead, I would love to see our representatives address things like equitable education opportunities and housing security for all Texans. Lately, it seems that we are spending too much time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain.

So, this special session, please put first things first and focus on improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville.

Thank you for your consideration and thanks in advance for keeping the most vulnerable and marginalized Texans among us in your hearts while discussing life-changing policy. Sincerely, L\*

Sidney Hollingsworth

Self

Austin, TX

I emphatically oppose SB8. Senator Middleton's concern with surveilling the public's private parts and who goes where is, needless to say, creepy and increasingly alarming. Why is he so obsessed with policing the public's private parts when peeing? And "public" includes CHILDREN. Really, how scary is the thought of a man demanding the qualification of the genitalia of a child needing to pee? No one should have to meet criteria to use the restroom, much less prove their genitals fit within a fictional binary.

Jax Medford

Self

Austin, TX

The facts and figures are easy to find. Those in who hurt women are most often their husband or boyfriend. Those in society that hurt children are most often a family member or close family friend. By giving your time and efforts towards something like this, you are abandoning the real issues that need your attention.

Ellie Prince

Self

Fort Worth, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Ellie and I live in Fort Worth, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address Flash Flood Warnings. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Scout Vaughn

Self

Austin, TX

Being raised in Texas, the principle of, "Don't worry about other's business" always echoed through my family and other native Texan's. Within the last few years our government has turned their back on that sentiment and has become increasingly involved in what we do in our bedrooms, bathrooms, working environments, and daily life. I am sick of it, and frankly disgusted by how much our government has concerned themselves with non issues.

E R

Self

Sweetwater, TX

Dear State Affairs

My Name is Erica. This bill is a waste of your precious time and taxpayers money. It will not solve an issue, but will create one. It will put any woman who doesn't fit the subjective standars of femininity to harassment and abuse. It could even put men into women's spaces. This bill would take transgender men who have full facial hair and strong muscler bodies into women's spaces. Men who don't want to be in women's spaces. It will also take transgender women and put them in men's spaces. Spaces that are dangerous for them. All any transgender person wants is to live safe and productive lives.

I ask you to please use your time on real issues. Case in point the recent floods. Floods that took not just hard earned property, but more importantly the precious lives of too many Texans including many children who were just starting their lives. I have seen first hand the pain parents experience loosing a child from years of serving as a first responder.

Please use your precious time to address issues that actually hurt and kill our most precious resource our children.

Shannon Ayres  
Citizens Defending Freedom  
Frisco, TX

Citizens Defending Freedom is in strong support of SB 8. Our girls deserve spaces where they can change clothes, shower, and attend to personal needs without exposure to male anatomy. Our young boys need protection as well. They deserve their own spaces where they too can maintain privacy and appropriate boundaries with the opposite sex. The unfortunate reality is that some schools are allowing boys who THINK they are girls into private spaces designated for girls and I know the reverse is also happening. In my capacity as the State Education Director for CDF, I have personally spoken with parents whose children have been negatively impacted by school policies that allow this. This is devastating for our youth. We are blurring traditional boundaries and breaking down natural inhibitions that have long protected our society. When we eliminate these distinct spaces, we risk creating an environment where privacy becomes less valued, and modesty is diminished. We are forcing our children to become comfortable with the uncomfortable. This gradual erosion of boundaries is leading to a more sexualized youth—one where our children become increasingly exposed to and accepting of a more promiscuous lifestyle before they have the maturity to understand the consequences. When you vote on this bill, remember that it isn't about politics. It's about whether a 12-year-old girl should be forced to undress next to someone with male anatomy. It's about whether a 14-year-old boy should have to defend himself against false accusations that could follow him for life. I want to thank Senator Middleton for having the courage to file this bill AND for including the critical component of strong penalties for non-compliance. I urge all of you to throw our children this lifeline by voting yes to SB 8. Thank you.

Melyssa Hawes  
self-student  
Fort Worth, TX

Please do not let this bill pass because it puts children of all genders in danger and gives schools the authority to violate children's privacy, right to autonomy, and puts them in direct danger. This bill is harmful to all trans and cisgender kids.

Rebecca Embler  
Self  
Dallas, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. Regardless of your feelings about trans people, this bill would make EVERYONE unsafe. Imagine if a trans man who has been taking testosterone for years, has a beard and is stacked with muscles is now forced to use the women's restroom. This could be triggering to women who have been victims of assault. Ok, now imagine a cisgender man decides he wants to use the women's restroom to have access to women, how would we know the difference? He could easily claim he is a trans man. Do we ask people to drop their pants and show you their genitalia to prove their right to be in that space? Exposing yourself to other people, or being exposed against your own are both sex crimes. Also, this bill does not account at all for intersex individuals, are they at risk of criminal charges no matter what they choose? Also, trans people make up less than 1% of the population and have extremely low crime rates, and actually are much more likely to be the victim of a crime than the perpetrator, so this bill makes their lives more difficult and dangerous and robs them of their dignity for a risk that simply does not exist. Furthermore, what if someone is a cisgender woman who naturally looks more "masculine" or a man who looks more "feminine"? This gives people the right to harrass people because they don't look a certain way when they are just trying to fulfill a simple bodily need. This law makes everyone unsafe, robs people of their dignity and is totally unnecessary.

Kimberl Fryar  
Self - Child Life Specialist, Program Director  
Liberty Hill, TX

Please let common sense and the protection of privacy for every Texas prevail and REJECT SB 8. Every individual has the right to privacy when using the restroom. Protect this right and do not waste resources to police a law that makes NO sense. Questions related to an individual's body, their genitalia and the biological need to urinate or defecate have no place in daily interactions in government facilities and violate medical (HIPAA) and privacy laws. If illegal, inappropriate things are happening in a restroom then those behaviors can/should be addressed through all other laws designed to protect individuals in any/all environments if a crime occurs.

Charles Rickey

Self, Nonprofit Executive Director

Weatherford, TX

Sex-specific spaces exist for the protection of women, and the attempt to confuse and redefine what it means to be a women presents real danger to women. The reality of biological sex is the only reasonable basis to use for determining access to these spaces. It is loving and kind to tell the truth, and doing so is the best basis for a functioning civil society. SB 8 tells the truth about biological sex and protects women. Please support it.

Todd Phillips, Dr

self, retired

san antonio, TX

Please oppose this bill. It is a complete waste of time of the legislature, which should be spent on important topics such as flood relief and not looking in the pants of Texas citizens. Who, and how will this bill be enforced? Please grow up and spend time on the things that really affect and concern Texans. Where is the problem this bill is supposed to solve? There is no evidence to support legislation like this being needed. Please get a life.

Madeline Ward

Myself

Humble, TX

Bathroom bans and similar bans on trans and intersex people using the facilities that align with their gender identities will do nothing but further harm trans and intersex people, potentially putting them in unsafe situations. This would only further stigmatize a minority group that is currently facing unfair treatment and prejudice due to similar laws and politics that aim at restricting the rights and freedoms of people that do not align with post colonial Christian faith based ideas of gender and sex. Religious beliefs should not be weaponized against minority groups, science and biology support the existence of intersex and non binary people as well as the existence of transgender people and supporting their transition rather than the extremely harmful and abusive alternative of conversion therapy and no religious opinion can change this.

Carol Dirks

Self

Frisco, TX

I'm a United Methodist. The God I follow loves everyone since we are ALL made in his image. And I bet He doesn't care what bathroom anyone uses. So why is the Texas legislature wasting time on this issue? Again? Please vote against this bill.

Liz Ferry

self

Cedar Park, TX

**VOTE NO – THIS IS MORONIC.** Your proposed bill is poorly written with GROSS and UNREALISTIC objectives. This bill does not protect any HUMAN. It HARMS humans and creates HURTFUL and very AWKWARD environments on both sites of the political agenda. Did you think this through? Are we supposed to flash our boobs and our penis to prove where we pee and poop? This is so moronic. **DID YOU FORGET THE FACT THAT A PUBLIC RESTROOM AND A PUBLIC CHANGING ROOM ALREADY PROVIDES PRIVATE SPACES CALLED STALLS.** Have you been to a gym? What woman is actually scared to pee or poop in a stall next to another human? I have worked with Texas drillers for the past 20 years and had to find a spot to squat in the woods, behind a tree, on a drill site and never ever did I fear of that situation. I was in the most public space and with drillers and I felt safe. Do you not feel safe? Do you need your hand held to go to the bathroom? Do woman in your life need help? I am willing to hold their hand into a public restroom, and I will stand outside of their stall and wait for them to use the restroom so that they feel safe. That is a bill that should be passed. Yours is just plain dumb and the people who support it makes me laugh.

Hecate Hecate

self

Meadows Place, TX

My name is Hecate and I live in McAllen, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing REAL issues that are impacting Texans-- instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, I would really love to see the community address a law for Higher Minimum wage and a cap to make bill payments low. How about a revamp and expansion to the sewage system and flood preventions in South Texas. How about making laws that would feed all kids in schools instead of removing that money and giving it to the rich. How about jailing Real pedophiles who are all Republican, white, and Christian/Pastors (I know this because one of my family members works for the Sheriff's office and the cases he received of Republicans that harmed kids). It's deplorable that YOU call yourself a Christian and have these white, pedophiles running free full range with guns, mean while YOU attack a minority group (Trans community) that has done no wrong. It is highly deplorable and disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Corrine Thompson

self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. This law will make transgender women a target. By forcing them to use a men's bathroom, they are put at serious risk of harassment, verbal abuse, and even physical violence. It creates a hostile environment and causes them to fear using public places at all. Transgender men are also put in a dangerous position. If they are forced to use a women's bathroom, they may be perceived as a man in a women's space. This puts them at risk of being confronted, yelled at, or even assaulted by people who believe they are enforcing the ban. It forces them into a situation that is both humiliating and unsafe. This ban will create a "bathroom police" culture. It will give others permission to judge and question who belongs in a restroom. This puts cisgender women who may not look traditionally feminine—like women with short hair, broad shoulders, or non-conforming clothing—at risk of being harassed, questioned, or physically confronted by people trying to enforce the ban. A law meant to "protect" them ends up turning them into targets. No one should have to fear going to the bathroom while out in public.

Stacey Blanton

Self/Travel Insurance Agent

Cleburne, TX

I urge the house to vote no to this bill. The bill is unconstitutional and is dangerous to all genders and sexes.

Alisha Roff

self

Austin, TX

My name is Alisha and I live in Austin Texas. I would like to respectfully request that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing the important issues that impact the wellbeing of Texans, rather than on bills such as SB8. That bill targets a tiny group of people who pose no threat to women whatsoever. There is no evidence that transgender people pose any more of a threat than other women to fellow women in bathrooms. This is a nonissue. However, there are many issues that directly affect Texans everyday. The homeless problem, worsening traffic and congestion, and managing mental illness and substance dependence to name a few. Addressing the latter not only benefits those afflicted with mental illness and substance dependence, but the public as a whole. Crime and burdening an overburdened court and penal system is directly related to those problems. Let us not create new criminals but let us address the real problems that we as Texans face. It is horrible to target a small group of very vulnerable individuals who are simply living their lives minding their own business. Stall doors stay closed. People use the facilities, wash their hands and leave. Absolutely nothing private occurs outside a stall. Is this really a problem that the majority of Texans concern themselves with? We are concerned with crime in our cities that increases with homelessness and with inadequate treatment of mental illness and substance use issues. Even panhandling on medians that are very narrow is an issue that creates risk for panhandlers and drivers. We experience this risk everyday all over Austin. There is so much work we have to do from improving our infrastructure as the population grows, to protecting our natural resources. The great state of Texas deserves representation that addresses the real issues. Let's not harm a small group of people who pose no threat what so ever, as a political tactic. We Texans deserve better than that.

Tim Sorbera

self, engineer

San Antonio, TX

As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—

instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders

could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and

recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of bills like SB 8 that seek to eventually ban trans Texans from public life.

Laura Weaver  
self/retired  
The Woodlands, TX

Committee Members,

I am urging you to vote against SB 8. Anti-LGBTQ+ legislation will harm people by causing an increase in hate crimes (and will protect no one).

The American Medical Association reports that exclusionary bathroom policies can lead to an increased risk for “anxiety and depression, low self-esteem, engaging in self-injurious behaviors, suicide, substance use, homelessness and eating disorders, among other adverse outcomes.” One in eight LGBTQ+ people aged 18-24 have attempted suicide.

You cannot legislate away people who do not fit into two neat gender groups. There is nothing Christian or moralistic in punishing people who are different from you. All Texans, no matter what their identity, deserve respect, safety and privacy. Please vote NO on SB 8.

Laura Weaver

Sincerely,  
Laura Weaver  
The Woodlands  
77382

Gaylon George, Mr.

True Texas Project, The Heritage Foundation and Self  
Leander, TX

I am the father of one daughter and ten (10) granddaughters. I do not want males to be allowed in girls/women's spaces such as their bathrooms, locker rooms, dorms, etc. The private spaces that have historically and traditionally been privately reserved for them are to be kept private with females only allowed in them. No males allowed. This is just plain common sense and common courtesy. I expect you to vote YES on SB8 as it is the only way to preserve their safety and dignity as the gentler sex as well as our sanity as their parents and grandparents. Thank you for your consideration.

Celeste Scalzo  
self  
Carrollton, TX

This bill doesn't help anyone, it just hurts people. If you vote for this bill, just know that your name will go down on the wrong side of history.

Alice Roach  
Self  
Houston, TX

This bill is discriminatory and creates a hostile environment for trans people and will have a negative effect on their mental health. Please do not pass this bill.

Katherine Schaeffer

Self

Austin, TX

As a Texas woman, I'm tired of politicians claiming bathroom bills protect me when they actually make all of us less safe. The biggest danger to women in bathrooms comes from cisgender men who commit assault, not transgender people using facilities that match their gender identity. Transgender individuals are far more likely to be victims of violence than perpetrators. By forcing transgender women into men's restrooms, these bills literally push vulnerable people toward danger.

These bills also harm cisgender women who don't conform to traditional gender expectations. Butch women, women with short hair, and anyone who doesn't fit narrow stereotypes face harassment and policing under these policies. I've seen friends questioned and challenged simply for existing in public spaces.

Real women's safety comes from adequate lighting, emergency phones, and addressing actual predators, NOT from discriminating against transgender Texans who want to use the bathroom in peace like everyone else.

Cat Ashton

Self- Social Worker

Dallas, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Sandra Norwood

Self. State of Texas Retiree.

Liberty Hill, TX

This should be a no brainer or plain common sense. Men and boys (regardless of how they dress, or wear makeup, have taken certain drugs and/or surgeries to feminize their looks, etc.) do not belong in women and girl's restrooms, locker room, showers, etc. Simple fact is such men/boys are still males, not females. Please protect women/girls from men/boys who want to be in our spaces. Please keep us safe.

Ben Egan

self, retired

Meadows Place, TX

To the House State Affairs Committee,

I am Benny, living in the Houston area. As a constituent, I ask that the limited time during this special session be used to address pressing issues that are impacting Texans,- instead of wasting time and money entertaining frivolous bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms everyone, especially Texans who are trans, gender expansive, and intersex. Instead, I would like for the committee to address flood prevention infrastructure. It is truly regrettable that limited time is being spent targeting a small group of people in order to enforce societal expectations of femininity and masculinity on anyone who uses a resroom, and as bargaining chips for political gain, rather than spending time & effort improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8.

Thank you.

gwen withrow, ms

SREC SD 4 Chairman of the Montgomery co. Republican Party and myself a citizen  
Montgomery, TX

For passage of this bill. It is hard to believe that we even have to have such legislation. I beg the committee to do the right thing and pass this bill to the floor so that we can bring sanity back to our lives. We need to protect our children.

Beck Levin

Self

Fountain Valley, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Emma B

Self, software developer

Richmond, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Emma and I live in Richmond, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans, instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address disaster preparedness. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Doka Cullender

self

Austin, TX

To the Honorable Members of the Texas Legislature,

I am writing to express my profound concern and dissent regarding the recent passage of Senate Bill 8. While I understand the complexities of legislative work, I believe this bill represents a significant and harmful distraction from the real, immediate challenges facing our state.

Our state's recent history, including devastating floods, hurricanes, and the catastrophic failure of the power grid during Winter Storm Uri, has shown that our most pressing needs lie in emergency preparedness and disaster response. These are not partisan issues; they are matters of life and death that affect every Texan, regardless of their political affiliation or background.

Instead of focusing on strengthening our infrastructure, improving our emergency communication systems, and ensuring our communities are resilient in the face of natural disasters, the legislature has prioritized a bill that targets a minority group comprising less than one percent of the Texas population. This is not governance—it is political grandstanding that diverts valuable time, resources, and attention away from the fundamental duties of state leadership.

The people of Texas deserve a government that is focused on tangible solutions to tangible problems. We need leaders who are prepared to address the next storm, not one that is fixated on political theater. I urge you to re-evaluate these misplaced priorities and commit to a legislative agenda that genuinely serves the safety and well-being of all Texans.

I look forward to seeing our state's focus shift back to what truly matters.

Sincerely,

Doka Cullender

Austin, TX

CL BATE

Self

Lufkin, TX

I have not seen any facts showing that anyone has been injured in public restrooms by trans persons. The ones I know just want to live their lives in peace without the government telling them which restrooms to use. Texas has a lot of problems and which restrooms a person uses should not consume the time of our lawmakers. Please defeat this bill.

Whitney Chagnon

Self Operations Manager

Austin, TX

I am violently opposed to genital inspections. I oppose SB8. This infringes on individuals' freedom to use a restroom in peace, as well as our right to privacy.

David Horn, Mr.

Self

Bogata, TX

Dear Sirs and Ladies,

I urge each of you to protect the privacy, safety and dignity of each Texas daughter or granddaughter to be able to do all the things in their locker or dressing rooms without having to constantly look over their shoulders. No male needs to be in a female dressing room period. God made male and he made female. Their are two words I keep hearing from the Trump Administration, COMMON SENSE. I urge each member to use your common sense and do the right thing by our God created girls. Thank you for your consideration.

Micaela Uriegas

Myself

Austin, TX

I vehemently oppose SB8. We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8

Anne Eland

Self, Retired

HURST, TX

I absolutely support SB 8, relating to the designation and use of certain spaces and facilities according to gender, authorizing a civil penalty and private civil right of action. No pretty language here, just common sense. Thanks for your time.

Reece Miller, Ms.

Self/Disabled

San Antonio, TX

Hello, my name is Reece, and I live in San Antonio, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans, instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

I am Transgender myself, and this bill and the overwhelming hatred for people like me is utterly uncalled for and nothing more than a shadow play that is meant to distract constituents away from serious problems that actively affect Texans and Americans at large. If you seek to keep your job as a politician, I urge you to vote no; otherwise, come next election season, my fellow constituents will organize to vote you out of office.

Thank you.

Janet Jackson

Self

Houston, TX

I don't believe the government should be in the bathroom! If a trans person was born female but is transitioning to male, that would make me very uncomfortable as I am sure the opposite would make a man uncomfortable.

john spowart

self

Van Alstyne, TX

Hello, please note my opposition to SB 8, the bathroom bill. It discriminates against anyone who is transgender. It also calls into question all women who enter the women's restroom as they may be asked to prove that they are women. Additionally, this bill also mandates that people with beards will be using the womens bathroom, while people with breasts will be using the mens bathroom in the case of those who have not fully transitioned. The fact that this bill was even proposed is evidence of the vast amount of ignorance at the state capital. This bill is complete nonsense.

Lalo Schreifer

Self

Arlington, TX

The fact that in 2025 bills such as SB 8 are still being voted upon is criminal. There have been no crimes committed by transgender people using the bathroom associated with the gender to which they identify, thus the right is creating fake problems which it then "solves". This is a waste of time and tax payer dollars which could be spent solving REAL problems! Go do some real work, peasants!

Cheri Bolin, Mrs

A4TE

Hutto, TX

As a proud parent of a trans son, this is sickening and heartbreaking that trans people are being targeted. A civil penalty, really? This is government overreach at its finest and I am ashamed to be a Texan. This bill is an atrocity, as if my son has not lost enough being kicked out of the military for trying to live his life now you want to take this away.

Anders Allison, Mr.

Self

Austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Anders and I live in Austin, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the lack of weatherization and natural disaster preparation that our state has recently felt the effects of. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans. Thank you.

Shelby Henley

self

Richmond, TX

I'm writing to urge you to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that you vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Kathie/Dick Herrick

Self

Kyle, TX

We oppose "the bathroom bill". This bill endangers a vulnerable population and does nothing to increase safety for women and girls. This bill is unnecessary. I am 75 years old and have never felt threatened in a public restroom. In fact, there is minimal interaction. Additionally, who is to judge, short of inspecting genitals—this is unenforceable. It only serves to intimidate and is a waste of taxpayer resources.

Cynthia Daniels

Self

Mansfield, TX

I am writing in opposition to Texas SB 8, as it undermines civil rights, jeopardizes safety for transgender, gender-expansive, and intersex Texans, and centralizes enforcement in a way that restricts judicial oversight. This bill is discriminatory and harmful to transgender, gender-expansive, and intersex Texans. It excludes gender identity and enforces definitions based solely on reproductive anatomy, erasing transgender, non-binary, and intersex individuals. Who is going to enforce these definitions? As a woman, I don't want anyone posted outside of my bathroom scrutinizing whether I'm a woman or not. That is demoralizing and invasive and does not make me feel safe. Family violence shelters will be barred from providing services to transgender women, even if they are survivors, undermining protections and safety. There is no evidence to support that this bill will enhance safety. However, it will cause harm by denying transgender, gender-expansive, and intersex individuals access to safe spaces. Multiple studies and major health and advocacy groups like the American Psychological Association oppose bathroom bills, finding no rise in safety issues in inclusive facilities. Laws, like SB 8, foster stigma, harassment, and physical danger for transgender, gender-expansive, and intersex individuals. SB 8 allows for excessive enforcement and legal framework. Daily fines of \$5000 to \$25,000 per violating space could strain local budgets and undermine inclusive policies. Centralizing enforcement in the Attorney General with sweeping immunities cuts off meaningful legal recourse and judicial review. Inclusive designs and gender-neutral facilities proactively address privacy and dignity without discrimination. Laws like Florida's Facility Requirements Based on Sex Act have shown that similar legislation excludes transgender people and invites legal scrutiny. SB 8 is being framed as a reassertion of traditional gender norms, but it will institutionalize exclusion and undermine civil rights. I would like to advocate for there to be a law in place of SB 8 for the creation of all bathrooms to be gender-neutral and single-occupancy facilities(think Bucces style floor to ceiling individual stalls bathroom for everyone) that would be both a practical and an inclusive solution. In light of SB 8's discriminatory scope, excessive penalties, and legal immunities that curtail accountability, I urge you to oppose this bill! Instead, let's pursue inclusive, privacy-respecting alternatives that keep all Texans safe without sacrificing civil rights.

Carl Etheridge

Self, sales

Jacksonville, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name Carl and I live in Jacksonville, Tx. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill will not only harm the obvious targets like trans people but is a common tactic used to harm women, especially black women, who are not seen as "feminine enough". Bills like this give excuses to bigots to assault anyone they deem as unfeminine while providing no real protections to women.

It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Erin Kreisel

Self, LMT

Austin, TX

This is the biggest waste of time. How could you possibly enforce this? Vote on actual issues that affect real people.

Lillian Williams

Self

Denton, TX

Is the bathroom in your home separated by sex/gender? No, it's a room with a toilet. Please stop wasting time with these bills, let people pee, and spend more time focusing on how to help current flood victims and preventive measures to avoid more horrible damage from natural disasters.

Bobbi Sydnor

Self

San Antonio, TX

No

Monica Jew Gonzalez

Self

HOUSTON, TX

SB 8 is an attack on the basic dignity and safety of transgender and nonbinary people. By banning access to restrooms, locker rooms, and dorms in government buildings that align with a person's gender identity, this bill creates unnecessary barriers to daily life and puts already vulnerable communities at greater risk of harassment, isolation, and harm. Everyone deserves the right to safely use public facilities without fear or discrimination. SB 8 does not protect anyone—it stigmatizes and singles out people simply for being who they are.

This kind of legislation undermines values of fairness, freedom, and equality that our communities and institutions should uphold. Students, workers, and families all rely on safe access to public spaces, and forcing people to use facilities that do not match their identity strips them of privacy, safety, and dignity. Research consistently shows that trans-inclusive policies do not increase safety risks, but bans like SB 8 cause serious harm to mental health, educational opportunity, and economic stability for transgender and nonbinary people.

Stopping SB 8 is not only about protecting LGBTQ+ rights—it's about ensuring that our public spaces remain accessible and safe for all. We should be working toward laws that expand inclusion and dignity, not ones that divide and discriminate. Lawmakers must reject SB 8 and instead listen to the voices of trans and nonbinary Texans, their families, and allies who want a future rooted in respect, equity, and opportunity for every person.

Emery Jones

self

san marcos, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Emery and I live in San Marcos, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Benjamin Gibson  
Self, Software Developer  
The Colony, TX

My name is Benjamin Gibson and I am a software developer from The Colony, Texas commenting to ask SB 8 be opposed. I have heard the vulnerability and concern of friends around me discussing their options when it comes to even just visiting events in our state because of this bill, all the moreso choosing to go to a school or college here. These are people who I know have had more harm done to them by bills like SB 8, as some who do live here have sincerely expressed whether it's better to leave Texas altogether. In particular, highlighting how a bill like this is so worth pushing that it takes away a special session's priority from the disaster relief, response, and recovery that need real focus. This is the degree to which legislative actions like SB 8 tell everyone that Texas views trans people as threats so keenly, and that depiction genuinely just doesn't square with my personal experiences of listening to how my friends just want to be allowed to live out their day. I ask that SB 8 not be passed out of committee. Thank you all for your time.

Hope Benko  
self, Episcopal priest  
Austin, TX

This bill will make Texas unsafe for trans and nonbinary people. My faith teaches me that all people deserve to be treated with dignity and the ability to use public restrooms is a most basic measure of dignity we can afford our trans siblings.

Mario Roman  
self  
Los Angeles, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Amy Campney  
Self, speech-language pathologist  
Austin, TX

I disagree with the presumption and content of this bill. Individuals who are non-binary and transgender have equal rights, same as cisgender people. There is no need to police how people use the restroom, not in the past, present or future. This bill is a waste of taxpayer money and time that government could act on real issues in our communities. I oppose SB 8.

Oakleigh Rainer, Mrs.  
Self  
Gainesville, TX

Dear legislators,

I won't lie, I dont fully understand this whole "trans-gengar" situation, and I share many of your concerns and issues. However, the state of Texas has always been the home of freedom and small government. Does making a whole new law for the bathroom sound like "small government?" I sure don't think so. Any man trying to cause an issue in any natural born woman's room is gonna meet my pistol before they see a courtroom. Isn't that enough? What if I need to sneak into the Men's room to pee cuz my fellow ladies are too busy yappin'? You mean to tell me that's gonna be a crime? Pardon my French, legislators, but that sounds like a pile of horse shit. Texans need less government, not more! Trans-gengars don't even cause that many problems, and they make up less than 1% of the population. We ain't gotta write a whole new law just for a couple crazies. What's next, a civil statute to be nice to me until I get my coffee? Come on now. Vote "no" on SB8 - it's dumb!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Rainer

Ashleigh Lawrence  
Self/non-profit employee  
Lake Jackson, TX

I do not support SB 8. This bill is nothing but political grandstanding under the pretense of protecting women. Meanwhile, at this same hearing, further restrictions on abortion access are being discussed. My point is, I do not support SB 8.

mitsumasa walts  
self  
McAllen, TX

The wording of this bill SB 8 is so stupid. It's purposefully vague yet obviously racist, sexist and transphobic. This invokes the separate but equal similarities with jim crow era law and is obviously only being pushed to create a spacegoat class of person to distract working class people from the actual crises such as intentional neglect of infrastructure to protect people during climate emergencies and the manufactured housing crisis. stop pretending constituents are too stupid to see what you are doing and just start firing machine guns at everyone already so at least people know where you're at. assholes

Chris Kristofferson  
Self  
Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Chris and I live in Porter, Texas. As a constituent, I am opposed to SB 8. Quite frankly, it seems like an attempt to gain political capitol rather than to actually address issues that impact Texans every day, such as infrastructure, healthcare, rising grocery costs and inflation.

I understand state senator Middleton is running for attorney general next year. I'd appreciate if he spent his time serving Texans rather than padding his resume for next year's vote.

Thank you for your consideration.

Toby Costas  
Self  
Dallas, TX

I am against the legislature wasting its time on this legislation that so profoundly hurts individuals in our society regarding bathroom and other personal matters that do not constitute a threat to Texans of any age. Instead, I ask that this body use its remaining time to focus on disaster and emergency preparedness so that flooding tragedies that have affected many children in my school district and so many others throughout the state do not happen again, as well as other important matters that affect ALL Texans, such as infrastructure and teacher pay.

Kimberly Galland  
Self CPA  
Bryan, TX

As a mother of 2 daughters and grandmother of 10 girls, I strongly support that the use of women's dressing rooms and bathrooms be restricted to biological women only. Biological men have no right to use these facilities and I will fight to protect this right for my grandchildren.

Melissa Knight  
self  
Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to go to the restroom in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8. NO to SB8

Cheri Bolin

Self

Hutto, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Cheri and I live in Hutto, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address veterans and homelessness. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you

Elaine Borchardt

Self

Lewisville, TX

I am Christian and am opposed to this bill. Please vote No on this bill. Thank you

Randy Lander

Self/Business Owner

Austin, TX

I cannot believe y'all are spending time on policing bathrooms again. This has only ever been a problem in your fevered, perverted imaginations. There are serious issues to be taken up, including flood relief, homelessness and income inequality, and y'all are going to once again spend your time and our tax dollars on trying to figure out what is in someone's pants when it has absolutely nothing to do with you. You are a bunch of cowards and perverts. Leave trans people alone and do some goddamned work, please.

Elaina Allen

Self

Allen, TX

I oppose this bill, it is against our constitutional rights.

Risa Curtis, Dr.

Humans. I'm a physician.

Leander, TX

Everyone deserves the right to use the restroom (a basic human right) without having our gender and/or genitals questioned/inspected. I fully oppose SB8. As a born cis female who identifies as female, the ONLY persons I feel unsafe with in the restroom are cis straight males.

Leo Sholl

Self

Dallas, TX

This is a dangerous bill that invades people's privacy. There is no need to control who uses what bathroom, there is no data that supports the claim that we need to control who can use what bathroom. All this does is put trans people and those 'accused' of being trans in danger of violence and undue scrutiny for no reason other than transphobia. There are so many things that the senate could put their time towards that would genuinely help texans, but instead that time and energy is being wasted on a bill that actively harms texans.

Scott Richardson

self

Spring, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Scott and I live in Spring, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address our crumbling infrastructure. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Jill Patton

Self, business owner

Round Rock, TX

This bill is an embarrassment. Please let people go to the bathroom in peace. Trans people are not a threat to anyone in the bathroom, and if anything this bill endangers them. How would this be enforced? Please get rid of this bill. You are embarrassing Texas.

Abbey Adcox

Self-Missions and Advocacy Coordinator, Wilshire Baptist Church, Dallas

Dallas, TX

As a person of faith and an MDiv. student, I must voice my strong opposition to SB 8, the so-called "bathroom bill." This legislation is not about safety—it is about fear. It targets some of our most vulnerable neighbors, particularly transgender and gender non-conforming people, and tells them they do not belong.

My faith teaches me that every person is created in the image of God, worthy of dignity, respect, and protection. Jesus himself embodied radical welcome and made a way for those whom society had pushed to the margins. SB 8 runs directly counter to that call by codifying exclusion and shame.

Beyond matters of faith, this bill also has real-world consequences: it endangers children, creates hostile environments in schools, and puts transgender people at greater risk of violence and discrimination. Our communities thrive when people are free to live authentically and without fear of harassment or punishment for simply using the restroom.

We do not need laws that divide us. We need policies that affirm the inherent worth of every Texan. I urge you to reject SB 8 and instead pursue legislation that reflects the values of justice, compassion, and neighborly love.

Beth Christopherson, Mrs

self

Meadows Place, TX

Hello House State Senate Affairs Committee,

My name is Beth, and I live in Houston, TX. As a constituent I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans. This bill is completely unnecessary and harms trans and intersex Texans. I would instead love to see the committee address issues such as climate change, how Texas can be a leader in math and science, affordability issues for families. It is highly concerning that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people and ignoring absolutely critical issues like the climate crisis, flooding, and emergency response. Please stop focusing on trans adults and kids. It's creepy and weird that the government is obsessed with the sexuality and free expressions of others, and it makes Texas look so ridiculous. Trans people are our friends and family. Thank you.

Laura Hughes

self, self-employed, bookstore owner

Houston, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Laura Hughes and I live in Houston, TX. As a constituent, I believe that this bill is harmful to Texans who are trans, gender expansive, and intersex. These Texans deserve to use the bathrooms they feel safest and most comfortable using. Our most intimate, private moments should not be subject to regulation by public officials.

Additionally, this issue is not the one that should be receiving the most attention in the limited time the committee has to convene.

As a constituent, I ask that you focus on bills addressing disaster and emergency preparedness. This is an issue that directly impacts many more people, and has an urgent, immediate impact.

Thank you.

Este Bagato

The people

Arlington, TX

This bill will ultimately hurt more cis people than it will help; we're already seeing women getting assaulted on their way into bathrooms because they aren't performing the right kind of femininity.

Also, trans people existing and minding their own business does nothing to negatively affect anyone's lives; this is fueled by the self-victimization of bigots.

You are trying to erase trans people from public existence... But trans people have always existed and always will.

Not to mention that conservative men do far more harm to women and girls EVERY DAY than trans people ever have.

Knock this off. What the f\*\*\* do you think freedom means, Earl?!

Robert Attaway

self

Alvarado, TX, TX

NO guys in girl's locker room/restroom! Enough said!

joanne groshardt, me

me

richardson, TX

Greg Abbot and Trump are crazy for power, money, and fame, and it just seems they can't get enough of it, so they lower themselves into the toilets. Wish we could flush.

Paris Banta

self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Paris and I live in Cedar Park, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the growing homeless crisis in our area, and the lack of affordable housing, despite the numerous apartment complexes being constructed. Every year it seems I see a new apartment complex being constructed in my area, yet their rent is too steep for anyone to live there, and so I see empty lots and people sleeping on the streets. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Marci McClenon

Self

Austin, TX

As a Texan woman, I urge you to vote NO on this bill.

Not all women look alike and this bill would negatively affect women like me that have dealt with "mistaken identity" my whole life. When I put my boots on and walk out the door, I'm 6ft tall and broad shouldered, and there's nothing unnatural about it - I walk up to the counter in a business and they say "how can I help you sir?" and I say "I'm looking for..." and they say "Oh, I'm sorry ma'am" - I've just gotten used to it. Even when I wear dresses, I've heard whispers behind me "look at that man in a dress". What I don't want is to start being harassed in the bathroom and start pulling out my ID for whoever asks just because I'm tall, strong Texas-raised woman. I already get a double-look half the time and just the look is bad enough - this bill is going to get me start being accused of a crime and hassled every time I go out.

Can't we all just mind our own business? Only trouble I've ever faced in a bathroom is from people trying to see if I'm supposed to be in there - the honor system has worked for a few hundred years, what do you think you're doing getting in the way of that?

Stacy Dill

Self

Round Rock, TX

I am opposed to this legislation. We deserve to use restroom facilities without concern that our gender will be questioned or our genitals will be inspected.

Jennifer Bates, Reverend

self, clergy

Denton, TX

Hello,

I have called and emailed about this bill multiple times in the regular session and the special session. I know my comments will not make a difference because you all don't care about the opinions of Texans. If you did you would have listened the over 100 voices that spoke out on this bill last week and the voices of women who have said this bill will not protect them.

This bill is terrible. It targets trans people and their allies by fining them outrageous amounts of money and leaving them open to lawsuits for simply using a bathroom.

This bill will target women, we have already seen stories of cis women being assaulted in our country because they were in the women's bathrooms but were deemed "woman enough".

If the Texas legislature actually wanted to protect women, you could strengthen the already existing laws that punish male abusers and assaulters. You could fully fund domestic violence shelters in Texas who have lost support due to federal funding cuts. You could pass flooding protections to honor the young women and girl killed by the camp mystic flood.

But you won't do any of that. Because this was never actually about protecting women, but demonizing and scapegoating a small percentage of the US population so you can pass laws to control bodies and limit autonomy. We have seen this happen in the abortion laws and now you are doing it to bathrooms. You know trans people are people so they have to pee. You are using women's safety to ban them from public by making it impossible to go into public spaces without fear.

God have mercy on your souls for the evil way you are treating God's beloved trans and gender nonconforming children.

Eve Molnar

Self, graphic designer

Cedar Park, TX

It sure seems like the Republicans in Texas Legislature are more interested in scoring brownie points with religious extremists that fund their campaigns than they are with proposing and passing legislation that improves the lives of their constituents. SB 8 by Senator Middleton is yet another example of the Texas Republican Party's discriminatory and hateful obsession with transgender Texans. Y'all suck.

Todd Hudiburg

Myself

Austin, TX

Vote NO!!! Stop targeting and demonizing Trans people! Focus on helping Texans with important and real issues like disaster relief and emergency preparedness!

Emily Hunt

self

Meadows place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is {first name} and I live in {city, Texas}. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Max Henley

self

Dallas, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.”

Aradhana Panicker

Self

Dallas, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Ari and I live in Dallas Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—

instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address disaster preparedness, management, and recovery.

Please do what is right and not engage in wasteful posturing to detract from critical decision making that impacts all Texans.

Thank you.

Bryan Segovia

Self ill

Abilene, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is {first name} and I live in {city, Texas}. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—

instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address {name an issue you are passionate about that impacts you and/or your community}. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let’s focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Yours Truly, Mr.

Self

Amarillo, TX

Seriously?!?! I just need to relieve myself in the appropriate spaces. What’s next...pants drops? \*eye roll\*

Bertram Wooster

Self, Chaplain

Austin, TX

This legislature should heed the words of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." (Jn 13:34-35 KJV)

In contrast to the cruel sadism embodied by this misguided bill, Texas would do well to instead protect individual freedom against government overreach. It can do so by modifying our state's non-discrimination laws to include gender identity as protected category, as other states have done. This kind of direct statutory clarity will help ensure that Texas residents have equal protection under secular civil law, if not in the eyes of erroneous sectarian individuals who wish to codify their worldly private prejudices.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Emily Hunt

self

Meadows place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is {first name} and I live in {city, Texas}. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Maura Kinney

Self

Austin, TX

This bill will cause so much harm, not just to transgender Texans, but to anyone who does not look male or female "enough" for whatever bathroom they are in. I sincerely urge you to please re-consider letting personal bias guide your voting. This bill is dangerous and your constituents rely on you to keep us safe.

Julianna Gelderloos

True Texas Project

Cleburne, TX

Separating private space for male and female is just common sense. Men are stronger than women. Men can easily over power women. To not pass this bill is creating confusion and unnecessarily placing Texans at risk of horrifying crimes.

Siena Pegues

self - marketing

AUSTIN, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the restrooms in peace without having our genders questioned. Also, men seem to have no issue harming women in or out of restrooms and without having to question their own gender identity so why not focus on solving those problems. I oppose SB8.

Keith Pigg

Self

Georgetown, TX

Vote No

ThuyAn Cornett  
myself  
Houston, TX

"I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

Carolyn Aramendia  
Self  
Seguin, TX

I am FOR this bill. Men should not have access to women's private spaces

Cassie Villela  
self / mom  
Houston, TX

I know that nothing I write will weigh more than the money you get from Tim Dunn and Farris Wilkes, and that you are all cowards who will throw anyone under the bus for fame and fortune. I am only submitting a comment so that when history books are written, my name is on the right side of them. Your grandchildren will be ashamed of you. Your Christian Nationalism won't make it past one generation, and then the arc of justice will prevail. History will remember all of you for exactly what you are...sniveling little weasels without a single cell of kindness in your souls.

Julie Allen  
self  
Meadows Place, TX

My name is Julie A. and I'm a lifelong Texan, living in Missouri City, Texas, for more than 20 years. As a constituent and concerned citizen, I think the real and vital issues that really impact Texans aren't being discussed. Instead, you're wasting valuable time and resources on an issue that has only harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. The cases of transgender women pretending to be a woman so she can prey on women and girls is so rare to be non-existent. The Transgender Law Center, the Human Rights Campaign, and the American Civil Liberties Union all agree, no statistical evidence of violence exists to warrant this legislation. The fact is, real men are more of a threat to women and transgender or non-binary people than any transgender man or woman.

This bathroom bill just perpetuates a false narrative and actually promotes violence against trans and gender-nonconforming individuals. The fact is, the motivation of these proposed laws is so glaringly obvious: They are driven by hate, born out of unjustified fear and, if adopted into law, set a dangerous precedent for how we treat the humanity of people.

Please vote on the side of ALL Texans and stop this unnecessary attack.

Thank you.

Chrisanna Gough  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

For SB 8

Robert Thomson  
SELF  
Austin, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

JUDITH CANION

Texas voter

Dallas, TX

"I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

This is it - our daughters are counting on us! Don't let them down. EVERY VOICE MATTERS!

Respectfully, JC Canion, TX Voter Precinct 2120 Dallas, TX

rene carbajal

self

Houston, TX

Hi, my name is Rene and I am a working citizen from Houston, Texas.

I'm commenting to urge Middleton to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Thank you for your time.

Ella Starke

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the right to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. Trans people are not a danger to our communities and they should be allowed to use whichever restroom aligns with the gender they identify with. Because of this, I oppose SB8.

Katherine Jones

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use a toilet without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. People will abuse this bill in disgusting ways. I oppose SB8

Kathryn McKay

Self

Dallas, TX

This is an appalling bill and will make girls and women more unsafe in public restrooms by giving others an excuse to question their identity and demand to inspect their bodies to "prove" they are female. And will have a dangerous and devastating affect on the lives and well-being of transgender citizens. Please do not pass this bill.

Gypsie Judice

Self

New Braunfels, TX

The sex you were born with is where you should be using the restroom! NO EXCEPTIONS

Rachal Hisler  
Self  
ANAHUAC, TX

Please support passage of SB 8. Women and girls have a right to privacy in sex segregated spaces. Men who pretend to be women have no place in womens' private spaces. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Joeylynn Mesaros  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am strongly IN FAVOR of this bill and am FOR protecting women's private spaces from men. I urge you to VOTE YES and push this through committee to protect Texas girls/women.

Teresa Martinez  
Self / Occupation: State Employee  
Austin, TX

I oppose SB 8 because it will make all women more unsafe. All humans deserve to be able to use the bathroom in dignity without their genitals being questioned and inspected. I oppose SB 8 and I ask that you please do the same and do not pass this bill.

Randy Henson  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am ADAMANTLY FOR this bill!!!

Cole Sherrill  
Self  
Austin, TX

I grew up in McMullen County and now spend a lot of my time with family in Austin. For us as Texans, the most concerning issues are lack of access to quality medical treatment. My brother in law, a father of a 2 and 4 year old, regularly drives 350+ miles round trip to receive his cancer treatment, missing valuable time with his kids and spending vulnerable time on the road. My 85 year old grandmother and my 65 year old aunt are worried about disaster preparedness as power outages and untreated icy conditions not only have caused dangerous situations for each of them, but stopped us all from spending valuable time with my dying grandfather whose condition was exacerbated by hospitals overwhelmed with treating folks who suffered harm because of the extreme weather. Texans have real and urgent needs that you should be addressing while you're convened in this special session. That's where you should be spending your time. Not on playing politics with trans lives. Stop spending your energy on policy proposals like this, and instead focus on your responsibility to serve ALL Texans.

Thanks and Gig 'Em,  
Cole Sherrill

Paul Gunderson  
Self and my daughters.  
Tomball, TX

They're only men and women men uses men, facilities, and women use the women's facilities if somebody wants to be all weird and change they still need to use the facility that was assigned to them at birth

Ruba Ayoub  
Self/ finances  
Prosper, TX

I am writing with deep conviction in support of Senate Bill 8.

1. Safety and peace of mind must come first. Private spaces-restrooms, locker rooms, changing rooms-are meant to protect women's dignity and physical safety. Allowing biological males unrestricted access to women's facilities introduces unnecessary risk and fear into spaces where women and girls expect modesty and privacy.
2. History shows this is not an abstract fear-it's real. In Texas, multiple women have reported harassment simply because strangers misjudged their appearance. One woman in Connecticut was harassed in a Wal-Mart bathroom when she was mistaken for being transgender. Another Texan woman at a hospital was confronted by a man trying to "make sure she was in the right place," all because of her appearance.
3. Assaults in public facilities are rare-but the fear is real. Comprehensive studies in cities like Dallas and Atlanta have found no evidence of sexual assaults committed by men posing as transgender individuals in women's restrooms or locker rooms. Nonetheless, these incidents may be rare, but the very possibility undermines trust and upends women's sense of security.
4. Restricting women's spaces can escalate conflicts-and tragic consequences. In Texas, where many carry firearms, one can imagine how alarm and panic might escalate. Many men would feel compelled to protect women and girls-even at great personal risk. This kind of environment, where confusion becomes confrontation, could tragically end in violence.

My plea: I urge you to keep Senate Bill 8 in place. Protecting spaces by biological sex is not about exclusion-it's about preserving safety, quiet dignity, and commonsense boundaries for vulnerable populations. Please do not expose women and girls to unnecessary risk or turn bathrooms into arenas of confrontation.

Thank you for listening.

Laura Ferguson  
Self  
Kyle, TX

As a constituent, I urge you to consider compassion and human dignity for the trans, intersex, and gender expansive communities while considering SB 8. This bill not only perpetuates misinformation about the trans community, it puts all women at risk of harassment even beyond the LGBTQIA+ community, as proven multiple times across the country.

Instead, I would love to see our representatives address things like equitable education opportunities and housing security for all Texans. Lately, it seems that we are spending too much time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain.

So, this special session, please put first things first and focus on improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville.

Thank you for your consideration and thanks in advance for keeping the most vulnerable and marginalized Texans among us in your hearts while discussing life-changing policy.

Annie Jacobson

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing to urge you to oppose the proposed bathroom ban legislation. Far from increasing public safety, these laws actually make women, children, and gender non-conforming people less safe.

Bathroom bans force people—especially transgender and gender non-conforming individuals—to use facilities where they are far more likely to face harassment or violence. They also create a chilling effect for parents with children and women who may be targeted for simply “not looking feminine enough.” These policies invite strangers to police who belongs in a restroom, putting countless people at risk.

Public safety is best served by inclusive policies that respect privacy and dignity. Everyone deserves to use the restroom without fear. I urge you to stand against this harmful legislation.

Cindy Scantling, Retired

Self

Canyon Lake, TX

I am in support of this bill to keep men out of women’s bathrooms

Paola Becerra

Self, Accounts Payable Analyst

Fort Worth, TX

Do not allow this to go into law. It is not only going to affect transgender people, but also people that are cisgender. This law is blatantly ignoring that people have been intersex for many centuries, against THEIR will. How will you be able to monitor that all people are using the correct area as well? All those resources should be put into improving infrastructure and implementing a plan to reduce the amount of homeless people out in the street by creating more shelters to get them back on their feet.

Ruth McGuffey

self

Allen, TX

Please vote NO on SB8. Don't target vulnerable people who are trying to live their lives peacefully.

Ash B

Self

Georgetown, TX

The construction of a political & moral panic around a minority of Texans, especially those seeking to be themselves, is not only reprehensible on the part of SB 8's sponsors, but anathema to the mission espoused in our Constitution: "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness". As a member of the transgender community & someone who has lived in Texas for well over half my life, I can safely say that the only reason for me to enter \*any\* restroom is to walk into a stall, relieve myself, and leave. I don't desire social contact in the restroom, & quite frankly, I find the assertion that a transgender person (like myself) would have anything to gain other than using the bathroom for its intended function absurd. SB 8 would also penalize intersex Texans (those born with physical, sexual characteristics not conforming to the stereotype of a particular sex), in addition to parents trying to take young children to the restroom.

The legislature's time would be much better spent holding Texas accountable to its previous budgetary commitments - and ensure that the often-bragged about surplus budget goes directly into public education; continuing to fortify our power grid in anticipation of the coming winter season; providing food, housing, and jobs for our homeless; for flood alert systems like those that Kerrville & Kerr County so desperately need; and for the delivery of rape testing kits that have \*already been paid for\* by public tax dollars.

Thank you.

Randy Henson, Rev  
Life Church New Braunfels  
New Braunfels, TX

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 8. This bill is an important step in protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools.

Parents send their daughters to school with the expectation that they will be safe, respected, and provided with an environment that allows them to focus on learning. SB 8 affirms these expectations by creating clear boundaries that protect female students in spaces where privacy matters. Girls deserve to compete, learn, and grow in an atmosphere that upholds fairness and respects their identity.

This legislation is not about excluding anyone, but about safeguarding the rights of girls who would otherwise be placed at a disadvantage or made to feel unsafe. Protecting girls' privacy in restrooms, locker rooms, and athletic participation is a matter of basic respect and common sense. Schools should be a place where our daughters feel secure and valued.

SB 8 helps ensure that girls in Texas schools are not pressured to compromise their dignity or safety. It reflects the concerns of parents and the broader community who want public education to be a place where boundaries are respected, fairness is preserved, and students can focus on their education.

I urge you to advance SB 8. Passing this bill will send a clear message that Texas stands for the protection of girls and recognizes the responsibility of schools to provide safe and respectful environments for every student.

Thank you for your service to our state and for considering the importance of this bill.

Elise Decker  
Self  
Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Elise and I live in Houston. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the rising cost of groceries, and raising minimum wage. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.  
Thank you.

Victor Miranda  
Self  
El Paso, TX

Only WOMEN should be allowed in female spaces, NOT trans-“women.” Not because I think they will be unsafe but because they deserve their spaces to feel comfortable and having those spaces remain private for them. Women have fought long and hard for rights for Men to invade those spaces regardless of what they think they are or identify as.

Rebecca George  
Self - Retired  
Houston, TX

This bill is plain ole common sense. Please do the right thing by representing the will of the majority of people in Texas and get this passed then on to Governor Abbott's office.

Carlyn Goodwin

Self

Garland, TX

This is so dumb. You are pretending there's some kind of danger to cis women posed by trans women. This isn't about cis women at all. This is about fear, hate, and cruelty. You should be ashamed of yourself for wasting your time, paid for by taxpayers, to promote this garbage.

Angie Baker, Mrs.

Self

Austin, TX

Please vote NO on SB8, a heinous bill that fuels hate against a minority population that are more often victims than they are perpetrators of crime. We have perfectly good laws already in effect against indecency and sexual assault. I am a female Texas voter urging a NO vote on SB 8.

Agnes Swift

Self

Houston, TX

“I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.”

Jacob Simpson

Self

Gilmer, TX

Men do not belong in women's restrooms. This happened at one of my daughter's cheer meetings. I told him not to go in and he said he had the right to go in there being trans. I told him my daughter had a right to her privacy. I was willing to take a charge to protect my daughter.

Kat Davis

Self

Austin, TX

I am opposed to this bill. This does not take into account intersex individuals or others

Justin Massengale

Myself

Montgomery, TX

This bill is a front to basic human decency. Instituted by some of the cruelest people in history. You will be remembered for this crime.

BeBe Jay

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is BeBe and I live in Meadows Place. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

J S

Self

Cypress, TX

Vote NO on SB8!

April Driesslein

Self -- grants management

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Why should the state of Texas establish a potty police? Answer: we shouldn't!

Deciding who gets to potty where is simply not a role of government, and it is certainly not a good use of a short legislative session. Do you remember when Republicans claimed to be the party of small government, fiscal responsibility, and personal liberty? I do, and expending state resources toward the goal of peering into people's underpants violates every one of those principles.

We need to support the people who lost their homes in the recent floods. We need to help the many, many Texans who cannot adequately access health care. We need to address the maternal mortality rate, which has doubled in my lifetime. We need to fund education. We need to strengthen our electric grid. Texas has any number of more urgent problems.

Get your act together and do something important instead of engaging in this ridiculous culture warrior virtue-signaling.

Andrea Gutierrez

Self - Educator

Austin, TX

I oppose SB8 - Texans deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. This is a gross overreach of government authority and against what being a Texan is all about.

Shane Herren

America

New Braunfels, TX

I am in favor of keeping men out of women's restrooms and women out of men's restrooms. Restroom should be private for the individuals of that selected biological sex only.

Misty Collier

Caretx.org

Amarillo, TX

We the people DO NOT want men in women's bathrooms.

Diane Irwin  
Self  
Watauga, TX

It is regrettable that common sense now has to be legislated. It should be a given that the safety and privacy of girls in Texas schools should be a priority. There have been so many incidents of girls being molested in school bathrooms by biological males. There is enough pressure on students as it is without adding to it to the anxiety and consequences of trying to “hold it” all day in order to avoid the potential risks of using the restroom. Please support this bill!

Christin Head  
Self  
Bridgeport, TX

Hi, my name is Christin Head and I am a citizen from Bridgeport, Texas.

I'm commenting to urge Representative Andy Hopper, Senator Tan Parker, as well as the TX Senate & House of Representatives to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator/Congress person vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Thank you.

Deborah Leiber  
Self  
The Woodlands, TX

Please vote NO for SB 8!! I am so tired of the repeated attempts to ostracize and isolate transgender people!! As a woman, I have never felt threatened by a trans person in a restroom or elsewhere. Forcing a person to use a restroom based on gender at birth would in fact result in dangerous bullying situations for trans persons. It is time to focus on real problems such as gun control and relief for flood victims, and stop this attack on trans people. Even if you do not understand their lives, all persons should be treated with respect. Please vote NO.

Barry Wernick  
Wernick for Texas  
Dallas, TX

Support SB 8. Texas must protect females. Prohibit men in women's private spaces.

Nannette Samuelson  
Self County Commissioner  
Granbury, TX

Please respect the privacy and safety of women and girls. It is just ridiculous that we even have to have this discussion that men/boys don't belong in women's spaces. It's just common sense! Biological boys/men should not be allowed in spaces where women and girls are dressing, using the restroom or other private activities. The radical left continues to march down the path of elimination of women and our rightful place in God's creation. Please vote to advance this bill. Thank you for keeping women and girls safe.

Courtney Harris

self

Austin, TX

I oppose SB8. All people deserve to pee in peace! This is a human right.

Gayle Robertson

Self Retired

LUBBOCK, TX

As the mother of daughters and the grandmother to granddaughters that are athletes, men do not belong in women's spaces. Think about your own children. Keep them all safe.

Earlene Acrey

Self

San Marcos, TX

I'm for Bill 8. I do NOT approve of biological men allowed into women bathrooms.

Melissa Robertson

Self

Cresson, TX

Please do NOT allow biological men in ANY woman's restroom! It is not safe and it is extremely uncomfortable for women and children.

Angela King

Self

Cedar park, TX

No! We do not support this.

Emily Shelley Shelley

Austin

Austin, TX

I oppose bill sb8 because I believe everyone should be able to use a public bathroom in peace, without being harassed about proving their gender.

Mel Olvera

Self/Engineer

San Antonio, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Kate Ferguson

Self

Austin, TX

I know many women who have been sexually assaulted. They've been assaulted by their boyfriends. Their husbands. Their fathers or their uncles. Their teachers or their pastors. Not one of them have been by a trans person. This bill is not about protecting women, this is about prejudice and the persecution of a small minority of people who are overwhelmingly the victims of crimes, not the perpetrators. I oppose SB 8. This bill will only embolden people to assault others in bathrooms on the basis of their personal opinion on how closely that person resembles a certain gender. No one should have to fear being interrogated about their genitals just because they needed to use the bathroom. This bill will endanger cis women and trans women alike. This bill will help no one. If you actually care about the safety of your constituents, I urge you to vote against this farcical bill.

John Nash

Self

Crandall, TX

Please pass this bill

Kingsley Strickland

Self

Austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Kingsley and I live in Austin, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—

instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the housing issue all across Texas for working class families that can no longer afford the astronomical rent prices compared to wages. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders

could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans

Texans.

Thank you

Debra Bunch

Self

Holly Lake Ranch, TX

Please pass this bill to protect our children and ALL citizens from opposite sexes in our public spaces, especially locker rooms and rest rooms! We must protect our children from those who will DEFINITELY take advantage otherwise. God help us!

Luis Vargas

Self

El Paso, TX

Only natural-born females should be allowed to use the women's restroom. Women deserve to feel safe in public restrooms.

Dacia Dunn Dacia Dunn

Self

San Antonio, TX

This is a ridiculous bill for a problem that doesn't even exist. This bill will make all women LESS safe. Please don't!

Elizabeth Morgan

self - paralegal

Austin, TX

I am Elizabeth from Austin 78749. I am against this disgusting and revolting bill.

Despite the limited time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. This bill uses trans people as a political bargaining chip and it is shameful of our legislature to act in this manner.

This bill is not about safety, privacy, or public good for women, or for anyone. As a woman, I have never felt unsafe with a trans person using the bathroom. On the contrary, I worry about the safety of trans people.

I also worry that this bill opens up women and children and anyone that doesn't fit gender stereotypes to harassment by people claiming to be concerned about safety. No person should EVER need to worry about whether they have to prove their gender to a stranger to use a public restroom. Republicans are causing problems and not solving problems with bills such as this one.

If Republicans were so concerned about safety and public good, why are they not addressing the real problems in bathrooms such as large gaps between the stall door and the stall wall or the fact that the doors are not floor to ceiling and allow people to climb under or over the doors? Addressing these problems in all public bathrooms would actually help solve any safety or privacy problems that may exist.

For these reasons and so many other reasons, I urge all members of Congress to use their common sense and decency to vote NO on this harmful, hurtful and sickening bill.

Thank you for your time.

Robert Withrow, MR

self retired

Montgomery, TX

I strongly support passage of this bill. Enough with this crazy stuff

Ali Luke  
self  
Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Ali and I live in McKinney, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. We all need to use a facility to relieve our selves. We are all human. There has never been a documented case of a transgender or intersex person harming someone in a restroom they entered that aligns with their gender identity. What there are documented instances of are cis men entering a women's restrooms and assaulting another person.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address ways in which the state of TX will keep drinkable water flowing to all its' residents during this incredible time of growth. Or perhaps discuss the poor air quality and ways to improve it for the health and well being of all Texans. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.  
Thank you.

Cheryl Karrer Thurman  
Self  
Magnolia, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. **GIRLS DESERVE THEIR OWN PRIVATE SPACES.** Advance this legislation and **SUPPORT THE GIRLS OF TEXAS!!!**

Tamara Thigpen, Mrs  
Self  
Highland Village, TX

"I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

John Mata  
Self  
Bandera, TX

Texas' girls need this legislation passed. Common sense is needed. Please protect our girls from these insane and dangerous leftist policies.

Henry Craff  
Self  
Austin, TX

The Texas Women's Privacy Act is an bill that will result in more discrimination of transgender people as well as cisgender people. Demanding people use the bathroom related to their sex assigned at birth is an unnecessary invasion of privacy in addition to being exclusionary to people whose sex at birth do not easily align with either sex.

There are already numerous news stories of cisgender people use the bathroom that align with their sex who are being harassed because of an assumption of being transgender. A women was fired from her job at Walmart because a customer assumed she was transgender. The this transgender people whose appearance does not conform with their birth sex would be subject to the same harassment when trying to abide by the law.

Vote NO on SB 8

Heather LaGuire

Self / teacher

Frisco, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. I urge you to advance this important legislation.

Daniel Carroll

Self/Project Management

Katy, TX

Please pass to protect girls and women in communal, public spaces. Restrooms, locker rooms, dressing rooms and all other spaces that have historically and traditionally been reserved for privacy based on biological sex not the chosen identity of the individual.

Dustin Skinner

Self

New Braunfels, TX

In favor of bill 8

William Carson

Self

Austin, TX

This heinous bill will not only put trans people in danger, but it also puts cis women in danger. If the people writing this Bill are serious about enforcing it, they are going to subject many people to violating searches of their bodies, all to appease to conservative fallacies. This bill is nothing more than a diversion tactic by conservative lawmakers, made to manufacture and uphold culture wars that distract people from the real ways they are failing their constituents. I am vehemently against this discriminatory bill.

T. Randall Smith, Rev. Dr.

self - United Methodist Pastor

Houston, TX

This is an egregious act of incivility and abuse of a small group of individuals who pose no threat to anyone. In addition, how private institutions choose to operate in non-discriminatory ways on their property is not the business of the state, particularly if it touches on the mission and work of religious institutions and their adjunct schools, hospitals, and other human service actions and activities. This kind of state meddling in private matters is better left to the institutions directly affected or dealing compassionately with marginalized persons who pose no threat to their neighbors and not the Legislature of the State of Texas.

Blaine Rindlisbacher

Self

PLANO, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this legislation."

Bonnie Wallace

Recover America

Llano, TX

Please choose COMMON SENSE and protect our little girls in Texas. I've spoken with so many little girls who try so hard never to use the bathrooms at school and have experienced chronic UTIs and bladder infections. These spaces should be designated for GIRLS and girls should feel safe and not scared to use bathrooms. Please advance this bill.

Shelby Monger

Self

La Porte, TX

This is unenforcible. Who is going to be checking the "sex" of every person accessing the "certain" spaces?

Kaitlin Colegate

Myself

New Braunfels, TX

This bill needs to pass, I am in favor of it. It's ridiculous that we even to do this in the first place to protect ourselves. Please pass this bill.

Yvonne Redmon

Self

Iola, TX

Each person's right to privacy and safety in restrooms, dressing rooms, etc., must be protected. Gender is assigned at birth and a person's biological gender should be the determining factor of which bathroom or dressing room is used. This is the only equitable way in which to protect the privacy and safety rights of all persons.

Audrey Rindlisbacher

Self

Plano, TX

I'm in favor of SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance it.

Sean Kirkpatrick

self

Dallas, TX

I strongly oppose this bill that is a modern day witch hunt and politically motivated manufactured cultural panic by a fringe group of extremists. No Texan wants to be examined if they need to use a restroom in a public space. We can trust each other to go to the bathroom without being policed by this overreaching, authoritarian nanny state big government legislation. This legislation is bigoted against an extreme minority of people who are just trying to live their life, go to work, go out to eat, do the same things we all want to be able to do in our state. Trans people are not a threat to you or your kids. This is just bigotry. This is not the Texas that I believe in. Texas is big and diverse and we want to be free to let people be themselves. Stop trying to whip up fear to distract from the fact that people can't afford food and rent right now. The fact that you'd rather attack and criminalize people whose gender you don't approve of than address any of our real social and economic problems is shameful. Nobody wants this bill. We don't want to live in a state where we're policed when we need to go to the bathroom. It's absurd, degrading, and dystopian. The legislation of bigotry such as this does not represent the people of Texas that I've known and surrounded myself with for my 51 years of life. Vote no on SB8.

Mary Pryor

Self--principal/teacher

New Braunfels, TX

I am absolutely for this bill because it is time to protect women and to support their rights. It should not be on women to make the fringe minority feel welcome and comfortable.

Jinane Sounny-Slitine

Self

Buda, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

As a constituent, I urge you to consider compassion and human dignity for individuals who are trans, intersex, and gender expansive while considering SB 8. This bill will perpetuate misinformation about the trans community. Similar bills across the country have resulted in putting all women at risk of harassment even those who are not part of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Instead, I would love to see our representatives address things like equitable education opportunities and voting access for all Texans. Unfortunately, efforts have focused on targeting a small group of people furthering discrimination and isolation of an already marginalized group.

Please consider focusing efforts on improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville.

Thank you for your consideration for working towards keeping one of the most vulnerable and marginalized groups' safety a priority while discussing life-changing policy.

Sincerely,

Dr. SS

Sherry Marchand

Self

New Braunfels, TX

FOR the Bill

Ashley Winder

Self

Richardson, TX

This bill is an unnecessary distraction from more important matters and will lead to women being policed and harassed. We are already hearing stories in the news of women and teenage girls being harassed in the restroom and told to prove their gender. No one cares who is using what bathroom where, and the obsession with it is disgusting and weird. Focus on more important things like flood relief and fixing the power grid.

Alberto Leija

Christian

New Braunfels, TX

For. Birth men and birth women should be separated

Jolyn Potenza

self

Southlake, TX

I stand in support of SB8 to keep our females safe in private spaces. Please do the right thing to protect our women & girls.

Adrienne Gray, MR  
self, self employed investor  
Austin, TX

Wasting time and effort on further discrimination of a very VERY! tiny minority of hard working people just trying to mind their own business is typical of Texas Republicans. I used to think that at least Texas Republicans are mostly libertarian, but not anymore. They're more interested in invading people's privacy and trying to "fix" imaginary problems instead of all the problems staring them in the face because then they'd have to take fewer kickbacks - like our rising electricity costs due to data centers being thrown up everywhere. Or climate issues like floods, heat waves, and winter storms.

James Ludwick, Dr.  
Self  
Houston, TX

I support SB 8 to pass

Sarah Shannon, Rev  
Self  
Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Sarah and I live in Austin, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.  
Instead, I would really love to see the committee address flood planning for our state. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.  
Thank you,  
Rev. Sarah

Kelley Inman  
NA  
Conroe, TX

Men, people born with XY chromosomes and male body parts do not belong in female spaces with individuals who are genetically weaker than them and cannot protect themselves. Please keep men out of women's locker room, rooms, restrooms, and other areas where we are most vulnerable.

Elizabeth C Searcy, Mrs.  
Self, Professional Career Coach & Writer  
Tomball, TX

I am writing to passionately advocate for the passing of SB8- the Texas Women's Privacy Act. Women's spaces such as bathrooms, gyms, locker rooms, and all public areas need to be designated for only girls and women who are biologically female- not because a man thinks and identifies as female. Please protect girls and women in Texas from what they deserve-privacy and safety from biological males who are predators and confused about their gender. Men do not belong in women's private spaces.  
Thank you for listening.  
Sincerely, Elizabeth C Searcy

Leslie Hillhouse  
Self - Retired  
Grapevine, TX

Please support and advance SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Our daughters and grand daughters deserve the dignity and right to privacy in public schools. They deserve the safety to protect them from failed males who pretend to be girls. Please protect Texas young ladies.

Becky Bullard  
Self / Communications  
Austin, TX

This bill is called "The Texas Women's Privacy Act," but I am struggling to see how it gives women privacy. Is it privacy for young girls to have to show their breasts or other body parts to "prove" their gender to anyone who demands such a demonstration from them, as happened recently in Minnesota? (<https://www.newsweek.com/teen-forced-prove-gender-public-bathroom-2112936>)

As a mom of two young girls, I believe this bill does not protect their privacy -- it threatens it.

Please vote against this bill that not only endangers trans people, but all of us.

William Rocha  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

Yes!! Men (born with a penis) in men's bathrooms only!

Joyce Shoop, Mrs.  
Concerned Women for America  
Frisco, TX

I urge our Texas State Senators to pass this bill to insure that there are no biological men who identify as women in spaces designated for women, such as restrooms and athletic changing facilities. Texas has already passed bills related to not allowing biological men who identify as women in women's sports, so this bill would be self-evident as a companion measure to prohibit men in women's private spaces. Please do the right thing to uphold the privacy of biological women.

Sydney Greenblatt

self

Houston, TX

As a Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed “inspectors” to harass those who don’t fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

The dangers of this legislation are clear. Research shows that bathroom restrictions harm transgender people through harassment and violence. Particularly among transgender and nonbinary youth, this legislation puts them at risk of depression and suicide.

This bill failed when it came before the legislature in 2017. When Odessa passed a similar measure last year, it was abandoned after they found the legislation cannot be enforced. Entertaining this bill distracts your attention from more pressing issues while escalating the risk of severely violating the bodily autonomy of Texans.

The Jewish tradition teaches that every person is created b’tzelem Elohim – in the image of God. That belief calls us to respect each person and celebrate the beauty of each person as their full self. SB 8 seeks to marginalize and demonize, rather than cherish and uplift.

Texans have made it clear that they oppose this legislation. Please oppose SB 8 and do not vote it out of committee.

Karen McCarty

Self

Cedar Park, TX

When did we become so far removed from common sense? And, where are the people who don't follow the crowd? This should never have come to a Senate Bill to define designated spaces for privacy and safety in facilities. There is a reasonable expectation of privacy and safety in bathrooms, changing rooms, dressing rooms or any place designated for hygiene or garment change.

Our society has be dumbed down to the point of stupidity. Please pass this bill and put sharp teeth in the penalty for violation.

Cynthia Jones

Self

Austin, TX

NO

Cynthia Pigg

Self

Georgetown, TX

Vote NO

Kenny THOMPSON

Self

New Braunfels, TX

For. How’s this even a thing

Velvet Coberley

Self

Winnsboro, TX

"I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

Mary Power

Self

Fischer, TX

I am for this bill

Laura Baker

self

Katy, Texas, TX

I am against any laws passed that discriminates against LGBT people and strongly disagree with the gop legislatures focus on these types of issues when they support and allow a pedophile to run our country. I will strongly fight against all of these types of wasteful bills.

Margaux Kolquist

Self

Buda, TX

Dear Members of the Committee, I am writing as a resident of Buda, TX to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 8, commonly known as the "bathroom bill." This legislation mandates that transgender individuals use restrooms, locker rooms, changing facilities, prisons, jails, and certain violence shelters corresponding to their sex assigned at birth. It imposes steep fines—\$5,000 for a first offense and \$25,000 for each subsequent violation—on institutions that allow transgender people to use facilities aligned with their gender identity. It also authorizes civil lawsuits against institutions and grants investigative oversight to the Attorney General. This bill undermines safety and dignity by forcing transgender individuals into spaces that do not match their identity, increasing their risk of harassment and violence. Legal experts warn this bill effectively sanctions "gender policing" and opens the door to harmful, frivolous lawsuits. It also affects cisgender individuals. Many people have features that don't match narrow gender expectations. For example, women with PCOS may experience excessive hair growth, and men with conditions like gynecomastia may have more feminine features. This bill invites invasive questioning and humiliation for anyone who doesn't "look" a certain way. It institutionalizes discrimination and surveillance by empowering individuals and institutions to question someone's gender based solely on appearance, fostering an environment of fear and suspicion rather than safety and inclusion. It also diverts attention from urgent priorities. At a time when Texans need leadership on issues like flood recovery, education, and infrastructure, this legislation instead targets a vulnerable community. Finally, it continues a harmful pattern. Since 2015, Texas lawmakers have repeatedly introduced similar bills, each one deepening stigma and discrimination against transgender Texans. I respectfully urge you to vote NO on SB 8. Texas should protect the safety, dignity, and freedoms of all its residents—not pass laws that foster fear, surveillance, and division. Thank you for your time, your public service, and for considering the voices of Texans who value inclusion, respect, and equity. Sincerely, Margaux Kolquist

Allison Deshotel

Self

Cedar Park, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation!

Martha Garza Johnson

CDF

Boling, TX

I support HB8! Let women be women!!!

Adelaide Bier

Self, small business owner

Cedar Park, TX

Please vote no. Please find a different solution that does not threaten the dignity of innocent children

There are so many other problems that deserve your attention. Worrying about what bathroom kids are using is not an important use of your time or taxpayer dollars. Please please please vote no and stop this nonsense

Hannah Dalton

self

Austin, TX

Hi, my name is Hannah Dalton and I am a parent from Austin, TX. I'm writing to urge the house leaders to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Thank you!

Ren Szabo

self, student

Plano, TX

This bill would force myself and other trans men to use women's bathrooms. This bill would force men into women's spaces, not keep them out!!

Kristen Kelley

Myself

New Braunfels, TX

I am writing to state that I am IN FAVOR of this passing. Biological men have ZERO reason to be in women's private spaces. Our daughters shouldn't have to worry about a biological male walking into a bathroom, locker room, bathroom, etc and worry about if he is peeping at her or going to do something worse.

Laura Donahue

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am FOR the ban!!!! Why are we even in this situation where a natural born male can access a women's bathroom?!!! Think of the safety of CHILDREN at the hands of a MAN that "identifies" as a woman! This is absurd!!

Karl Johnson

Self

Boling, TX

Women to have their space

Doug Gray  
self - Technology Executive  
Austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs Committee,

My name is Doug and I live in Austin, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harmful.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the urgent need for stronger veteran services and mental health support. I am a former U.S. Air Force officer who served at Kelly AFB here in Texas, and I have seen firsthand how many of our veterans, service members, and first responders struggle to access the care they need. Too many Texans who served our country are left without adequate support, which not only endangers their well-being but also places strain on our communities and law enforcement. Ensuring timely access to mental health services honors their sacrifice, saves lives, and strengthens families across our state.

It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

thank you for attention,  
Doug

Cierra Simpson  
Self  
Fort Worth, TX

No cop should be in any bathroom at any time for any reason at means necessary.

Amy Gatlin  
Self  
Allen, TX

This is a bill based on irrational fears. There is no data showing a trans person is more likely to assault or harm another person. How many charges have been filed? How many have been convicted? Most fear going to a men's bathroom where they are easy targets.

The people pushing this bill are ignorant to the fact that male body parts don't work after hormone therapy.

I've personally watched high school girls take pictures and video trans kids in school bathrooms while the trans kid was just trying to empty their bladder. The predators are those that are spreading hate and misinformation about trans people.

This bill is not about protecting girls. It's about harming trans people. There are much bigger issues and threats to our kids. This is a manufactured issue that's not based on facts but mere emotion and fear of "the other."

Go talk to trans kids. Get to know them, their struggles and how this impacts them.

Jesus sought out the least of these and gave them love. If you call yourself Christians you are not known by your love.

Frank Holman  
Self  
Austin, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Taylor Sullivan  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am for this bill and believe women should have a safe place for women only. Transgender people can create their own bathrooms for transgender people's and use it separately from women and men. They can also have their own sports for transgender women or transgender men outside of women's sports and men's sports.

Alex Wallenwein  
none  
Houston, Texas, United States, TX

"I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

Madison Hicks  
Self  
Terrell, TX

As a retired teacher in public schools and mother of a daughter, I wholeheartedly reject men in women's spaces. I do not care what a person identifies as, if you are anatomically male, there is no place for you in women's spaces. There is too much at stake to allow this...rape, voyeurism, sickos showing themselves, perverts, etc.  
Thank you for your time.

Teresa Guzman-Cruz  
Self  
Del valle, TX  
Don't change the bathrooms

Robyn Pond  
Representing the 7:14 Initiative  
Lago Vista, TX

This bill is a call back to sanity. I understand that there is a very small population of transgender individuals who are affected. But there is a far greater majority of individuals who would exploit an opportunity to enter the premises of the opposite gender for the wrong reasons. Government is responsible for protecting our citizens. Thank you.

Christina Bastos  
Self, Mother  
Rockdale, TX

I am in Favor of this bill. Please protect women and girls from the encroachment of men into women's restrooms and locker rooms.

Sharon Tryon, Mrs  
Self  
Waxahachie, TX

I agree with this bill no men should be in women's restrooms. Or vice versa.

Danielle Gardner, Dr  
Self  
Midlothian, TX

Please vote yes

Clarence Klekar

Self

Luling, TX

I am asking that the committee support SB8; boys do not need to be in girls bathrooms/locker rooms. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

Abbey Goodman

Self - Licensed Master Social Worker

Eules, TX

My name is Abbey Goodman and I am a Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) serving the needs of vulnerable Texans. I am commenting today to express my strong dissent of the passing of SB8. As a Social Worker, my code of ethics requires that I work to support clients fully, that every person has dignity and worth, and that it is our responsibility to serve clients with marginalized identities. And thus, I would be remiss if I did not express my dissent over this harmful, misinformed bill.

LGBTQ+ Texans have been fighting for decades for the right to simply exist in public, and the recent attacks at both the federal level and state level have made this that much harder for Transgender Texans specifically. Not only does this bill continue this track of harm on this community, it also creates harm for Cisgendered Texans as people become hyper-vigilant in their gender "policing." As we've already seen in the example of Gerika Mudra in Minnesota, harmful anti-trans rhetoric, the likes of which this bill reinforces, has already led to non-trans people becoming the targets of scrutiny in private spaces. How then, may I ask, does this bill 'protect' women if we've seen actual cases in which it is harming women?

Thank you for your time and consideration, and again, I encourage you to please support me and my fellow Social Workers and LGBTQ+ Texans in expressing strong dissent for SB8.

Carol Ann Stewart

Self

Amarillo, TX

I stand for Birth sex bathrooms, Birth sex locker rooms and and any private dressing area should protect minors especially from predators pretending to be women. Our DNA not our opinion determines our sexual being. Protect identity of children from being confused by mental health issues of others wrestling with their identity. Off topic but.. No sex exchanges on anyone under 18. \*Only exception is the rare baby born both gender. Then child should have a say as to which gender dominates.

Emmet Hunker

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing in strong opposition to Texas SB8. As a trans person, this bill directly threatens my ability to participate in public life with safety and dignity. Denying me access to public restrooms that align with my gender identity is not about safety, it is about exclusion.

Trans and gender-expansive people already face disproportionate levels of harassment and violence. Bills like SB8 do not protect anyone; they instead create an unsafe environment where simply using a restroom becomes a risk of confrontation, humiliation, or legal penalty.

Everyone deserves to use the restroom without fear. That includes me, my community, and the countless Texans who will be harmed by this legislation. SB8 would make it harder for us to go to school, work, travel, or simply live our daily lives. Forcing people to choose between their safety and their basic bodily needs is cruel, unnecessary, and un-Texan.

I urge you to reject SB8. Texas should be a place where all people can thrive, not a place where basic human needs are turned into battlegrounds.

Chloe Latham Sikes

Self

Austin, TX

Members of the Committee,

I write as a proud Texan and parent. SB 8 presents hateful restrictions on how people use facilities for their most basic and personal needs. I fear that this legislation further discriminates against our Texas trans and broader LGBTQ community, not out of any actual concern for safety but solely as a means to impose state-sanctioned violence, punishment and discrimination. Please oppose SB 8, as the Legislature has on similar and widely unpopular legislation before.

Molly Coffman

Self, Engineer

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

Karl Pardo

Texans

Coppell, TX

Another bill that instead of helping women sexualizes them. We are now going to have the morality police outside of every bathroom checking for vulvas and penises. Teenagers won't be able to use bathrooms without fear a that a creepy old man/woman is peeping on them. Passing all these bill to harm a small minority actually harms the majority. Stay out of our bathrooms, let the trans community use the bathroom of their choice, it wasn't an issue before, not an issue now, and not an issue tomorrow unless we pass laws like these that make harassment, sexualization, and hate okay.

Perhaps not until men start being harassed will this type of hate on women will stop.

Mike Killalea  
Indivisible 1431  
Lago Vista, TX

I strongly oppose Texas Senate Bill 8 (SB 8), a discriminatory and dangerous piece of legislation. It not only targets and harms the transgender community but also creates a climate of fear and risks economic fallout without providing any proven benefit to public safety.

SB8 is simply the latest rehash of Dan Patrick's old "bathroom bill," that made our state a laughingstock around the nation, and ultimately failed.

The bill's proponents claim the legislation will protect privacy and ensure public safety. But a closer look belies that.

First and foremost, SB 8 directly threatens the safety and well-being of transgender and gender non-conforming individuals. By forcing them to use facilities that do not align with their gender identity, the bill exposes them to harassment, intimidation, and even physical violence.

For transgender men, who may have beards or other masculine features, entering a women's restroom could lead to accusations and confrontations. Similarly, transgender women could be subjected to similar hostility if they are forced to use a men's restroom. Beyond the immediate threat of violence, such legislation contributes to a pervasive sense of marginalization and anxiety, forcing transgender people to either risk public humiliation or avoid public life altogether.

Health experts and medical organizations have warned that this avoidance can lead to serious health issues, such as urinary tract infections and kidney problems, as well as increased mental health concerns like anxiety and depression.

Furthermore, the fearmongering argument that these bills are necessary to protect women and children from sexual assault is unfounded. Law enforcement officials and civil rights organizations have repeatedly pointed out that there is no statistical evidence linking non-discriminatory bathroom policies to an increase in public safety incidents. In fact, many states and cities have had such policies in place for years without any rise in crime.

The real danger lies in the bill's potential for overzealous enforcement. The legislation could empower individuals to act as self-appointed enforcers, leading to the harassment of anyone—including cisgender women with non-traditional appearances—who doesn't fit a narrow, subjective view of what a man or woman should look like.

Doubt it? Remember Imane Khelif, the Algerian cis-gender woman Olympic boxer? Hysteria for some reason drove conspiracy theories that Khelif is a man. Despite their debunking by the International Olympic Committee, these lies were repeated and emphasized by high-profile people, including J.D. Vance and Charlie Kirk.

SB8 would likely create dozens of similar witch hunts around Texas. We don't need that.

Finally, passing a bill like SB 8 could have significant negative economic and societal repercussions for the state of Texas. The precedent set by a similar bill in North Carolina, which resulted in a massive economic boycott and the loss of major sporting events and bus

Destiny Olson  
self - Church Administrator  
Austin, TX

I am the parent of a transgender male adult. For his safety, and for the emotional wellbeing of females, it is better that he is able to use the men's restroom than to walk into a women's restroom. Because he is the epitome of masculine, walking into a women's restroom would be problematic. Quit wasting time on an issue that affects 1% of the population, and focus on things that actually matter.

Gregory Dill

Self

Dallas, TX

I strongly oppose SB 8. It sends a message to businesses, to the rest of the country, and to the LGBT community and the family/allies that the state of Texas is an unwelcoming and potentially unsafe state for LGBT people.

Philip and Nancy Goodwin

Grassroots America

Fort Worth, TX

We urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law!

Brad Rademachir

Self

Kyle, TX

Thanks for standing for Texas children!

Birch Griesse

Self

Austin, TX

I oppose the bill. Just let people use the bathroom in peace.

Aubrey Caplin

Self

Austin, TX

Overreach and regulation of people's bodily autonomy is wrong. Regulating who goes into the bathroom leads to conflict and self policing in communities which leads to division. News outlets have reported on women reporting biologically female people for being in the women's bathroom because they assume they are trans. Allowing citizens to turn on each other is ridiculous and dangerous because the trans population is less than 1% of the national population which means that most conflicts on this issue are that of generalized social policing. Also, trans people just want to pee. If some one was nefarious enough to try and invade the public bathroom to prey on others, they would just do it and don't need some sort of « disguise » to get it done. Trans people are at greater risk of violent crime than non trans people, so why would they be attempting anything untoward. This will not help and will only hurt communities

Viviel Bohler

Self, Artist

Austin, TX

I'm writing to urge representatives to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. The legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. As a gender queer person myself, I am worried about the violence and discrimination I and my loved ones will face every day, and are already facing, if this bill is passed. This bill protects no one, it only further harms gender expansive people and women, as we have already seen. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Richard Abramowitz

Myself

Dallas, TX

As a Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed “inspectors” to harass those who don't fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

The dangers of this legislation are clear. Research shows that bathroom restrictions harm transgender people through harassment and violence. Particularly among transgender and nonbinary youth, this legislation puts them at risk of depression and suicide.

This bill failed when it came before the legislature in 2017. When Odessa passed a similar measure last year, it was abandoned after they found the legislation cannot be enforced. Entertaining this bill distracts your attention from more pressing issues while escalating the risk of severely violating the bodily autonomy of Texans.

The Jewish tradition teaches that every person is created b'tzelem Elohim – in the image of God. That belief calls us to respect each person and celebrate the beauty of each person as their full self. SB 8 seeks to marginalize and demonize, rather than cherish and uplift.

Texans have made it clear that they oppose this legislation. Please oppose SB 8 and do not vote it out of committee.

Bradley Bond

Self, Logistics Coordinator

Georgetown, TX

I oppose this bill.

Joy Villarreal-Belford, NONEOF THESE

Self

Houston, TX

My name is Joy Villarreal-Belford, and I am a constituent who lives in Houston.

I am writing to you to urge you to reject SB 8. All Texans deserve legislators who will advocate for their safety and wellbeing. The special session should not be spent attacking vulnerable members of our community, and instead should focus on addressing real emergencies, like the catastrophic flooding in Central Texas.

It is your responsibility to represent the interests of your constituents and prioritize issues during this special session accordingly. As a Jewish Texan, my tradition teaches me that we must not stand idly by when Texans are under attack, and that we are responsible for each other in the pursuit of tzedek, justice. This includes speaking out against harmful bills like SB 8 that single out members of our community and erode our rights to live safely without government interference.

I urge you to join me and the majority of Texans who support LGBTQ equality, and focus on helping, not harming Texans -- please vote no on SB 8. Thank you for your time.

Alice Li, n/a

self

Austin, TX

This bill is completely unnecessary and dangerous. It will not protect anyone. It subjects trans Texans and anyone gender non conforming to extra scrutiny and bullying - women with beards from medical conditions, women with short haircuts, men lacking facial hair, etc. are all affected by this. All kinds of Texans will always live here and pay taxes. I think we all deserve to live without fear and be able to use these spaces and facilities as intended. They should be practical spaces, not used to suppress individuals' freedom to express themselves.

Sarah Berel-Harrop  
self / chaplain  
Farmers Branch, TX

Thank you for your servis and for the oppportunity to provide comments against SB8.

As a Unitarian Universalist religious professional, I affirm the inherent worthiness and dignity of all people, and that includes our lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex, and queer siblings. It's no secret that this bill is targeting trans people with a purported concern that it is somehow dangerous (to cis people) for trans women to share a bathroom with cis women or trans men to share a bathroom with cis men.

We simply do not have safety or privacy issues in our Unitarian Universalist congregations, the overwhelming majority of which include trans people fully in congregational life. In our communities, we do not speculate about each other's genitals. We believe that people just need a clean, safe, and private place to go to the bathroom, and we trust people to use the one that is appropriate for them.

My mom played bridge with the same women for 30 years. She came home rattled one night – there was an interview with a trans woman on the news. Her friends called the woman a “monster.” My mom could only think that these women she thought she knew were the ones acting like monsters. While she didn't think her comrades would personally hurt someone, she understood that denying another person's humanity provides a permission structure for people with fewer inhibitions to commit violence.

In fact, trans people are in far more danger from cis people than vice versa. We see this each Trans Day of Remembrance in November, where we remember and mourn those who we have lost over the past year to violence in the US and worldwide. This is just deaths – not including physical and/or emotional harassment and violence.

One afternoon, I handled a call at my congregation. The caller asked if we were supportive of trans people, and I said yes. I thought she was church-shopping. Then she came to her point – she was in a store by herself, needed to go to the bathroom, and wondered if I could just be on the phone with her until she had safely left the restroom. Which I did. I invite you to imagine for yourself having a such a level of fear – a rational fear - of being harassed or assaulted that you search the internet for a church that might be friendly to you so that you have a lifeline – simply to go to the bathroom.

You- legislators – are feeding this atmosphere of fear and violence with this bill and any others that target trans people. You are stoking fear in people like my mother's bridge partners – encouraging them to see other people as less than human. In that cycle of fear, you are nurturing violence against trans and gender non-conforming people, who are rightfully afraid of being hurt. And I am against this bill because I want that fear and violence to stop.

Amanda Mankowski  
self  
Lubbock, TX

My name is Amanda, and I am a parent and voter from Lubbock, Texas. I am urging you to avoid using trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that you vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Stephen Niermann

self

Carrollton, TX

Please prohibit biological men in women's and girl's private spaces. The person who cannot define "women" is a very stupid person and worthy of our mockery for being so ignorant not to be able to tell the difference.

Jana Long, Mrs

Concerned Women for America of Texas, state director

Dallas, TX

It is time to protect our women and girls in the state of Texas. Bathrooms and dressing rooms should be protected spaces. There are two genders, male and female. The female spaces need to be protected in our schools, public places, even the Texas State Capitol. This bill will help women and girls across and within our state and we can know that Texas stands for the rights of women. I support this bill completely and will be excited when it passes. Thank you for hearing this bill and voting for the bill.

Armani Kendall, Ms

Self

Charlotte, TX

It is unfair trans and non binary people haven't done anything wrong pull up the facts of actual crimes in bathrooms and other shared spaces by trans ppl that happen it's all hypothetical what ifs

Nikki Ngo

self

Austin, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Alexandra Yost

Self

Austin, TX

AGAINST. This bill is hurtful and dangerous not only to trans people but specifically to cis women. There have already been multiple instances throughout the country of men following cis women into women's restrooms and attacking them because the men think that the woman is trans. How is this law enforced? By having men check the genitals of everyone entering the bathroom? This is dangerous and unconstitutional.

Linda Eckert

self

Onalaska, TX

It is truly ridiculous we have to have a bill for this. But since there is no limit on what the liberals will allow, I would like to make sure that boys lusting after girls in shower areas or bathrooms will not be on the table. Thanks.

Lisa Brenskelle

self

Houston, TX

This bill solves no problems and won't do anything to make life better for the folks who live here. The only thing it will accomplish is to further marginalize transgender Texans and their families, make them less safe (as they are far more likely to be attacked in a restroom than a non-transgender person), and make their lives even harder than they already are. Texas should live up to its name as the friendly state and be a safe and welcoming space for Texans and visitors alike - particularly in public buildings. The House State Affairs Committee should refuse to send this bill to the floor.

Madda Lynn

Self

Honolulu, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Billie Barber

Self

Bonham, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote

Sergio Barrio

self - tech worker

Pflugerville, TX

I strongly oppose this bill as it amounts to a huge violation of privacy over a tiny portion of the population. It plainly seeks to limit the public lives of transgender individuals without addressing their concerns, the writers and supports of this bill clearly just want transgender individuals to stop existing, a denial of their fundamental rights.

Tracy Terrell, Ms

Self

Austin, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

Stephanie Thompson, Ms.

Self, Visual Artist

Austin, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

veronica Mohrmann

Self

Austin, TX

I am against SB8 and wanting to remind our representatives to vote No on this bathroom bill, it is not humane nor a respectable representation of Texans, we watch out in Texas for our neighbors and respect their right to existence and decency to live in peace and the facilities that represent their current orientation without harassment or harm. Thank you for your time and consideration

MC Hart

self

Hunt, TX

I adamantly urge this committee to /not/ use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

I am watching as the Hunt, Ingram, and Kerrville communities along with the rest of the state struggle to deal with the wake of the July flood, and looking to government leadership to focus on that vital task.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I strongly urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Kane Moon

Self

Houston, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

You have a decent amount of gender expansive people here, you take them out of the work force, they lose their job or leave the state. That's a lot of people's wallets leaving. A lot of taxes not coming in for the state. Further disruption to queer life is choosing less money for the state. The government's wallet won't be there forever, but our families can be.

Bridget Brame

self

Georgetown, TX

My family and friends STRONGLY support SB8 by Middleton. This bill provides protection for women and girls in private spaces.

Kalib Eddings  
Self  
Pflugerville, TX

It has been shown continuously in other states that this infringement of personal rights does not work and only causes further harm to the public. This doesn't just target trans and queer people it affects every woman too. It will affect security jobs and people who are forced to do bathroom checks. This will only further traumatize people when they were forced to exposed their genitalia for proof to exist in a restroom behind a closed stall door.

There are countless other opportunities to improve rights for women and protect. Such as affirming reproductive rights, allowing full autonomy for women over their bodies. Increasing public school systems funding would also help further women's rights in Texas. We are in the lower percentiles overall for public education and it seems we should do something about that. Expanding protections for victims of sexual abuse and harassment would also aid women more than forcing them to enter a security check in order to use the restroom, a basic human need.

This isn't about wanting to protect women. This bill is being used to specifically target queer and trans people of color. People who don't fit the mold of what a woman looks like under republican verbiage has alressynbeen proved flawed in countless other states where cisgender woman w short hurt, less feminine features, women who have had mastectomies, etc have been forced to identify themselves by often MEN in the women's restrooms. This not only distrusts the victim but also all of those who are in the restroom itself, the employees working, etc.

This is fear mongering. This is prejudice legislature and ultimately discriminatory.

Feyi Obamehinti, Dr.  
Ravir LLC Leadership Services  
Keller, TX

In full support of SB8 – Women's Private Spaces.

Kayleigh Pelt

Self

Houston, TX

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to SB 8, the proposed legislation that would prohibit transgender Texans from using public restrooms that align with their gender identity. This bill does not protect our communities—it harms them.

First, SB 8 undermines the fundamental rights and dignity of transgender people. All Texans deserve the ability to go about their daily lives without fear of harassment, humiliation, or legal punishment for using a restroom. Forcing individuals to use facilities that do not match their gender identity invites discrimination, increases the risk of violence, and denies them the same freedoms granted to others.

Second, SB 8 does nothing to enhance public safety. There is no credible evidence that inclusive restroom policies pose a threat. In fact, many cities, school districts, and businesses across the country already allow transgender people to use the restroom consistent with their identity, without incident. Public safety concerns are best addressed through existing laws against assault and harassment, not through blanket bans that stigmatize an entire community.

Third, the bill has harmful economic and reputational consequences for Texas. When similar legislation was proposed in other states, it triggered widespread backlash from businesses, conventions, and tourism, costing local economies millions. Texas prides itself on being a state of growth, opportunity, and freedom. Passing SB 8 would signal to the nation that Texas does not value equality, harming our competitiveness and reputation.

Finally, this legislation contradicts values Texans hold dear: personal liberty, fairness, and limited government intrusion into private lives. Decisions about which restroom a person uses should not be dictated by the state. Transgender Texans are our neighbors, coworkers, students, and family members. They deserve compassion and respect, not exclusion.

I urge you to reject SB 8 and instead work toward policies that protect all Texans, strengthen our communities, and ensure fairness under the law.

Mark McKenzie

self, private security professional

Magnolia, TX

This bill is not going to make the average person in Texas safer in any measurable sense, but it will make Texans and visitors to Texas who are transgender less safe, and potentially subject them to harassment and unnecessary action by law enforcement. This bill will make transgender persons less safe to be in public and access public accommodations such as restrooms and locker rooms. Where would a transgender woman be safer - a women's restroom, or a men's restroom? A transgender woman in the men's room is much more likely to face harassment and assault by men than she would in a women's restroom. Likewise, a transgender man using the women's restroom is more likely to make women feel less safe and less comfortable, versus that transgender man using the men's restroom. The boogeyman of people claiming to be identifying as transgender to gain access to the private spaces such as restrooms and locker rooms of the opposite sex in order to perpetrate crimes against them is largely a falsehood. While there have been very few isolated cases of such occurrences, there are a far greater number of cases where transgender people were harmed because they were forced to use the restroom used by those born with the same genitals. A transgender woman using a men's restroom faces the same concerns as a naturally born female using a men's restroom, while a transgender man using a woman's restroom would face the same potential consequences as a naturally born male using the women's restroom - that being a higher likelihood of violence used against the transgender person, or the transgender person being accused of being a pervert or criminal for simply existing in the wrong space. It is not the business of the state to police what restrooms a person uses, and it is a step backward to trample upon someone's civil rights and criminalize their existence using laws based in fear and bigotry. The criminally minded person is not going to care what the law says, perverts will sneak into the private spaces of others to do evil deeds, they have long before transgender people were as public as they are today, and transgender people are being used as convenient scapegoats by both criminals and by authorities and groups that hate trans people just for existing. The average transgender person is no more of a deviant or a pervert than the average cisgendered person, and the average transgender person is more likely to be a victim of crime than the average cisgender person, due to misguided public perceptions and ill placed fear. SB 8 perpetuates the stereotype that transgender people are all perverts and deviants, and force transgender people to make a choice between their own safety and potentially becoming criminals by simply using a restroom. There are already plenty of laws on the books with which to prosecute perverts that engage in criminal actions like sexual assault, public lewdness, or the illicit recording of others. Don't criminalize people using the restroom.

Jeneria Lewis, Honorable

Self

Bayview, TX

Don't allow biological men to enter the private areas for biological women. We are not the same.

Carrie Ives

Self

Richardson, TX

News recently broke of a teenager followed into the bathroom at Buffalo Wild Wings in Minnesota by a waitress who did not think the teen looked feminine enough to use the ladies room. The waitress harassed the teen until she showed her breasts. We have stories of men beating up women that they think don't look feminine enough. These aren't trans women. These are just women that don't match what someone is expecting and then they assault these women. Having a law like this on the books will make the assaulters think they have the law on their side as they beat up women. This is a bad law that will end up with more women being beaten and assaulted than we already have.

We already have laws against rape. If someone is entering a bathroom to rape someone, that is already illegal.

It's not trans people doing the assaulting.

The level of fear I've heard from lawmakers about trans people in bathrooms makes me think that y'all don't know how to behave in the bathroom and expect the worst behavior from others. Stop staring at people. Keep your hands and eyes to yourself and it doesn't matter who is using what bathroom.

When I was in Germany in 1994, one of our rest stops was a surprise to me as an American, there were just a bunch of single stalls (though they didn't have the giant gaps often found in bathrooms in the US) and men and women just picked the next open stall to do their business. It wasn't a big deal because people focused on getting their business done not spying on others. I think most people know not to stare at others in bathrooms and changing areas. If you don't know that, take this as a lesson you should have learned in elementary school.

Asking people to prove their gender is very invasive. Are you expecting people to carry their birth certificates around with them? Who enforces the law? Do we have creeps that join the police just to ask women to show their breasts to go to the bathroom? Do we post the pecker police outside the men's room? The enforcement details leave a lot of room for abuse.

This is a bad law. Do not pass it out of committee.

Camille Sturges

Self

Dallas, TX

SB 8 is deeply worrying to me for privacy and security reasons. I am a natural born woman, and I'm shocked the Texas Senate would allow a bill that emboldens men to ask me about my privates in public spaces. There are no provisions in this bill that protect real women from men who would use this law to demand to see underneath our clothes to prove we're real women, like the case of Gerika Mudra in Minnesota. Texas law already bans sexual harassment (from transgender people or otherwise) so if someone is caught using a bathroom or locker room inappropriately, there is still punishment. This law seems like it would harm women, not protect us. Please vote no, for my safety.

Jesse Dietderich

self

Sugar Land, TX

Please stop wasting time and money that is provided you by us, the tax payers, to target a Texan minority that have little to no impact on what we as Texans truly want to be addressed. I am asking a vote of NO on passing SB8 out of committee.

Shira Stevenson

self - faith based community engagement

Garland, TX

As a Texas resident, I am writing today to ask that you stop SB 8, a discriminatory bill that attacks non-binary, intersex and transgender Texans. This bill would ban Texans using public school bathrooms consistent with their gender identity.

If signed into law, this bill would put Texas in direct contravention of federal civil rights law and immediately spur litigation which Texas taxpayers will be funding for years. The Associated Press found that when North Carolina passed similar legislation in 2016, it cost the state \$3.76 billion over 10 years from loss of business opportunities and impact on the lives of countless students. If Texas passes this bill, transgender Texans will bear the cost of the discrimination - discrimination that already causes Texans to feel unsafe in their own communities.

Legislation attacking transgender, nonbinary and intersex Texans refuses to serve the major interests and needs of communities and families, who now pay the price as the consequence of failed leadership across the state. Discrimination is wrong, and we believe it has no place in Texas.

Susan McConnell

Self/Retired

Carrollton, TX

Please vote yes to SB 8

Heather Warren

Self - procurement buyer

Fort Worth, TX

I am strongly against SB8.

Robert Holland

Harrison County Republican Party

Hallsville, TX

At no time is it acceptable for biological males to be in the rest room/locker room with girls. "I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms."

Jo Ivester

self

Georgetown, TX

It wasn't about water fountains back in the 1960s and it's not about bathrooms today. It's about segregation and discrimination and cruelty. As a cisgender woman, I have never ever felt threatened by sharing a public restroom with a transgender person. Not once. Not ever. And I write this as someone who was sexually assaulted when I was only eleven years old. I know what it feels like to end up with broken ribs and a concussion and an inability to walk. I know what fear is. Sharing a bathroom with a transgender person is not fear. It is normal. It is natural. It is decent. What is indecent are the attempts to pass bills like SB 8 that make people feel unwelcome, not to protect women, but to gain political points. I am ashamed of our Texas politicians that are trying to do this. And I appreciate our politicians that are standing up to this bullying. Please vote no on SB 8.

Omar Elian

Self

Texas City, TX

You are trying to hurt vulnerable people go to hell

William Penderson

self

Austin, TX

For god's sake can we focus on important issues instead of attacking the smallest most vulnerable groups. This behavior is shameful and disgusting. Let's work on making things better for all of us instead of making things worse for a few of us.

Lysander Black

Self

San Antonio, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Alexandra Morrison

Self

Spring, TX

I strongly oppose Senate Bill 8, the “Texas Women’s Privacy Act” by Senator Middleton. This discriminatory legislation targeting transgender Texans is harmful and unnecessary.

Key Concerns:

No Evidence of Problem: During Senate debate, Senator Middleton could not provide data supporting the need for this bill when directly questioned. Good policy requires evidence, not fear-based assumptions.

Harms All Women: This bill endangers all women by creating situations where any woman can be questioned or harassed in restrooms. As noted in debate, women who don’t conform to certain appearance standards have been targeted in states with similar laws.

Targets Vulnerable Population: This legislation specifically discriminates against transgender Texans, including children, who already face disproportionate harassment and violence. It institutionalizes discrimination rather than promoting safety.

Enforcement Problems: The bill provides no clear guidance on verification, creating confusion and liability for businesses, schools, and government entities while potentially violating everyone’s privacy.

Economic Impact: Similar laws in other states caused significant economic losses through boycotts and business relocations. Texas should focus on growth-promoting policies, not divisive measures.

Repeated Failures: This is the third version in 2025 alone, following failed attempts in 2017 and 2023. The pattern of failure demonstrates lack of merit and support.

Constitutional Issues: The legislation raises serious equal protection, due process, and privacy concerns.

Texas should address real priorities: education, healthcare, infrastructure, and economic development. This bill wastes legislative time and taxpayer resources on discrimination disguised as protection.

I urge you to reject SB 8 and focus on legislation that truly benefits all Texans. Discrimination is not a Texas value.

Penny Bradshaw

Self

The Woodlands, TX

I do not understand the obsession that the Texas legislature has with trans persons. ALL Texans, no matter what their identity, deserve respect, safety and privacy. Passing this bill will certainly jeopardize the safety of these individuals. Hate should have no place in our legislature. As a Texan and supporter of the right to be who you are, I ask that you vote NO on SB 8. Do not criminalize your constituents.

Amber Sewell

Self

Missouri city, TX

Opposed to SB 8... trans people should not be kept out of women's bathrooms. They should not be forced into men's bathrooms. Trans. People are not a threat to anyone. There are not just two sexes people sexualities should not be governed by the state there should be between a person and their doctor.

Adela Archuleta

Self customer service representative

San Antonio, TX

And here's a script:

Hi, my name is Adela Archuleta and I am a Texas resident. I'm urging you to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Thank you for your time.

Cyndie Davis

Self/ Educational Consultant

Belton, TX

To the Texas House of Representatives: As a former college educator, and Dept Chairperson in the Child Development/ Early Childhood Dept. at two outstanding Texas Colleges I ask that this "Common Sense" Bill, which recognizes the two genders created by our Heavenly Father when creation began be passed unanimously. I am all too familiar with not only the physical, but also emotional, and social genetic differences that God granted to females and males. They each need their own protected spaces not only for their physical safety, but psychological safety as well. I have three daughters who were blessed to compete in middle school and HS sports. They all three excelled with our swimmer getting to Regionals every year. This would not have happened if males were allowed to compete and invade their private dressing spaces. My husband and I would not have allowed our daughters to be on their school teams if their physical and psychological safety had been put in jeopardy. Although this should be a common-sense issue for every Christian and parent, especially in light of Title IX, I, along with the Christian moms in my neighborhood and at church, am asking for you to show your support for the women and children of Texas and pass SB 8. Thank-you and God Bless, Cyndie Davis

Chabriely Rivera Roldan

Self/ Cashier

San Antonio, TX

As a trans Texan it'd be a relief to not be stressed out when I am needing to do a natural human function for fear of being discriminated against and/or experience violence as many of my trans and even cis siblings have been victims of. A toilet is a toilet. A toilet will never care who uses it. This bill is predatory and inhumane.

Joanna Beasley  
self  
College station, TX

There is no need for this bill. It does not protect women. Women's restrooms have stalls, not urinals. In other states that have passed similar laws, this legislation has been used to harass women who aren't considered "pretty" enough and has in some cases forced teens and young women to show parts of their bodies to strangers that they should not have to show. It makes using the restroom more dangerous for women, particularly those not considered "pretty" enough, who have short haircuts, or wear pants. It also provides additional expenses to businesses who want to serve everyone as they are forced to provide additional or different restroom accommodations. It is another example of ridiculous political posturing when the TX government should be spending their time on disaster planning and relief given FEMA cuts and hurricane season. TX used to have a pro-business government that cared about Texans-- now instead we're getting these trash bills that help nobody and hurt real people in special sessions. It's ridiculous and a waste of our tax-payer dollars. Anyone who votes for this should be ashamed of themselves and what they have become.

Carolyn Caplan  
self  
Houston, TX

I'm a parent of a transgender adult who will no longer be able to safely visit her home in Texas. That means she can't visit her elderly grandparents, her aunts, and uncles, her cousins, or her siblings at home. We will no longer be able to celebrate holidays together as a large family. That means no more Christmases, Rosh Hashanahs, Hanukkahs, Easters, or Thanksgivings, all holidays where our large family gather to be together. That means she won't be able to visit home for her nephew's birthday. That means if either my husband or I get sick, she can't be here to care for us or visit us in the hospital. Essentially, what you're doing is removing my family from the state of Texas and forcing us to move to a state that doesn't segregate and discriminate others.

I'm a 6th generation Texan. My daughter is a seventh generation Texan and a 3rd generation Houstonian, and you are removing us from our home because of discriminatory legislation that will put my daughter in harm's way for attempting to use the restroom when she gets off an airplane.

This is not the Texas I was raised to believe in by libertarian parents.

Masha Davis  
Self  
Austin, TX

Please don't pass this bill otherwise the unintended consequences are that my trans son and other transgender men will be forced, by law, to use the woman's room. How will women be able to tell the difference between a trans man and a cisgender man claiming he is trans? So women will be more traumatized when this happens. And I know that this will be happening because it is the only way to expose the naivety of this bill.

Karen Murray  
Self  
Houston, TX

I urge Senator Middleton to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Thank you for your time and attention to this critical matter.

brad wood

private citizen and voter

plantersville, TX

As a grandfather of 2 ladies in high school...I find this unimaginable that any of you voting on this bill....considers / feels it is ok for a boy to walk into a girls bathroom.

what happened to all the "sane" democrats who 20 years ago marched / protested & voted for women's equal rights?

This is wrong...& you ALL know its wrong.

When did you Democrats decide to walk away from what's right....and choose to placate groups...simply for votes.

Lastly...I guarantee every female Democrat voting on this bill will walk into the women's bathroom there at the capital....hoping no man follows her in!

Brad Wood

Jack Applewhite, Mr.

Self, Retired

Austin, TX

We are strongly opposed to SB 8 and urge you to vote NO on it. The provisions of this bill remind us (we remember) of the horrible Jim Crow era designations of bathrooms and other facilities as "Colored" or "White". This bill is equally hateful and should be defeated.

Thank you.

Jack and Kathleen Applewhite

1213 Wilderness Drive, Austin

Kate Somers

Self

Friendswood, TX

As a mother of a trans child I am appalled at this bill. It's ignorant, disgusting and hurting kids. Please PLEASE have the decency to vote against this awful bill!!

Milo Murray

Self

Houston, TX

I urge Senator Middleton to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Thank you for your time and attention to this critical matter.

Ernest Mueller

Self/consultant

Round Rock, TX

There is absolutely no justification for harassing Texas citizens with a bill like this. Trans Texans pay their taxes, work their jobs, and are equal to everyone. Saying “you can’t use the restroom” is petty harassment that should be unconstitutional to levy on anyone. Let’s solve some real problems for Texas instead of trying to score national politics brownie points by bringing back discrimination.

Alyssa Ortiz

self

austin, TX

As a lifelong Texan, mother of two, Christian woman, and a child development professional, I urge you to oppose SB 8. If passed, this bill will violate civil liberties, stigmatize transgender people, and could lead to increased safety risks for ALL. As a parent, would you be okay with having your child's genitals checked upon entering a restroom? How would you feel about showing your body when entering a restroom? Every human has a right to use a private restroom without being harrassed or attacked and if you can't see that, what does that say about you? What would Jesus say to genital checks in our elementary schools? Do you think he would condone this kind of discrimination? This bill will harm the very citizens that you claim to protect.

Lorena Kanak

Self

Hallettsville, TX

It's hard to believe we even have to have this Women's Privacy Act, SB 8. Men belong in men's bathrooms, lockerrooms, period. Why is this concept so difficult? Because lawmakers don't have the spine to say NO. I cannot fathom having a daughter, at any age, coming face to face with a male in their private area because they, what, feel they're a girl/woman? Where's common, moral sense? Do not allow SB 8 fall by the wayside again. Youu should have passed this in the regular session. To be clear; I am for SB 8!!

Lucy Frost, MS

Self

Manchaca, TX

I write in strong opposition to SB 8. This bill is an attack on the dignity, safety, and basic freedoms of Texans. It attempts to police people's private lives by forcing them into spaces that do not align with their lived reality, and it invites harassment, lawsuits, and vigilante enforcement against already vulnerable communities.

At its core, SB 8 violates principles of personal liberty and equal protection. Every Texan deserves the right to participate in public life without fear of being questioned, humiliated, or punished for using a restroom. This bill singles out transgender and gender-nonconforming Texans for surveillance and discrimination, which is not only unconstitutional but also cruel.

The so-called "private right of action" provision is especially dangerous. We saw with SB 8 on abortion how deputizing private citizens to sue each other undermines the rule of law and creates a climate of fear and division. This bill repeats that mistake. It invites lawsuits not to protect anyone, but to weaponize the courts against neighbors, coworkers, and even children. Texas should not be in the business of turning Texans against each other.

Further, this bill ignores the real safety data. Transgender people are far more likely to be the targets of violence in public spaces than the perpetrators. Forcing them into restrooms that do not match their gender identity increases their risk of assault. There is no credible evidence that inclusive restroom policies harm anyone. By contrast, every major medical and mental health association recognizes that affirming trans people in their identity reduces harm and saves lives.

This bill also exposes schools, businesses, and local governments to unnecessary lawsuits and costs. Instead of focusing on real issues—flood response, infrastructure, property taxes, healthcare, and education—the Legislature is prioritizing culture war attacks that divide Texans and burden taxpayers.

Texans value freedom, privacy, and fairness. SB 8 strips those away. It does not make our communities safer; it makes them more hostile. It does not protect children; it puts them at greater risk of bullying and harm. And it does not reflect the values of a state that prides itself on independence and limited government.

I urge lawmakers to reject SB 8. Let Texans live their lives with dignity. Stop using the law to target people for who they are. And turn your focus back to the issues that truly matter to our families and communities.

For these reasons, I strongly oppose SB 8.

Fabian Granada

Self

Dallas, TX

To whom it may concern:

I respectfully submit my strong opposition to Senate Bill 8, the Texas Women's Privacy Act.

**1. Harms Transgender Texans — Harassment, Danger, Discrimination**

The bill mandates restroom, locker room, prison housing, and women's shelter access be limited strictly by sex assigned at birth. It criminalizes dignity and safety for transgender Texans—forcing them to use facilities that conflict with their gender identity, a practice known to increase risk of harassment, anxiety, and violence. ? ?

**2. No Evidence of Safety Threats; Fuels Fear Without Fact**

Proponents often invoke “privacy” and unfounded fears of predation. Yet numerous reputable studies demonstrate transgender individuals do not pose a threat in public facilities. Organizations such as the American Medical Association, American Psychological Association, and others oppose “bathroom bills” like SB 8 for lacking empirical grounding. ?

**3. Intrusive and Privacy-Proving Verification**

By tying gender solely to reproductive anatomy, SB 8 invites invasive verification procedures—undermining privacy for all users, cisgender and transgender. As Senator Judith Zaffirini warned, this “threatens privacy and civil liberties.” ?

**4. Penalizes Public Institutions and overburdens law enforcement**

SB 8 enforces harsh penalties—\$5,000 for the first offense and \$25,000 for subsequent ones—per day, and empowers the Attorney General and private individuals to initiate enforcement. This places an unreasonable burden on government entities and could divert resources from more pressing public needs. ?

**5. Undermines Support for Survivors of Violence**

The bill also restricts access at family violence shelters, preventing transgender survivors from seeking refuge consistent with their identity. This denies essential support and risks retraumatizing vulnerable individuals. ?

**Conclusion**

This legislation addresses a non-existent problem while endangering a vulnerable population, infringing privacy rights, and imposing excessive enforcement burdens. It compounds, rather than resolves, societal fears by codifying discrimination. I respectfully urge the Legislature to oppose SB 8 and instead pursue inclusive policies that protect the privacy and dignity of all Texans.

Anna Barnes  
self - software engineer  
Wylie, TX

My name is Anna Barnes, and I'm a sixth-generation Texan whose family came here before statehood. I was born into that legacy. It runs in my blood, in my faith, and in the land I call home. Now my government is trying to tell me I don't belong. This bill claims to protect women's safety, but there is no evidence that transgender people pose any threat in restrooms. Law enforcement agencies nationwide confirm that inclusive policies don't increase crime. Meanwhile, 70% of transgender people report harassment, assault, or denial of access when using public restrooms. The bill creates an enforcement nightmare. How will this be policed? Will we require genital inspections? Birth certificates to use airport restrooms? This law will result in harassment of any woman deemed not feminine "enough"—cisgender women with short hair, tall women, women in work clothes. Every Texan becomes a gender cop. Consider practical situations: If selected for jury duty, must I endure eight hours without using facilities to avoid confrontation? This isn't safety—it's state-sanctioned cruelty. The private cause of action creates a bounty system, incentivizing harassment lawsuits. Anyone can sue claiming they were "affected" by someone's presence. This weaponizes our legal system for discrimination. Women's restrooms already have private stalls with locks. There is no privacy crisis requiring government intervention. This bill addresses an imaginary problem while creating real harm. History shows us this pattern. Politicians have long weaponized "protecting women" to justify discrimination—against Black Americans during segregation, against gay teachers, against same-sex parents. This recycled playbook now targets transgender Texans. If you truly care about women's safety, address real threats: domestic violence (affecting 1 in 3 Texas women), sexual assault, economic inequality. Don't manufacture panic while ignoring actual dangers. I am not a threat in your restroom. This law is a threat to me—to my safety, dignity, and right to exist in public spaces. This bill is unenforceable, unconstitutional, and un-Texan. It does real harm to solve an imaginary problem. I urge you to vote no.

Mary Smith, Ms  
Concerned Women for America of Texas  
Arlington, TX

Texas needs a law to protect the safety and privacy for women and girls in separated facilities, such as restrooms and locker rooms. It is time for a unified statewide statute making it clear there are only two sexes, male and female; and that males cannot enter the sex-separated spaces for females. I support this bill.

Karyna Ortega  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

I strongly oppose this bill as it is harmful to the community. It discriminates and can create unsafe situations for transgender people. This increases risk of harassment and violence for the transgender community.

Tom Somers  
Self  
Friendswood, TX

It is unacceptable to ban citizens from using the bathroom in line with their gender identity and presentation. Not only is it a disgusting infringement on their individual rights, but it will lead to social, emotional, and physical harm to transgender people to force them to use bathrooms that are not in line with their identities. Its enforcement will lead to harassment and assault against anybody who does not subjectively "look" like their gender according to arbitrary standards, which will also lead to harm against people who are not transgender. I absolutely oppose SB 8.

Tracy Keshtkar

self - homeschooling mother

Azle, TX

Another useless bathroom bill. One must wonder what you all do with your time. This bill is unenforceable. Are you going to strip search people before they enter a bathroom or violence shelter? Prisons are already split up, so why are they included here? Because you're afraid of transwomen? You realize that trans people are more likely to face violence than cis gendered people? Transwomen especially? Oh, but that's right, you don't care about anyone's actually physical safety, especially not people in prisons. This bill does not provide for the safety or privacy of women unless you also mandate separate facilities be provided for transwomen and transmen. Forcing trans-people to use facilities designated by sex at birth puts them in danger and will cause a lot of confusion and alarm as many trans people are not easily identifiable as such. Again, this bill is unenforceable. And this does nothing for women's privacy so stop trying to gas light us all into thinking its about that.

Ana Szogi

Self

Round Rock, TX

Trans children and adults deserve to use the restroom of the sex they identify with. Proportionally, trans people make up few people in the population of Texas, 1.42% of teens 13-17 and less than 0.5% of adults. They may not fit into "the norm", but they are people who do not need to be forced to identify as their birth sex and use corresponding spaces, such as bathrooms. Trans people are a vulnerable population who deserve support, not more isolation and rejection. This Bill would harm trans people and should not be passed.

Hallie Gammon

Self

Bryan, TX

This bill will achieve nothing but an increase in harassment and hate crimes. Encouraging citizens to police each others' gender expression is dystopian. There have already been cases of cisgender women - the people you claim this bill will "protect" - being harassed and forced to "prove" their gender in public restrooms because they didn't look feminine enough. As a cisgender woman, this bill would actively make me MORE concerned for my safety. I would much rather share a restroom with a trans woman than be harassed by a cis woman (or even followed into the bathroom by a cis man - how ironic) who doesn't think I look womanly enough. Men who want to prey on women certainly don't need to dress up to do it - it happens all the time out in the world, and I haven't seen anyone present evidence that most assaults occur in restrooms or other gender segregated spaces. There are so many more useful things you could do to make women safer. This bill would make life worse for everyone. Stop obsessing about people's genitalia - it's weird. Focus on issues that are actually important to Texans. Flood relief, perhaps?

Raven Garuda

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing as a private citizen in strong opposition to SB 8.

If passed, this bill would force me—a woman with a vagina—to use the men’s restroom.

I was born with a disorder of sex development. This is not rare: around 0.1% of people are born with ambiguous genitalia or neuroendocrine variance. Like many others, I was misclassified at birth. As an adult, I pursued medical treatment to correct these abnormalities. I now live in a female body, with no anatomical ambiguity.

However, Texas law currently prevents me from changing my sex marker. I lack ovaries, am infertile, and may have chromosomal mosaicism. Because the law narrowly defines “biological sex,” people like me fall through the cracks. If SB 8 passes, I would be legally required to use the men’s restroom at my place of work.

This is a profound violation of my privacy and bodily autonomy. As a survivor of sexual abuse, being forced into the men’s restroom is not only inappropriate—it is traumatic.

I understand concerns about safety and privacy in restrooms. But I have never seen male “interlopers” in women’s restrooms in my area. If I ever did, I would report it immediately under Title IX, which already protects against inappropriate behavior. SB 8 does not improve safety. In theory, it is unnecessary. In practice, it is certain to harm people like me.

Some of you may not expect this, but I believe we share common ground. I, too, want to move past political slogans and center biological reality. My life’s goal is to deepen our understanding of sex development conditions, both scientifically and medically. I hope one day to return to testify as an expert. But today, I am here simply as a citizen asking for dignity.

Please vote no on SB 8. It will harm women like me—Texans born with intersex traits—who are simply trying to live safely and privately.

Thank you.

Kristen Pickhartz

Self, teacher, parent

Bastrop, TX

I am writing as a concerned Texan to urge you to vote against SB 8, which would restrict transgender people from using public restrooms that match their gender identity.

This bill is harmful, unnecessary, and dangerous. Transgender people are already some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, facing higher rates of harassment, bullying, and violence. Denying them the ability to use the restroom that aligns with who they are places them at even greater risk of harm, both physically and mentally. Everyone deserves the basic dignity of being able to use a restroom safely.

SB 8 also threatens our state’s values of freedom, privacy, and fairness. There has been no evidence that inclusive restroom policies create safety risks. On the contrary, laws like SB 8 create fear, invite discrimination, and put transgender Texans—especially youth—in impossible situations.

Beyond the human cost, bills like this hurt our state’s reputation and economy. Businesses, schools, and faith communities across Texas are calling for inclusion, not exclusion. Many corporations and organizations have opposed similar laws in other states because they make it harder to attract talent, investment, and tourism.

Most importantly, this bill does not reflect the compassion, fairness, and respect for personal liberty that Texans value. I ask you to stand with transgender Texans, their families, and allies by rejecting SB 8. Please focus instead on legislation that strengthens and unites our communities.

Thank you for your service to our state and for considering my perspective.

Joemer Dulatre  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

Here's the script I used:

Hi, my name is Joemer Dulatre and I am a Texas resident. I'm urging you to not use transgender people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time - and taxpayer money - on explicitly harming transgender, gender expansive (i.e. nonbinary, gender fluid, etc), and intersex Texans. Instead they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues instead of targeting a minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Thank you for your time.

Tisha Kulovitz  
Self  
Bridge City, TX

I'd like this bill to be struck down - NO to the loss of rights. Absolutely NO to bathroom monitoring and harassment based on how someone presents.

Andrea Yang  
Self  
The Woodlands, TX

SB 8 is unnecessary political theater and will do far more harm than good. Stop wasting time on hateful unneeded Bills and focus on Texas infrastructure. Texas does not need bathroom police!

Lisa Stone  
self/educator  
Houston, TX

SB 8 is a "bathroom bill" that attempts to stoke fear and intimidation by trying to legislate bathroom usage by sex. It's a clear attack on the LGBTQ community, and lawmakers continue to waste time on bills like this that don't improve Texan lives but further divide us. You know a majority of Texans are against government intrusion into personal matters; "bathroom bills" are not constructive responses to real lives of Texans. PLEASE do the right thing and focus on improving daily lives of Texas residents.

Jade Allen  
self - software developer  
Houston, TX

What we have seen time and time again with this kind of legislation is that busybodies feel empowered to police everyday women who don't necessarily fit into a standard "look" of femininity. This bill is impractical and will end up leading to far more harassment of women than it will prevent. Please vote against this ban.

Aaron Hall  
Self - printing  
Plano, TX

I oppose this bill and urge you to vote against it. Physical assault is already a crime. This bill is simply hateful religious bigotry disguised as a bill to protect people from things that simply aren't happening. RESIST FASCISM!

chris williams  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected.  
I oppose SB8.

BILL KING  
retired judge  
Austin, TX

I was on the bench in Juvenile Court for over 20 years in an urban area. Not once did I see a case that involved a trans person assaulting anyone in a public bathroom. I did see several where a trans person was the VICTIM of an assault. Looking on a broader scale, this bill is like so many "social protection" bills proposed by the Texas Legislature. There is zero data presented to show that a problem has ever occurred or has occurred in more than a trivial number of cases. Finally, how do you enforce it? Is Senator Middleton going to grope every person that he thinks looks suspicious? Is the taxpayer going to pay for a Genital Police Force in every public bathroom? This is nothing but performative virtue signaling. It is a solution looking for a problem. Please reject this bill.

Jack Musselman  
self/professor  
AUSTIN, TX

This is a distraction and waste of time managing bathroom use when Texas has so many other serious real problems.

Adelia Humme  
Self / homemaker  
Richardson, TX

I strongly object to SB8 and encourage the committee members to vote against it. All people need to use the bathroom. That is part of living in a human body. Denying transgender people access to public bathrooms and other facilities that match their gender identity is inhumane. As a Christian, a mother, and a cisgender woman, I passionately believe in equal rights for all people, and I object to my gender being used as an excuse for the Texas Legislature to discriminate against transgender people. Additionally, this bill will not increase safety for cisgender women in public spaces; more likely, it will result in woman being harassed if they are not perceived as sufficiently feminine. People of all genders deserve access to public facilities that match their gender identity—for safety, for dignity, and for equality. Please vote against SB8.

Rani Darr  
myself  
CANTON, TX

Please save womens spaces. No men in womens bathroom or locker rooms. Give us our dignity back.

Esther Schneider, Mrs.  
Self  
Fredericksburg, TX

Our children deserve the right to be children, free from sexualization by perverted adults, driving their sick agenda. Childhood suicides are now at levels never seen before, all because of this perverted agenda to legalize the raping of our children. Hands off our children and recognize there are only girls/females and boys/males. Keeping them separate is a right they deserve.

Susan and Edward Kahn  
Congregation Emanu El, Houston  
Bellaire, TX

As a Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed "inspectors" to harass those who don't fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

The dangers of this legislation are clear. Research shows that bathroom restrictions harm transgender people through harassment and violence. Particularly among transgender and nonbinary youth, this legislation puts them at risk of depression and suicide. We strongly oppose the passage of this bill.

Susan Kelly  
Self; retired journalist  
Austin, TX

I am opposed to dictating the use of bathrooms by sex! If you haven't noticed by now, most public spaces have "restrooms" that are not specified Men or Women. Who cares for heavens sake? I have shared a bathroom with trans women before; they go in the stall and shut the door like everyone else. Please vote NO on SB 8.

Lauren Goodley  
Self, public servant  
San Marcos, TX

Please vote no on this. Public bathrooms are a fundamental right. Women and children are not in danger from trans people. We can all choose the appropriate bathroom for ourselves as we've been doing all along. Thank you.

Kenneth Kasper  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I support the effort to keep men out of women's spaces and (vice versa). Women and men need their private space from time to time and it seems silly that we need a law to enforce what was once considered common decency.

Amy Philipp, Dr  
Self- Pediatrician  
Flower Mound, TX

Gender is far more complicated than being binary and a designation at birth based on physical characteristics. Bathroom use should be based on gender identity. There are many in this world who appear very different from the sex they were assigned at birth. It is not only cruel, but unsafe to require them to use bathrooms based on gender at birth. SB 8 is a bill intended to bully others. It will not benefit anyone. Please vote against it. There are more pressing issues that need your attention.

Robin Rosenstock  
Self  
Austin, TX

I'm not sure what you are doing in the men's restroom, but in the women's bathroom we don't actually spend a lot of time staring at each other as we go into the stall. I belong to a gym with all unisex bathrooms and no one cares! Don't any of you have mothers or sisters or wives or daughters who used the same bathroom you did? Is this a problem for you or them? This is a waste of time and resources. NO ONE CARES!

Jennifer Jefferson

Self

Austin, TX

I write today in strong opposition to Senate Bill 8. All members of our communities deserve privacy when they use the restroom. This bill subjects everyone to potentially invasive exploration into our identification and our bodies, which infringes on our privacy and individual freedom. This bill is framed as a response to provide more safety for women's spaces, yet it does not do that. The possibility of an unsafe environment is increased by individuals inquiring about everyone's bodies, disrupting our ability to use facilities privately. Transgender individuals will be placed in situations that challenge their privacy, freedom, and safety. These members of all our communities deserve the same privacy in the bathroom, too. This bill will create more unsafe situations and reduce privacy for everyone.

Shalonda Carter

Self- minister of the gospel

Humble, TX

Men should NOT have use of any women's only space unless they were born a female.

Carolyn Lux

Self

Fredericksburg, TX

I am in favor of this bill. We must protect the private spaces of girls and women, the biological kind, not the "identity" kind. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Roger Hall

We the People - Liberty in Action

Ingram, TX

We must protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools! I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act - Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness.

Jennifer Hendriex

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am FOR this bill!  
FOR safety of children!  
FOR safety of women!!!  
Saddened that not protecting them is even in consideration.  
Stand STRONG and don't back down!!!

Michelle Austin

Self

Lindale, TX

Please prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law!

Thank you!

Michelle

Hannah Herrera

Self

Henderson, TX

Men do not belong in women's restrooms. As a woman, I do not want a man in the women's restroom. This is against basic science and common sense. Men are not women and men cannot be women. Men should not be allowed in women's restrooms and spaces if they are designated for women ONLY.

Heather Jones

Self, stay at home parent

Round Rock, TX

All Texans deserve safe and accessible bathrooms, and this is not the way to do it! This is body policing and not helping keep anyone safe. Please vote against this!

Maude Shepherd

Self

Houston, TX

OPPOSE SB 8. Transgender and intersex people are part of our workplaces and our neighborhoods, and they need to be able to use the restroom just like everyone else. This should be news to no one. Going to the restroom is a basic bodily function that we all must deal with. Preventing access to restrooms for trans people is beyond an inconvenience, it's a cruelty that does not match the friendliness I know from my neighbors and public servants in Texas. We are better than this. Trans and intersex people often face discrimination in accessing public restrooms and in other public settings. For intersex people, this may be because of outwardly gender non-conforming features related to their intersex variation; because they are open about their intersex variation; or because they are outed. The only way to enforce bathroom bans is with invasive gender inspections that would forcibly out trans and intersex people at their place of work, when they're on jury duty, or any other time they need to use facilities in a government building. OPPOSE THIS BILL.

Idona Griffith

self, retired teacher

Austin, TX

I oppose this hurtful, harmful legislation -- how have we lost our empathy, our humanity, our willingness to "live and let live"? This legislation is despicable and full of self-righteous hate for every human who strays from our pre-conceived norms. God is watching... and she is pissed!

Anthony Dugat

self - retired

Lindale, TX

I can't believe we even have to talk about this.

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

It is time to prioritize common sense and fairness. Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. It is time for Texas to make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law!

Tammy Blair  
Self, accountant  
Tyler, TX

I am writing to ask you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms, particularly in taxpayer funded schools!

Women and girls of all ages have been forced to undress or be in a vulnerable position with men present in spaces that are supposed to be separated based on biological sex. Texas must restore common sense and decency and make the Texas Woman's Privacy Act law.

Angelica Hernandez  
Self - Associate Editor  
Austin, TX

My name is Angelica Hernandez, and I am opposed to SB8. As a woman, I am more concerned about this bill passing than I am about the purported reasons for the bill. Transgender folks and even cisgender folks who do not look like the traditional versions of their genders will be at risk. There is no effective data to back up the claims that women are at risk. As a Christian, I wholeheartedly support Trans people's right to exist openly in our state, and that includes the right to use the restroom that corresponds with their chosen gender.

Jordan Allen  
Self / Reapiratory Care Practicioner  
Chandler, TX

I do not understand why we are spending time on this bill. Our Trans neighbors have my respect and do not deserve this kind of treatment. As a minority group, it is our responsibility to protect their rights not harm them. I am disappointed in the lack of understanding and compassion Texas has shown.

Daniel Berkowitz  
Self  
AUSTIN, TX

I'm thinking about my loved ones, and countless others, that decided to serve the public and happen to be trans - you are considering inhumane legislation that tells a certain group of people that they can't use the bathroom. How juvenile. That's straight up being a bully and inserting yourself into peoples lives in the most intimate way. It's cruel, which is the purpose, I get that. What do you want them to do? Defecate themselves or get sepsis? Would you treat your loved ones like that? What if your kid was trans? Or spouse? You wouldn't treat them like that. I'm at a loss for words when it comes to how cruel and wrong and this bill is. I hope you never have to have someone tell you you can't use the bathroom at your place of work. Because why should you? Vote no.

Garza deAlexander Guillermo  
Self care gver  
Austin, TX

It would be safer for everyone if the government doesn't sanction hate for those that are not cisgender because systematic hate encompasses racial divides as well as economic powered by misogyny. Please consider the rabbit hole some have followed ie, a camera taking photos at the urinal

Scott Hommel, Mr.  
Lamar County GOP Chairman  
Paris, TX

This is a very important bill. It is how we can lead in Texas. It shouldn't even be partisan. Let's get it passed

Jinny Sutherland, Ms  
Self Educator  
Katy, TX

This bill will make it easier to harass girls and women who don't meet someone's idea of what a female looks like. In addition to that bad outcome, it will make Texas unsafe for nonbinary and trans Texans. As a Texan and a parent I object to this bill!

Donna Fox  
Camp co republican  
Pittsburg, TX

Our daughters, granddaughters are in need of protection due to the idiotic decisions made by the Democratic Party. This is something I never thought in my lifetime would need addressing, but here we are. So it is up to us to ensure that females by birth are protected. Males who are confused or choose another sex as their preference can not be the female populations problem. Women deserve better then this nonsense.

Stephani Bercu  
Self  
Leander, TX

I oppose SB8. This bill states it is to protect women when in fact it will do more harm. This bill claims to provide privacy and dignity to women, it will not.

Women's privacy would be better protected if building codes required stalls to have doors that had no gaps between the door and the walls. Codes that require single person gender neutral restrooms would also increase safety, privacy and dignity.

Cisgender Women, who were assigned female at birth, that have a more masculine look will be harassed.

This cannot be enforced without violating a woman or child's dignity.

How will someone know if the person in the stall was assigned female at birth.

This law makes zero sense.

Mery Arriaga, Ms  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

I have been harassed the past my men assuming im a man because I work out alot and have a very masculine body. I was was born a women and still am I dont pretend to be or dress like one or have never had any operation or drugs to do so. Women forced to flash been to prove I am a women that belongs in a female bathroom. This is not ok and I dont wear make.

Laura Guzman  
Self - non-profit worker  
, Houston, TX

"I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Louis Forrai, Mr.

Self

San Antonio, TX

As a Texas resident, I am writing today to ask that you stop SB 8, a discriminatory bill that attacks non-binary, intersex and transgender Texans. This bill would ban Texans using public school bathrooms consistent with their gender identity.

If signed into law, this bill would put Texas in direct contravention of federal civil rights law and immediately spur litigation which Texas taxpayers will be funding for years. The Associated Press found that when North Carolina passed similar legislation in 2016, it cost the state \$3.76 billion over 10 years from loss of business opportunities and impact on the lives of countless students. If Texas passes this bill, transgender Texans will bear the cost of the discrimination - discrimination that already causes Texans to feel unsafe in their own communities.

Legislation attacking transgender, nonbinary and intersex Texans refuses to serve the major interests and needs of communities and families, who now pay the price as the consequence of failed leadership across the state. Discrimination is wrong, and we believe it has no place in Texas.

Jim Smith

Self

Houston, TX

I understand that SB 8 would prohibit trans and nonbinary people from accessing essential facilities like restrooms, locker rooms, and dorms in government buildings. This is incredibly un-Christian and wrong. Trans and nonbinary people need to have access to bathrooms just like anyone else. In this special session of the Texas legislature, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Brittany Williams

Self

Friendswood, TX

This bill is ridiculous and a waste of tax payer time and money. Why are you wasting time policing the places certain people can exist in? Is this not the land of the free? What is freedom if a citizen can't use the bathroom, if they can't get help from a shelter, if they're thrown into a prison where they will absolutely face even further discrimination? That's the very definition of cruel and unusual punishment if you ask me.

This bill is written under the pretense of women's safety, but we all know that isn't what the goal here. The goal is control, to force trans people out of public life, to punish organizations for daring to help or accommodate one of our most vulnerable populations. A population that is a vast minority, by the way. You are wasting our time punishing less than 1% of the Texas population for merely existing. It's sick. This bill is nothing more than bigoted, fascist rhetoric, and will be a black mark on Texas history should it pass. Do not put our great state on the wrong side of history yet again.

Deborah Miller

self, retired

Austin, TX

I've read that SB 8 would require people to use restrooms and locker rooms that match their sex assigned at birth in public schools and government buildings and in prisons and domestic violence shelters. Public entities that don't comply would face fines of \$5,000 for a first-time offense and \$25,000 each time after, and the Attorney General's Office would enforce the requirements.

- 1) HOW WILL YOU KNOW? The last trans man I saw had a thick beard. This bill would make him carry around his birth certificate and then use women's restrooms and locker rooms. That can't be what you want.
- 2) Civilians will not be checking birth certificates. They will be looking at people and deciding if they're getting the creeps. So all men who are short, effeminate, or have long hair, and all women who are tall, muscular, have prominent Adam's apples or body hair, and who knows what other kind of people will be scrutinized even worse than they already are.
- 3) \$5,000 to \$25,000? That is a huge amount of money. Even \$20 would be ridiculous--you are acting like going in the other bathroom (and sometimes one bathroom has a crazy long line and the other one is empty) is a very serious crime.
- 4) Enforced by the Attorney General's office? I oppose Ken Paxton getting any more power to ruin people's lives than he already has.

It really sounds like this bill is trying to make trans people just disappear into thin air. They do not have this power--they're made of real life human beings. Let's only pass laws that are in alignment with the laws of physics.

IN SUM: I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS BILL. I am a feminine-looking woman, documented as female on my birth certificate, which I do have, though I don't carry it around with me. I use public restrooms and dressing rooms and have lived in dorms and usually still have roommates. I barely know anyone trans. So it sounds like this bill would not affect me. And yet, I know that about 1% of everyone (about the same as the number of redheads) is a trans person. And even more might appear trans. So I know at least 1 out of every 100 people I see will be suffering. It's known that many ALREADY try to hold their bladder way too long. That many stay dehydrated so they don't have to pee so much. That some even commit suicide, and many more contemplate it regularly. All for something that a) is not their fault and b) doesn't hurt anyone. I oppose wrecking people's lives for no reason, even if I don't know them.

It's true, it can be disconcerting when we can't tell a person's gender just by looking at them, and when we guess wrong on their preferred pronouns. But this is Texas. Let's trust Texans to be courageous enough to face these discomforts and REJECT THIS BILL.

Joel Bercu

None

Leander, TX

I am against SB8. This is so much governmental overreach. So are we now attacking people for using the bathroom. Just leave the Texas citizens alone and focus on real problems like flood preparedness and the electrical grid. We don't need you messing into the lives of Texas citizens.

Christina Escontrias

self

El Paso, TX

I support SB8 bill to secure the safety and privacy of women and girls by requiring private spaces owned or controlled by political subdivisions or state agencies to be based on a person's biological sex.

Joan Moon, NONEOFTHESE

self

Austin, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Climate events like these will be affecting all of us, so we cannot exclude any of us from critical assistance in the wake of disasters.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Hannah Rankin

Self

Denton, TX

I strongly oppose this bill on the grounds that it might be used to police bathrooms or potentially install surveillance devices to record activity. This could easily be hijacked for abuse or even enable instances of rape or sexual assault. This will stretch policing even thinner than it already is for what amounts to little increase in overall safety. Self-reporting devices (call-a-cop buttons and such) will be abused by the general public for pranking and bullying and installation will put strain on budgets that could go towards effective building maintenance that would benefit everyone. Better stalls with full privacy would solve the problem this bill wants to solve while also improving federal utilities and safety.

Tamlinn Castellana

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is an egregious violation of human rights and will only embolden citizens to police people's bodies regardless of gender identity. This will give people a green light to sexually harass and assault people in public restrooms because they don't look a certain way. This bill is a waste of time and tax payer funding and a shameful gross overreach of political power.

Lisa Andreason

Self

Sugar Land, TX

I strongly oppose the passage of this bill that targets, marginalizes & attempts to point out, call out, separate, and intimidate our fellow transgender friends and neighbors. Forcing a transgender person into a bathroom of a gender that they don't identify with puts them in direct danger since there is clearly much hate and prejudice directed at transgender citizens who are simply wanting to exist in peace. In fact, this bill is a reflection of that prejudice and hate. Take a look at the news and try to locate ANY incidents in which a transgender person attacked and harmed other people compared to vice versa. The mere introduction of this bill clearly mirrors prejudice, intolerance, and hatred. I as a cis female have never had any threats directed towards me by a transgender person; however, I've had a large number of threats & violence made and actually carried out by cis men. The people who try to make fun of and exclude transgender individuals are bullies and thugs attempting to normalize hatred and intolerance. Transgender people simply want to live in their truth and authenticity and do no harm. Stop the bullying and separation! Portraying transgender people as threatening in a restroom setting or any other setting is a big fat lie. Thank you.

Lacey N/A

Self

N/A, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Cynthia Ridgeway

Cherokee Rose Republican Women's Club of Upshur County

Diana, TX

It is of utmost priority for our culture to protect the privacy of females and males in public dressing rooms and bathrooms, to preserve personal dignity and respect for the opposite sex. Please vote accordingly.

Abigail Williams

Self

Murphy, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Abigail and I live in Murphy, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address {name an issue you are passionate about that impacts you and/or your community}. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thanks

Adrian Gaspar  
self, nunya  
San Antonio, TX

I am writing in opposition to SB 8 because this bill is nothing less than state-sanctioned violence against transgender people. Let's not mince words: it bans us from public bathrooms, strips us from shelters when we're fleeing abuse, and locks us in jails and prisons where we will be brutalized. It tells trans kids they don't belong in their schools. It tells trans women they aren't safe anywhere. These are not hypotheticals. These are atrocities you are writing into law with full knowledge of the harm it will cause.

And for what? To obsess over other people's bodies. I read this bill, and I cannot believe lawmakers sat around writing definitions of "male" and "female" based on sperm and eggs. Why are you sitting in your offices, paid by the people of Texas, typing out graphic pseudo-science about sperm "coming out of bodies" and eggs "waiting around to be fertilized"? That's not privacy. That's not dignity. It's demeaning, inaccurate, and frankly — it's fucking gross. You are legislating humiliation. You are turning your own fixation with body parts into law. And you should be embarrassed.

This is government overreach at its absolute worst. It reaches into schools, forcing teachers and principals to police which bathroom stall a child can walk into, instead of focusing on education. It reaches into shelters, telling women escaping violence that some of them aren't "real" enough to deserve safety. It reaches into prisons and jails, deciding who gets locked up where, without a shred of concern for safety, even though trans women placed in men's prisons face staggering rates of assault. It even creates a system where neighbors can spy, complain, and sue — turning Texans against each other and inviting endless lawsuits against schools, shelters, and local governments. You are not protecting anyone. You are targeting people for existing.

Every trans person in Texas already knows the cost of being visible. We face harassment, violence, rejection, suicide. SB 8 multiplies that danger. It will tell trans kids that their state sees them as problems to be legislated out of sight. It will tell survivors of abuse that their identity disqualifies them from safety. It will embolden people who already look for an excuse to harm or humiliate us. And it will waste taxpayer dollars on enforcement and litigation instead of addressing the real issues facing Texans.

This bill is trash policy — cruel, invasive, and unnecessary. No one asked for this except those who want to score political points by dehumanizing their neighbors. Texans are facing crises in housing, health care, education, and basic infrastructure. And instead of working on solutions, this Legislature is writing statutes that read like a bad biology textbook, while our communities suffer.

You are not writing privacy into law. You are writing shame, exclusion, and violence. Reject SB 8. Stop targeting trans Texans. Stop wasting time on cruelty disguised as governance.

Meagan Pike Dean  
self- teacher and grad student  
Hutto, TX

As a Texan, I want everyone to feel safe, including my trans and nonbinary neighbors. I am **OPPOSED** to this bill. Bathroom bans also create harmful and dangerous situations for cisgender (born and still male/female) citizens. We've already seen news stories in which cisgender people had security called on them, or other actions taken, when they were using the 'correct' bathroom. These individuals include cisgender women with shorter hairstyles and minors accompanying their parents -- all put through the degrading experience of having to 'prove' their gender. Bans encourage citizens to surveil each other, creating a dangerous environment that fuels false accusations. And, a bathroom ban does not protect those it intends to protect -- telling people to follow signs is not a deterrent to those truly asking with malicious intent. What we could do is regulate the design of bathrooms to be safer and more accessible -- encouraging construction and remodels to include toilet stalls that are fully enclosed with fully-locking doors and spacious open-air sink stations, and incentivizing the construction of family-style bathrooms (1 room bathrooms with 1-2 toilets that allow enough space for strollers, wheel-chairs, etc). Regulations that encourage these kinds of bathrooms would truly help all Texans. Bathroom bans only do harm.

Emma Brockway  
Self, Lawyer  
Houston, TX

Please vote NO on Senate Bill 8. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the Legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money— on explicitly harming transgender Texans. Instead, the Legislature should focus on improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Central Texas. Please focus on real issues and stop targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. Vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Max I  
self  
Liberty Hill, TX

This is a waste of my taxpayer money and time. There are laws already in place against Sexual Assault or whatever perceived harm they are looking to prevent. This bill exists only enforce a white supremacist view of gender. We saw it at the Olympics with that boxer, we see it in places with laws like this that are already on the books, when people are allowed to police what a woman looks like it negatively affects EVERYONE.  
Session time needs to be spent on the victims of the recent flooding, not this dogwater.

Tim Bolton  
Republican Party  
Granbury, TX

Protect Texas children. Enforce biological bathrooms.

Joyce Compton  
self/office manager @ law office  
New Braunfels, TX

I have shared restrooms with trans women before and have never felt fear or worry. I have shared LITERAL SPACE with men before and have felt anxiety, terror, and anger rise up in me. I have never been afraid of a trans person like I am regular ole men. Especially men who think they own women and have the right to tell women what to do, who to be, or anything, really, at all. Letting a trans woman go into a man's restroom would be a terrible outcome for that trans woman. Tell me you're seeing my overt, not-at-all subtle hint here: trans people are not the problem. Trans people are not the issue. MEN are.

Thank you for your time and your attention. I think banning trans people and making them go into the restroom that corresponds with their gender as assigned at birth is a dumb thing to do and you'll have blood on your hands. I don't think a lot of Texas reps care, but I have to make it known. More blood will be on your hands if you restrict trans people and that is hardly very Christian of you.

Mason Walker  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

Dear State Affairs Committee,

I don't write these public comments often, but I felt compelled to send one in this instance because of the moral and economic case against this legislation.

To start with the moral case: Many of you reading this know what it's like to be a born and bred Texan and to hold a love for this state in our bones. You also know we don't much like being bossed around or hassled here. This bill is causing my beautiful trans friends who have lived here their whole lives to consider leaving, but not just them; since the enforcement mechanism around the bill depends on "flagging" those who don't look traditionally feminine or masculine, many of my non-trans friends are concerned about it as well. If these people leave, they will be saying goodbye to the Lone Star State that's been theirs their whole lives; if they stay, they will be subject to surveillance and regulation that are antithetical to the Texas Spirit. I for one do not wish to see my friends bullied in this great place, and, like you, I don't want my friends to leave.

Then there is the economic case: laws like this make us less appealing as a host for businesses and conferences and as magnets for top talent. There is a reason many business associations are against it. A state where ANYONE fears being policed or fined for simply using the bathroom is a state where fewer businesses want to come and fewer individual want to do business.

I know you've been trying to pass a version of this bill for some time. I know many of you you will try to pass it no matter what I say. But even if we disagree on many other issues, I write to you on this one in hopes that you might change the legislation or change your mind. And that hope is Texan, too.

Sincerely,  
Mason

Raquel Anderson, Dr.  
Daughters of the American Revolution  
Auburn, TX

My grandmother used to say that we should always be grateful for our progress as a country, and before I lost her, she said that progress should always be about safeguarding our human rights. With her dying breath, she squeezed my hand and said, "You have the power to use your life to help the marginalized, or you can follow the evil that separates us."

I have lived with her words in my heart and always championed the love she gave me by loving people through my actions. These human beings that are labeled by us as less than or undeserving of safety are the ones we should hold dear. Please help us find unity and love for one another instead of dividing us into these categories. Everyone has to use the toilet, and the fact is that there have been no instances of negative consequences with the current laws. I hope my grandmother lives on in your heart as she has in mine.

Tessa Kisielewski  
Self - Social Worker  
Austin, TX

Oppose this bill. SB 8 is a pathetic attempt at government overreach into our school spaces, including restrooms that students and faculty should be able to use SAFELY regardless of sex or expression of sex. As a cis-woman and child I've experienced harmful harassment in female designated restrooms because of a short haircut. And I've never once felt threatened by anybody using the restroom they choose to do their business in. SB 8 is another disgraceful waste of TIME, MONEY, AND ENERGY that could be better used to develop and push bills that actually serve the people of Texas. Middleton is an ignorant coward, and I would dare him to use his little brain and position of "authority" to advocate for legislation that doesn't perpetuate harm against harmless populations.

Leslie Cohan  
Self physician  
Houston, TX

Your response against trans people

I really don't understand why you waste so much time and energy. Trying to understand people who are trans. Their lives are hard enough. If you are concerned about their spying on your daughters in the bathroom, ask your daughters about the women's bathroom. There are individual stalls. No one is going to be poking under them or peeking over them to see the women inside, except for maybe our president whom you seem to worship. There are enough problems in this state that you need to quit wasting time on this.

Chris Jacobson  
Self  
McKinney, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Toby Veloz  
Self  
Missouri City, TX

Hi, my name is Toby and I am an artist from Missouri City, Texas. I'm writing to urge Texas representatives to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time - and taxpayer money - on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues that have impacted the lives of Texans in serious ways, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Rebecca Buckner  
Republican  
Fort Worth, TX

Keep men and boys out of women's and girls bathrooms and locker rooms

Reed Bilz, Ms  
Self  
Fort Worth, TX

I am a parent of a trans son who does not live in Texas. I am concerned that he will no longer be able to come here and visit his Texas family if SB 8 passes.

Transgender people are likely to experience harm and more likely to feel disconnected and unwelcome, and I don't want to subject my son to those likelihoods.

I love my Texas home, and I need you to represent all Texans, including my gender affirming family. I urge you to vote NO on SB 8.

Jessica Ramirez  
Pinche Vote  
San Antonio, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Jessica M Ramirez and I live in San Antonio, TX.

As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address affordable housing & over policing. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.  
Thank you

A Texan who loves all humans just the way God made them.

Nura L  
Self  
Houston, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Nura and I live in Houston, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.  
It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Meg Griffith  
Self  
Dallas, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Meg and I live in Dallas, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Brittany Klemmack  
Self  
Round Rock, TX

This is insane and as a not super feminine representing woman. but female by birth. Under this I can have random men demand I show them my vagina. I have never been afraid to go pee as a woman but I will if this passes

Kitty Hudnall

Self

Corinth, TX

How dare you continue to harass certain groups of people? This harmful legislation targets transgender Texans and threatens the dignity and safety of our communities. You were not elected to continue your barbarous attacks on anyone because they are different from you. Perhaps you need to read the Bible.

Katherine Alexander

Self

Houston, TX

This bill does nothing to protect women and children in facilities like restrooms and locker rooms. As a woman-identifying female who has short hair and more nonconforming dress, I already get odd looks from other women when I use public bathrooms. This bill put women like me at risk of harassment for simply going to use the restroom. Rather than taking on real issues like disaster relief and cost of living affecting all Texans, this bill is targeting a very small number of people who just want to be left alone.

TJ Cobalt

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing to urge this committee to STOP using trans people and the LGBTQ+ community as bargaining chips for political gain.

Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time — and taxpayer money — on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. It is abhorrent to see this committee would rather waste this time debating the "legitimacy" of a community's right to exist instead of addressing what the state's TRUE priorities should be. The focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting ALL Texans — like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Bluntly, it's infuriating and disgraceful — as well as embarrassing — as an American to see officials gather to debate on GENITALIA as a basis for human rights, rather than gathering to work towards improving planning, infrastructure, and relief in regard to disasters that actually pose risk and harm to the state's cities and people.

We should be focusing on REAL issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I vehemently urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

If the intent of the officials is to continue petulantly targeting minorities, their services are much better received on 4chan, and they should consider a career change.

Allee Etheridge

Self, artist

JACKSONVILLE, TX

As a cisgender woman, I can assure you that the times I feel the absolute safest in a public restroom are when I'm in it with some of my friends who happen to be transgender women. I have never once felt endangered by them. Even if the trans woman who happens to be in the bathroom at the same time as me just so happens to be obviously trans, I feel safe because I know that statistically, she is one of the people in the world least likely to prey upon me.

I feel much more concerned about my own safety once I leave the restroom and return to the co-ed space - a restaurant, a museum, a school, a club, wherever - than I did in the restroom.

Transgender people are not my enemy. The cisgender man who tried to rape me in a youth hostel was. The cisgender man who masturbated in the seat next to me at the movie theater when I was an eleven-year-old girl was. The boy who cornered me when I was in middle school and who groped my breasts and then was not even punished when I told the teacher was. The man at a convention who randomly grabbed my hand and sucked on my fingers was.

If I'm in the woods and have to choose between a man and a bear, I choose the bear. If I'm given the choice between a man, a bear, and a transgender person, I will choose the trans person every single time, and I will know I'm safe.

Lani Thomison

Self, costume buyer

Austin, TX

We all deserve to go to the bathroom in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitalia inspected. I oppose sb8

Melinda Payne

Self

Austin, TX

I ask this committee to reject the harmful use of transgender and gender diverse Texans as political pawns. With only a short window in a special session, it is irresponsible to spend precious time and taxpayer dollars advancing legislation designed to marginalize trans, gender-expansive, and intersex people. Lawmakers should instead prioritize issues that impact every Texan, like strengthening disaster preparedness and emergency response—especially in the wake of deadly flooding in Kerrville and across Central Texas.

Texans deserve solutions to real challenges, not manufactured attacks on a small community. I strongly urge you to vote NO on SB 8.

Alissa Morrow

self - Benefits Administrator

Houston, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Alissa and I live in Houston, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. There are so many critical social issues that could be focused on, including more resources for schools and libraries, more equitable access to health care, and other resources to make life better for Texas families. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Mary Hill  
Self, Teacher  
San Antonio, TX

This bill is meant to scapegoat and terrorize our very small (half of 1%) of Texans who identify as transgender. It is not to protect women. Acts of violence are committed AGAINST transgender people in bathrooms, NOT the other way around. Why isn't Senator Middleton focused on flood relief or other issues that Texans are concerned about? The hype generated in targeting transgender Texans distracts from actual problems the state is facing.

Musa Thornton  
HRC  
Sherman, TX  
Oppose SB 8

J D  
self  
League City, TX

As a registered voter in League City, I am writing to strongly urge you to oppose Senate Bill 8.

This bill is discriminatory and would harm transgender Texans and their allies. It would also discourage my transgender friends and family from visiting our state.

The argument that this bill enhances safety is unsubstantiated. As a woman, I can attest that my safety concerns do not involve transgender individuals. Instead, this legislation creates new problems regarding enforcement and privacy. The idea of public officials or police being tasked with "verifying" a person's gender is intrusive and inappropriate. I ask you to vote against SB 8 and focus on legislation that benefits all Texans.

R D Alvarado, Mr.  
self  
Bastrop, TX

It's crucial to PROTECT WOMEN'S PRIVACY in Texas, ASAP.

Quinn McCaffrey  
self, Software Engineer  
Austin, TX

This bill directly endangers trans people by removing their ability to choose the safest bathroom option based on their expressed gender, which I'm sure is the point. There is no justification for a ban and merely shows that Texas has completely lost it's way and that rational people should take their business elsewhere.

Daniel Fairchild  
self Director of Cybersecurity  
Highland Village, TX

Dear House State Affairs Committee,

My name is Daniel and I live in Highland Village, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the issue surrounding the recent failure of the Texas state emergency alert system. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Aspen Drake  
Self - Admin  
Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without being subjected to scrutiny on whether we are "feminine or masculine" enough to pass someones radar, it is an invasion of safety and privacy to embolden people to think we need to inspect each others genitals. Normalize gender neutral bathrooms, they are in every home. I oppose SB8.

Lou Weaver  
Self  
Houston, TX

For 10 years this government has wasted time and tax dollars worrying about where people urinate. I'm a trans man and you never mention us cuz you have to admit we belong in the men's room. This is misogyny and sexism. Stop thinking about how and where I pee!

Kelly Schlesinger  
self  
Spring, TX

I cannot think of way to enforce this bill that is not gob-smackingly stupid and intrusive. i have been using public bathrooms for the better part of a century and I can affirm **THIS IS NOT A PROBLEM**. If you are afraid to use public facilities because of who else may be in there, I suggest you stay home and use your own bathroom. Vote NO on SB 8.

Hunter Ashton  
Self  
SAN ANTONIO, TX

Hi, my name is Hunter Ashton and I am a Texas resident. I'm urging you to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Thank you for your time.

Ande Green  
Self/ Home health  
Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Ande and I live in Dallas, Tx. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address weather services and early warning systems. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.  
Thank you.

Maria Macabre  
Self  
Mesquite, TX

Trans rights and LGBTQIA rights are human rights! We belong in all public and private spaces.

Bunny 420  
Self  
Minneapolis, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.”

Mike Sweden, Mr.  
Self  
College Station, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

[TIP: Have these climate events impacted you personally? If so, this is a good time to briefly (2-4 sentences) share your story & why it matters to you that disaster relief is prioritized.]

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Sheri Allen, Cantor  
Makom Shelanu Congregation  
Fort Worth, TX

I am Jewish clergy and the mother of an adult transgender son. If this bill passes, my son will no longer feel safe coming home to the city where he was raised. This is heartbreaking. When I met with Rep. McQueeney in March, I shared a recent family picture and asked him to point out the trans member - and he was unable to do so.

My son is a man, looks like a man, and HE would be the one at serious risk if he were forced to use a woman's bathroom. Not to mention how uncomfortable it would be for the women who would encounter him and wonder why there was a man in the woman's restroom.

SB 8 does not enhance safety. The research is clear - bathroom restrictions harm transgender individuals, putting them at elevated risk of harassment and violence in spaces that do not match their gender identity. This bill also puts cisgender people at risk of being targeted by vigilante activists who may decide that their narrow definition of what a man or woman is supposed to look like gives them the right to harass or harm Texans.

My faith teaches that everyone was created B'Tzelem Eloheem - in God's image. Passage of this demeaning and dangerous bill would violate this sacred belief that upholds the dignity and divinity of every human being. I urge you to oppose this harmful legislation.

Garrett Mueller  
Self  
Huntsville, TX

I'm a proud republican, but I wish the folks representing me and my district would focus more on making my family's life more affordable instead of focusing so much energy on demonizing this tiny population. I don't know that I've ever met a transgendered person, so how much of a threat can they really be? Texas is big enough for all types. Let em live.

Melissa Ashmore, Rev  
First Community Church UCC Dallas  
Burleson, TX

Actions like this end up effecting all women and girls. We don't need anyone policing our spaces

Laurel Jacobs  
self, legal assistant  
San Antonio, TX

I am writing to urge this committee to vote NO on this bill which aims to restrict transgender people's access to their respective genders' bathrooms and locker rooms. The fact that such a bill is being heard at all is a disgrace. Transgender people are not trying to invade anyone's privacy. We are one of the smallest groups of marginalized people who want absolutely nothing from you but the right to exist peacefully.

This bill is not going to do anything to protect people from "predators", because the notion that such a bill is "protecting" anyone is a farce in the first place. If privacy and protecting people is truly a concern, there are other ways to do this, such as mandating single-use, gender-neutral bathrooms with lockable doors, a solution which is already used by many businesses and at least would not restrict the right of a transgender person to fulfill a basic bodily function in a public setting. All the proposed bill is going to do is make it harder for trans people to exist in public.

Texas and the country is tearing itself apart right now and you are looking for a convenient enemy so you can avoid your responsibilities of actually representing the people. Real life is not so clean-cut. We have real problems that we have to deal with. Our climate is collapsing, and people are already dying en masse because of it, in mass floods throughout the state and more. And instead of working on our disaster preparedness and response, improving our infrastructure, things that could actually save lives and secure a little bit better of a future for Texas, you are doing this.

If you want to actually use your station to help people, instead of punching down on a marginalized group of people who just want to live peacefully, you will vote NO on this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

julia whitmore  
self  
san antonio, TX

This bill is a gross misuse of taxpayer funds and completely misses the mark of what we the citizens care about. We want better infrastructure and disaster preparation/relief. We want bills that will actually protect people. This is not one of them.

Joyce Borgfeld  
Self/Nurse  
Dallas, TX  
Oppose

Jennifer Levesque  
Self / finance  
Austin, TX

This bill targets individuals and is inherently prejudicial by nature. Not only are grossly overstated assumptions being made about what constitutes safety, the safety of the individuals using the bathroom that correlates to their gender needs to be taken into consideration. Whenever laws such as this are passed, it affects public perception as to how to handle situations & this aggressive language regarding who is "male" or "female" or what genitalia they have is a distraction from what causes a lack of safety. That is what should be focused on... actual threats which have nothing to do with what gender was assigned to someone at birth, what hormones they have, what sex chromosomes, what genitalia, etc. The state needs to stay out of private citizen matters such as toileting where one feels safe and focus on prosecuting those who actually endanger others. There's no evidence that suggests those who toilet in a facility other than what matches gender assigned at birth are any more likely to harm or hurt or threaten someone in the restroom they are using. The day this reasoning is being used to target those individuals is utterly absurd, a waste of this state's legislators' time & DANGEROUS to those others will see as presumably not matching gender assigned at birth. Please do not allow this prejudiced ill-informed bill to pass. Thank you.

Savanna Shaffer

Self

Austin, TX

Passing this bill will hurt women. We have already seen the impact on women's privacy. In Minnesota, a teen age girl was stopped at a Buffalo Wild Wings and told to take off her jacket to prove she was a woman. I don't want children and teenagers to have to take off clothes in public to prove their gender. This level of gender policing is extremely damaging to the safety of all women. We deserve to be treated with dignity and respect (as do trans women but you have shown time and time again with the way you vote that you will not treat trans people with dignity and respect, so I ask you to protect women, as that is what you say you value). I am not scared of trans women but I am afraid of men and the control they feel they can exert by policing our bodies. Trans women are put in danger when they are forced to use men's restrooms. Women are not put in any danger by sharing restrooms with other women, cis or trans. It is shameful the government is this concerned with genitalia. I want my government to protect me and instead they choose to put me and other women in danger time and time again. Please vote to protect women by voting against policing bathrooms.

Jacob Haigh

Self

Austin, TX

Trans people using public restrooms is a non issue. Cisgender men are not pretending to be trans women in order to assault people, they've been doing it with their whole chest for decades, centuries. I have been sexually assaulted in public restrooms by cis gender men in public restrooms TWICE, I have never felt in danger while sharing the bathroom with a trans person. Our state government needs to focus on actual, serious issues, not where people pee

Karen Lowery

Self/wife/mother/school board trustee

Granbury, TX

Senators, I cannot express just how much this is common sense.  
Men DO NOT have any business in a female bathroom, locker room, showers, ever!  
This is a NO BRAINER! Pass SB8 and protect girls and women!

Stand up and protect our children and women in Texas schools!

Hannah Honor

Self, Doula

Arlington, TX

I urge this committee not to use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should focus on real issues rather than targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Jennifer Golightly  
Self/Stay at home mom  
Dallas, TX

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a  
My name is Jennifer Joy Golightly. I'm a native Texan and concerned for the heart of our state government. It seems to have turned fully to darkness, hard as a rock, the result of a governing body hungry only for power and unconcerned with treating everyday Texans with dignity and making everyone feel welcome and a part of something great. We Texans, especially our state government, should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that you all vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Trans, nonbinary, gender expansive, and intersex Texans are not a threat to our beautiful state. There should be an urgency among the House to not waste time on bills like this and actually work HARD to make our state better in ways that truly affect the quality of life for all us Texans. Explicitly harming trans people is absolutely not the Texas way, y'all. Do better. Do the right thing, and do it all the time.

Ansel Larouche  
Self, therapist  
El Paso, TX

SB 8 is cruel, harmful, and pointless. Trans people are more likely to be the victims of sexual violence, and less likely to perpetrate it, than cis people.

Rebecca Levesque  
Self  
Fort Worth, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. Targeting such a vulnerable population to terrorize them and make it impossible for them to just live their lives is shameful and cruel does nothing to improve rising floods in Texas and the ongoing environmental devastation that costs our lives, homes, neighborhoods and communities.

April Purvis, Mrs  
Christian church  
Azle, TX

Men should not be allowed in women's private spaces. It is dangerous, humiliating - and irresponsible to allow it!

Stephanie Neckar  
Terlingua Real Estate  
Terlingua, TX

Please just say Restrooms for all!  
I live in a bathroom desert, it's just a relief to find a place to sit in private. Everyone deserves this right!

Vivian Young

Self

Austin, TX

I urge this committee not to use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

The existence of trans people doesn't harm anyone. They simply want to live genuinely and freely, without being told where they can or cannot use the bathroom—something that should be private to begin with. I have never felt unsafe around a trans person in public or private spaces, including bathrooms, dorms, and offices. What makes me feel unsafe is the lack of disaster recovery reform, especially after such a recent tragedy.

We should focus on real issues, not target a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Lindsey Eckhardt

Self - LMT

San Marcos, TX

Everybody deserves to be able to go to the bathroom with dignity and without fear of harassment. It is absolutely ridiculous that anybody wants to police who can use the restroom in public spaces. If this bill passes it will harm everyone, and only lead to people being leered at and harassed near or inside public bathrooms.

Brooks McKenzie, Dr.

Self

Arlington, TX

This is beyond ridiculous that we have to do this. I support SB8.

Greg Harrell

Hood County Republican Party

Granbury, TX

I fully support and urge passage of SB 8, which will protect the young women of Texas and provide the privacy our Texas values demand for them.

Phil Casali

self

Point, TX

support

Patrice Green, Ms

My self

Smyrna, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as a bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time and taxpayer money on explicitly harming trans gender expansive and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting ALL Texans, such as improving disaster & emergency preparedness, response and recovery after fatal floods in Kernville & Central Texas.

Thom Krumholz  
self  
Richardson, TX

“I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.”

Sarah Wallace  
Self  
Austin, TX

Please be on the right side of history. The state should not dictate a citizen's ability to use the bathroom.

Sara Laipis Eno  
self  
Austin, TX

I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8. Transgender, nonbinary, and intersex Texans having access to necessary facilities like the restroom that aligns with their preferred gender is a non-existent problem, and wasting the time of the legislature and the money of taxpayers on this is ridiculous. Leave trans Texans alone.

Pamela Payne  
Self  
Harleton, TX

I am in support of this bill.

Nicole Son-Culbreth  
self  
Philadelphia, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the more important issues, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

I am not trans myself, but I have loved ones who are, and this bill will hurt them and people like them. Instead of making trans people the scapegoats and distracting citizens with non-issues, committee members should be focusing on real issues that affect all citizens. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

TransPeople ArentYourEnemy  
Self  
Texas, TX

Please stop wasting time and energy on witch hunts and making life hard for people who aren't like you.

Wendy Tomlinson

Texas Impact

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose SB8, which requires that individuals use certain bathrooms on the basis of the gender assigned at birth. This bill denies safety and dignity to the members of our transsexual community, and to others who are in other groups, including cisgender women. According to my faith beliefs, all people deserve to be treated with dignity and to be kept safe. This bill is counter to this principle and puts many at increased risk.

John Case, Dr.

self

College Station, TX

I am in favor of this bill. It is very important that people have privacy according to their male or female sex. Please pass this essential bill into law.

Thank you,

John Case

Summer Burstall

Self

Austin, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Glenda Nelms Nelms, Miss

self

Houston, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Cebren O'Bier, Mr.

Self

Avery, TX

We need to do everything within our power to protect girls' privacy by ensuring biological males cannot enter female-only bathrooms and locker rooms in Texas schools.

I am in Support of SB 8.

Hannah Jala

self

Austin, TX

I am writing today to ask that you stop SB 8, a discriminatory bill that attacks non-binary, intersex and transgender Texans. This bill would ban Texans using public school bathrooms consistent with their gender identity.

If signed into law, this bill would put Texas in direct contravention of federal civil rights law and immediately spur litigation which Texas taxpayers will be funding for years. The Associated Press found that when North Carolina passed similar legislation in 2016, it cost the state \$3.76 billion over 10 years from loss of business opportunities and impact on the lives of countless students. If Texas passes this bill, transgender Texans will bear the cost of the discrimination - discrimination that already causes Texans to feel unsafe in their own communities.

Legislation attacking transgender, nonbinary and intersex Texans refuses to serve the major interests and needs of communities and families, who now pay the price as the consequence of failed leadership across the state. Discrimination is wrong, and we believe it has no place in Texas.

C B

Self

Horizon City, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues of improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Sonja Olson

Self, project manager

Richardson, TX

This is transphobia masquerading as condescending paternalism. I don't need to be protected from sharing a bathroom with someone whose body is different from mine. As a woman, I need equal rights and bodily autonomy, which the state of Texas is determined to strip from me. I am OPPOSED to this bill.

Jessenia Fanini

self

Houston, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas

Eli Fletcher

Self

Manvel, TX

Hello.

This bill, if passed, would put many people in danger. I would risk being beaten up, raped, and/or murdered. If I were forced to use the women's restroom looking the way that I do, it would make women feel uncomfortable. I am transsexual. I look and sound like a man. I am thankful to have been able to transition and I have lived my life minding my own business and not causing waves. Many trans people are not like the insane ones you see online. So many of us just want to integrate into society. We are not out to hurt people. I don't want to make anyone uncomfortable. Being trans is not a choice. I would never have chosen this. Please stop passing laws that vilify people like me. I am not hurting anyone. All I want is to live a simple life. I will be praying for all of you, and please remember, God loves all of us. The same God who created you is the same God who created me. The same God who loves you is the same God who loves me.

Steve Jones

Self / Retired / Grandfather

New Braunfels, TX

Please protect women's privacy by passing SB 8.

Remi Caruso

Self

Houston, TX

I urge Senator Middleton to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Thank you for your time and attention to this critical matter.

Bettie Forman

self

Austin, TX

Please do not vote through SB 8. This bill would make Texas feel unsafe for trans and nonbinary people. As a person of the Jewish faith, we stand with our neighbors and we believe who in dignity, safety, and justice for all Texans. Take care of important business and don't do things that will endanger the trans community!

Laila C

Community

Houston, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Josie Posie  
self  
Austin, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Samantha Morris  
Self  
Pearland, TX

Instead of spending valuable time on this ridiculous bill that would be impossible to enforce without serious violation of Texan liberty, perhaps the chamber could consider allocating time to discussing and addressing the following: making our coastline more resilient to climate change disasters, making our infrastructure more robust and supportive of interstate and interregional travel, studying the root causes of the post-mortem mortality rate of Black mothers to be 4x greater than that of white mothers, preservation of natural resources and state parks, our failing energy grid, implementing robust disaster notification systems particularly for our vulnerable hill country which just experienced a disastrous flooding that resulted in loss of precious life, studying our sentencing of domestic violence and implementing changes to justice that reduce instances of domestic violence thus actually protecting women and children from those that are an actual threat to them, OR LITERALLY ANY OTHER THING THAT'S MORE PRESSING THAN WHO GOES POTTY WHERE.

corrine Arnold  
self retired  
cleburne, TX

Please pass. I can't believe there are real republicans who are against this common sense bill.

Allison Lanza  
Self  
Fort Worth, TX

As a pastor and parent of a young child I oppose this bill. We are called to ensure that all people, including our trans neighbors, our safe and welcomed. There is not a history of violence in bathrooms by trans people. Instead there is a history of violence towards trans people whose visual identity does not match gender norms being harmed when trying to use the restroom.

Charlene Reagan  
True Texas Project and Self  
Spicewood, TX

We absolutely need to protect women's private spaces to protect women and girls from predatory behavior.

James Parnella  
Self  
SAN ANTONIO, TX

This is a 90-10 issue with 90% opposing men in women's locker rooms and vice versa, and ALSO men competing against women in sports robbing them of their chances for victory.

Marianne Goodyear

Self

Burnet, TX

I hope this bill will pass. It restores respect for girls and women and their privacy.

Heather Mustain, Reverend

Wilshire Baptist Church

Dallas, TX

This bill is a disgrace and will cause harm to many people and businesses. Please vote no.

Travis Maples

Self

Austin, TX

Vote no on SB 8. It is shameful that the legislature is using its time--during a special session, no less--to legislate transgender (and intersex) people out of public spaces. This is active discrimination at the statewide level, based on nothing more than prejudice. This ban will help no one and will hurt many people, cisgender and transgender alike. This bill does not protect privacy, it invades it. I urge this committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Patricia Ortega

Self/Retired

Flower Mound, TX

I am asking you to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, why is the legislature wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans? Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the you all vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Laura Schulze

Self

Canyon, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Dalia Basswood

Self, artist

Austin, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. This helps no one and harms many. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Linden Marak, Ms

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Linden Marak. I live in the city of Austin and have for my entire life. I am a cisgender woman. I have always been. I present myself differently than your idea of what a woman should be. I express myself as freely now as I did as a child playing dress up. But my peers aren't always kind. When I was younger, I was called an 'it'. I was glared at with distaste at dance performances for not performing femininity correctly. This bill and its rhetoric enables this behavior. This bill harms cisgender women, the women you're claiming to protect, as well as the trans community. You're pitting us against our own neighbors and peers to police anyone who doesn't fit into your definition of what a woman should be. Men who want to hurt us will not be "disguising themselves as women". Men who want to hurt us, will walk into our restrooms and hurt us.

Camryn Medlock, Citizen

Self

Humble, TX

This bill is disgustingly discriminatory towards trans and nonbinary Texans anyone with a heart and some empathy would be against the cruel ways Trans Texans have been treated by the Texas government I urge for SB 8 by Middleton to not be passed focus on real issues not people who are just trying to live their life in the most comfortable way for them

Susan Watkins

Self

The Woodlands, TX

I am urging you to vote no on HB8. Women don't need to be protected in bathrooms. There are no reports of men disguising themselves as women, going into bathrooms and attacking women.

Transgenders suffer enough, struggling with their gender, deciding to be honest about their gender and facing ridicule. Please do not do this to teenage transgenders, or to those in prisons or domestic assault safe homes. You are only adding trauma to a very small population that needs our care and support. Not our hate and derision.

Vote no!

skylar schexnayder

self

austin, TX

Trans people are safe and important!

Nancy Kasten, Rabbi

Self, Rabbi

Dallas, TX

This bill dehumanizes those human beings created in God's image who are non-binary. God created human kind in the Divine image. That image is both male and female. Different people are created differently, and they should be respected and granted human dignity and equal rights to facilities intended for the public. Penalizing individuals because they do not identify themselves in a way that lawmakers feel comfortable with is unjust and inhumane.

Gary N Miertschin

Self

Houston, TX

I am opposed to this bill. It serves no useful function but instead causes hurt and pain to a small vulnerable element of the population many of whom are children.

Deborah Leimbach  
Self-Clinical Laboratory Scientist; Secondary Science Teacher  
New Braunfels, TX

Members of the Texas State Legislature,

I strongly support Texas SB8. Women and girls deserve safety, privacy, and dignity in restrooms, locker rooms, and changing facilities.

This is not about hate—it's about common sense. We separate these spaces for a reason. When men are allowed into women's areas, privacy is lost and safety is threatened. We've already seen predators exploit these policies—this is not hypothetical.

Women aren't demanding access to men's spaces. The pressure only comes from men insisting on ours. If this were just about restroom use, unisex single-stalls already exist.

Privacy is not discrimination. Girls shouldn't be told they must shower next to boys. Women shouldn't be silenced for defending boundaries that protect us.

SB8 is a safeguard. A YES vote protects women and children. A NO vote puts them at risk.

Vote YES on SB8.

Emily Halliburton  
Self  
Austin, TX

I'm writing today to express my opinion AGAINST SB 8. This bill is transphobic and encourages violence and surveillance towards anyone who falls outside of the "normal". It does nothing to keep anyone in the community safe, and actively endangers many of us. To entertain this bill is to waste the time of the Texas legislature and the Texas population at large. There are much more pressing issues than complicating the natural act of using the restroom.

Katherine Thornton

Self - Program Manager, Central Texas Food Bank

Austin, TX

Opposition to SB 8 — Protect Safety, Privacy, and Rights of All Texans

Dear Members of the Texas Legislature,

I strongly oppose Senate Bill 8 (the “Women’s Privacy Act”) that is scheduled for a vote tomorrow, August 22, 2025. This bill, which imposes \$5,000 fines for first offenses and up to \$25,000 for repeat infractions, threatens the very foundation of dignity, safety, and equity for Texans.

1. Encourages Vigilante-Like Enforcement: SB 8’s civil-penalty structure serves more as a bounty-hunting mechanism than a policy grounded in fairness. Without clear guidelines or oversight, anyone could lodge a complaint against an institution, or individual, for using restrooms, shelters, or jails that align with their gender identity. Abuse and risk of safety has already occurred and the potential for more abuse is glaring.
2. Discriminatory Consequences for Transgender & Gender Nonconforming Texans: In targeting restrooms, shelters, and jails, this bill fundamentally invalidates the lived identities of transgender, nonbinary, and intersex Texans. It infringes on their right to sanctuary in spaces designed to protect all survivors and community members.
3. Harms Shelters & Public Safety Infrastructure: The bill’s reach into family-violence shelters and prisons jeopardizes institutions that serve society’s most vulnerable. It strips away safe access and heightens risk for survivors seeking refuge.
4. Erodes Trust in Public Institutions: As stated by civil rights advocates, SB 8 “incentivizes potentially overreaching enforcement like visual inspections” with no guardrails to stop abuses. Such oversight will undoubtedly drive away individuals from seeking help or accessing services, damaging communal trust.
5. Violates Core Values of Privacy and Human Dignity: Public restrooms, shelter services, and incarceration facilities should be designed to respect personal privacy and maintain human dignity, not weaponized with threats of litigation.

As a Texan who believes deeply in individual rights and community safety, I urge you to vote NO on SB 8. Let us uphold principles of inclusivity, protect civil liberties, and ensure public services remain accessible to all, without fear, discrimination, or punitive misuse.

Harli Dollinger

Self Small Business Owner

Fort Worth, TX

The idea that this bill is protecting “women” is a farce. A trans woman who is presenting as a woman, acting and dressing like a woman is no threat to other women. They just want to go about their business and be accepted. They want to go into a bathroom, into a stall quietly and do what women do in bathroom stalls, then come out, wash their hands and check their appearance like any other woman, then leave the bathroom. Forcing trans women to use a men’s room is where the danger comes in. Look at the real statistics. Trans women are the ones assaulted by far by Cis (usually white) men. Would it give you joy to force these women into dangerous situations? I’m still trying to wrap my head around who actually has the right to do genitalia checks. Honestly, most trans men pass as men. If a trans man was forced by this bill to go into the ladies room, many women would feel very uncomfortable, because they would assume there was a man in with them. Would I, as a private citizen have the right to demand that they “drop trou” and show me their vaginas or lack of penises? Could someone walk up to you in a men’s room, if you consider yourself male, and ask to see your penis? Just asking. There are stalls for privacy for a reason. When it comes to kids in school, why would you want to teach them intolerance, segregation and bigotry? Should we go back to whites only bathrooms? Growing up is hard enough without the added burden of being singled out to be abused - this bill allows and sanctions the abuse and forces kids to accept being either abused or put into uncomfortable situations. The suicide rate among trans kids is disproportionately high. Grow a heart and maybe some balls to stand up for what’s right and kind.

Regina Broome

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am FOR banning men from women’s private spaces.

Stephen Gay  
Self- firefighter  
Austin, TX

Men shouldn't be in the women's locker room or bathroom

Paul Phillips  
Self, software engineer  
Highland Village, TX

I am deeply opposed to this bill. SB8 is deeply immoral - punishing the most vulnerable among us for doing nothing wrong.

Let people pee where they feel safe. Mind your own business.

I am a lifelong Texan and I am disgusted by this. No one is made safer by this. No one is helped. The great powers of our government must not be used as arbitrary punishment against someone just because they make you uncomfortable.

Lisa Kriger  
Self  
Lakeway, TX

I want to make sure that you all have visualized the ramifications if this bill is passed. Moms, imagine you're in the ladies room with your daughter and a trans man walks in. A trans man is a man who was born a woman who has transitioned to a man. This person looks like a man, sounds like a man, walks like a man but is in the bathroom with you and your daughter. How are you going to explain that to her? How are you going to feel about that? Also men, if you're in the men's room and a trans woman walks in, who was born a male, but has transitioned to a female, how will that make you feel? What if you're with your young son? "There's a woman in the men's bathroom, daddy!" Think this through.

Lsuta Boas  
self, physical therapist  
Austin, TX

I oppose this bill, which establishes state-sanctioned persecution of a group of people who are causing no harm, based on misconceptions about them. These irrational fears and/or cynical misrepresentations attempt to demonize a group of people who are living their lives, paying their taxes, and are no more criminals than the general population. We do not need to pander to a small group of people who fear anyone not exactly like themselves, leading to punishment of people who are different for going about their daily lives. That small scared group has been in hundreds of public restrooms with queer folk throughout their lifetimes and never even knew it, and need to get their minds out of the gutter. Queer folk in the population are a non-issue; they have always been part of our citizenry. Supporting this bill is a cruel gesture intended to cause harm. And I have to agree: why is the Legislature wasting time on this worthless stunt when we have the kinds of problems like the Kerrville flood and our broken power grid to address? Those are the issues we have government for. Please focus on the job of government, and not on intruding on citizens' private lives.

Melissa Seal  
Myself  
Austin, TX

I don't care about restrooms or who is using them. I think it's weird y'all think about people eliminating this much. This is a non-issue. Just drop this whole topic. Get on to real legislation. Like how to fix our infrastructure and emergency management

Betty Daugherty, MS  
self retired  
The woodlands, TX

Please vote no on this bill. All citizens deserve respect.

Riya Suising  
Self  
San Francisco, TX

SB 8 would require people to use restrooms and locker rooms that match their sex assigned at birth in public schools and government buildings. State Sen. Mayes Middleton (R-Galveston) said the bill is about protecting the privacy and dignity of women and children.

But this bill would require transmen to use women's restrooms where girls are present and transwomen to use men's restrooms where boys are present.

Do you really want that?

For public safety, maybe you should have a law barring republican politicians from public restrooms, as they are more dangerous there than transgender individuals:

<https://youtu.be/-SDa--FyRhk?si=4wXFHFLTteYza0cE>

Amber Kappes  
self  
Mckinney, TX

It is absolutely disgusting that we have come to a point where there has to be a fight to have the “designation and use of certain spaces and facilities according to sex”. As a woman and mother, there should be NO FIGHT! No biological male or biological female should ever enter a space that is not the correct designated area, PERIOD. I urge you to stand and keep fighting for biological males and biological females safe from predators. I want to feel safe and I want to keep my kids safe when we leave our home.

Julie Lacey  
representing myself, I am a data analyst  
Austin, TX

I urge this committee to reconsider their priorities. Chasing partisan issues for flashy headlines rather than focusing on issues that desperately need the legislation's attention is shameful. The state legislature would rather spend time and taxpayer money policing where people use the restroom than focus on emergency relief and recovery from the disastrous floods in Kerr county. Furthermore, banning trans women from women's shelters only guarantees that they will face violence on the street or in abusive situations. Shelters should have measures in place to protect the women who come there and their children, and that should provide safety without banning a category of women from seeking help there. Studies have shown that trans women face intimate partner violence at higher rates than cis women, especially lower income non-white trans women. Here is a study that reviewed and compiled the findings of several studies that have found this: <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7427218/> Trans women are not inherently more violent than anyone else and it's repugnant to act like they are.

Juan Lopez

Self

Austin, TX

Chairman and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong opposition to SB?8, which mandates the use of restrooms, locker rooms, and shelters based solely on a person's biological sex assigned at birth. While the bill is framed as a protection of privacy, it directly harms transgender Texans, especially youth, by forcing them into unsafe and stigmatizing situations in public spaces.

This bill would require transgender people—many of whom have long lived and presented in their affirmed gender—to use facilities that do not align with their identity, making them targets for harassment, emotional distress, and even violence. It sends a clear message that trans people do not belong in public life and must conform to rigid, invasive rules about gender.

SB?8 goes further by creating a private cause of action, opening the door to lawsuits against individuals and institutions that choose to support transgender people's right to access gender-affirming spaces. This will discourage schools, shelters, and public agencies from creating inclusive environments out of fear of legal retaliation—even when inclusion is the medically and ethically appropriate course.

The bill's language around "privacy" implies safety concerns that have not been borne out by evidence. Transgender people are far more likely to be victims of harassment in restrooms than to pose any threat to others. In contrast, enforcing this law would invite invasive scrutiny of people's bodies and identities, encouraging strangers to police others based on appearance and stereotype.

Let's be clear: this bill does not protect privacy—it threatens it. It threatens the privacy and dignity of transgender Texans, especially those who already face disproportionate rates of bullying, suicide, homelessness, and violence.

SB?8 also places unnecessary burdens on public institutions, which will be forced to monitor bathroom use, revise policies, and navigate legal uncertainty—all while trying to serve diverse communities in good faith.

As Texans, we believe in freedom and personal responsibility. This bill does the opposite. It expands government control into the most personal aspects of our lives and creates fear where there should be fairness. I urge you to reject SB?8 and instead advance policies that affirm the dignity, safety, and rights of all Texans.

Respectfully,

Juan Lopez

Austin, TX

Creosote Huseby

Self

El Paso, TX

I'm incredibly ashamed that my state legislature is wasting resources to further target a marginalized group, during a special session called in response to a horrific natural disaster. This bill is explicitly attempting to harm a minority group, claiming to address a problem that does not exist, while those facing real problems are pushed to the side. As a Texan who has experienced severe flooding exacerbated by poor emergency response and worse urban design, I know how desperately those recovering from the devastating flooding in Kerrville and Central Texas need funding and resources. It's despicable that this bill is even being entertained while your constituents who have lost their family members and their homes are waiting for relief. This is a brazen example of how these fascists seizing power DO NOT CARE about the wellbeing of their voting base; they'll gladly sacrifice them to hurt a single transgender person. I hope everyone in this legislative body can appreciate that there are much more urgent issues at hand, and we should not be wasting time and resources debating those who wish to advance a hateful ideological agenda.

I urge the committee to vote NO on SB8.

Mary Hughes

Republicans

AMARILLO, TX

Males go to boys bathroom. Females go to girls bathroom. No crossing over. Sex born with!

Mary Bone  
Capital Area Conservative Republicans Club  
Round Rock, TX

I am FOR this bill, as it's critical for school districts to safeguard our girls. As a Round Rock school board Trustee, I've dealt with concerns about biological male students dressing and staying overnight with biological female students. There have also been instances of male teachers entering female restrooms. Texas legislators must act to protect our girls.

Raine Salinas  
self, student  
Haltom City, TX

This bill does not make sense, and the implications are scary. Why bar some people from using the right restroom, just because they are trans? If we measure what's bad by what hurts people, then bathroom incidents are way more common with non-trans people than trans people. If we enforce stopping things that make people uncomfortable even when they aren't hurting anyone, the Romans might as well have stamped out Christianity for being a weird cult.

Martin Miertschin, Mr.  
self  
Houston, TX

To My Legislators,  
I cannot believe that this is actually a topic of conversation. This is beneath the dignity of our state. A simple Google search will show that there are no instances of rape or assault reported in that last several years that concerned a trans person raping a woman in a public restroom (or a pvt restroom for that matter). However, transgender people are over four times more likely than cisgender people to experience violent victimization, including rape, sexual assault, and aggravated or simple assault, according to a new study by the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law. WHO ARE WE PROTECTING?  
Fragile, meek, little girls? No.  
Honest, Christian housewives? No.  
Fathers, brothers, boyfriends who love the women in their lives? No.  
We are doing nothing except singling out a vulnerable section of society in order to make headlines and appear as we are upholding "Christian values."  
As the father of a woman who has survived a serious, life threatening, domestic assault, no one supports punishing abuser more than me. But this bill does nothing except make the world less safe for Trans folks, who if we are really thinking about it make up less than 1% of our population. Please turn your attention to bills that will make the lives of Texans safer, more prosperous, and easier, stop wasting time on virtue signaling and stupid stuff.

Dan Chandler, Mr.

Self retired

Dallas, TX

Wanting to TESTIFY at 8 AM the next morning, at a hearing for SB8, about men invading women's spaces, and I was going home early, and I stopped to rest, at my usual place, at the East Entrance, halfway to my truck, and across the street, a man suddenly began yelling F-bombs at me. And he said that he was TRANSGENDER! AND THAT HE WAS A WOMAN! And he was yelling as he walked away.

And the white-haired, old-woman, DPS, she came out of the East Entrance, and said she heard voices, and I told her the old guy walking away had cursed at me, and I heard her say that I cursed at him first, and that I yelled at him to leave.

That would be exceedingly out of character, and my usual modus operandi is that I speak only to those who speak to me, but she suddenly said that she couldn't actually understand what had been said.

It is written that God HATES a FALSE WITNESS, but THE DPS at THE TEXAS STATE CAPITOL are SELECTED, and HIRED and FIRED, by the devil's EVIL HENCHMEN, at THE TEXAS STATE CAPITOL, and they are just as WOKE as any TRANNY, and a man can suddenly find himself in SPIRITUAL WARFARE, without warning, and with enemies, with LIARS coming from every direction.

But during the Legislative Session, I was sitting at the East Entrance, and a woman came with two very small, little girls, and she was carrying a newborn, and they were all traumatized, had been crying, and the woman said that she went into the women's restroom, at The Texas State Capitol, and that a man was in there, and that she told the man that he should not be around her children, but that he told her that SHE should not be around her children.

And she said that she told a DPS, but that he said "Ma'am, there is nothing I can do about that."

I have MY CONFEDERATE FLAG, MY REBEL FLAG against the devil's NEW WORLD ORDER, and I say that we must not TEAR DOWN THE FLAGS, THE STATUES, THE MONUMENTS TO THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, THE ALAMO, THE CENTOTAPH, THE BABIES, THE BORDERS, that we must not MURDER THE LITTLE, TRANNY KIDS and THE POLICEMEN, that we must not TEAR DOWN TEXAS and AMERICA, plank-by-plank, piece-by-piece, and Jesus said that those who will offend one of these little ones, that it would be better to tie a millstone around his neck and cast him into the ocean, and that those little ones have angels constantly before the Lord. And, according to scripture, it is written that those who remove a landmark, that God will pour out His wrath like water--and that has recently occurred.

But if God will send a devastating FLOOD, because we TORE DOWN THE CONFEDERATE PLAQUE, what will God do to those whom HE HATES, and those, despicable evil, those who clamor to traumatize the children, the women.

And we have BLOOD MOONS in the sky, and [X] LINES in the sky, and we have the SIGN OF JONAH, and we have the same warning that JONAH took to NINEVEH, that we must REPENT OUR IDOLATRIES, that we must FEAR, OWE, PAY, WORSHIP Almighty God, and no other man, or god, that we must love God with all our hea

Patricia Everett

Self

Fort Worth, TX

This bathroom bill is harmful and a waste of time. Those who create and support such bills are only trying stoke fear among the public. When really, we should be scared of how so many of our state leaders avoid the real issues this state is facing. And whether you see it or not, transgender folks have always been in the community and will always be members of our community. They deserve to live their authentic lives and not be made into targets of hate. Truly how many of you have had an issue with who uses the stall next to you in a public bathroom? It is crazy how many of you spend so much time thinking about bathrooms and genitalia. Reject this bill and do more to protect all Texans because Y'all means Y'all!

Elyse Rosenberg

self

Austin, TX

I do not understand why the Republicans are obsessed with which bathroom a person uses. I've been to many locations which has all gender restrooms and it has never been an issue before. When I go to the restroom, I go to do one thing--to take care of my bodily functions.

I have a non-binary grandchild. They are male by birth, but strongly identifies as female. They wear dresses, they got their ears pierced and they wear jewelry. And they use the female bathroom, even in school. Thankfully, they don't live in Texas. My grandchild is starting middle school in the state where they live. And I will tell you they live in a very red state. But even in this state, the school allows them to be their authentic self.

Texas has more problems than which bathroom a person uses. Did you already forget about what happened on July 4? Why was that not the very first thing on the special session agenda. That is all that needs to be addressed. Please do the work that most Texans care about. It is not which bathroom an individual uses.

Sabira Ahmed

Self

Austin, TX

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that you vote NO on passing SB 8

Cleese Mirrow

Self

Fort Worth, TX

All this will lead to is ugly women like your wives and mothers getting tickets for using the female restroom, since they look like men. We don't need "the potty police", Texans like small government that minds its business and knows its role. Don't ya'll have anything important to actually make laws about, that you've got to waste our tax dollars on drafting and passing legislation to "fix" imaginary problems? Pass something meaningful or get a real job, sir

Peggy Cope, Ms.

Self

Austin, TX

This is a non issue, as illustrated by the lack of any examples of negative interactions. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority of people just trying to mind their own business and use the restroom in peace and privacy for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Vicki DeBusk

Self

Austin, TX

SB 7 is Precisely Wrong—and Un-American

This bill doesn't strengthen our communities. Instead, it singles out a vulnerable minority, bolsters stigma, and weaponizes public policy against Texans simply trying to exist safely.

True safety is rooted in empathy and respect—not exclusion. As citizens and legislators, our challenge is to build policies that uplift human dignity—not tear it down. I am against this bill!

Jennifer Kranzman  
Republican Women of Gregg County President  
Longview, TX

SB 8 is a common sense legislation. It minimizes the risk of traumatizing young girls privacy, limits the young male being alone with a young girl in a non secure setting, and provides added confidence to parents their daughter will be safe to safer when alone in a nonsecured environment.

Kim Nguyen  
Self - healthcare provider  
Dallas, TX

As a female, mother, and healthcare provider, I am not concerned about bathroom use safety. Instead I would like to see my elected lawmakers spend their time and my taxpayer funds protecting children from the number one cause of death - gun violence. According to Johns Hopkins University and FACTS, the number one cause of death among children and teens in the U.S. is gun violence, surpassing other causes such as car accidents and cancer. This trend has been observed since 2020, with firearms accounting for a significant number of fatalities in this age group. If our lawmakers claim to prioritize the safety of our children, then they should be spending their previous time and our money on laws that would be more impactful and protect our future. A few weeks ago, I recently had a friend lose their 4 year old child to a random act of gun violence on a shopping plaza parking lot. This child didn't get to have a first day of school like my children did because some senselessly started randomly shooting in the parking lot and a child along with several adults became victims to gun violence. According to Johns Hopkins University, in 2022, there were 2,526 gun deaths among children aged 1 to 17, averaging nearly 7 per day, indicating a continuing crisis in youth firearm fatalities. There are no specific statistics available that quantify the number of U.S. children who have died specifically from violence related to bathroom access for transgender individuals. (However, violence against transgender and gender-expansive people, including youth, is a significant concern, with many incidents reported each year.) How much more children's blood on our lawmakers hands will finally be too much before they finally act and pass meaningful, common sense gun laws. Stop wasting time and our money creating and passing bills under the guise of protecting children that have no significant impact.

Jackie Simmonds  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am for this bill. I support women only and men only restrooms! Men should not be allowed in women's restrooms!

Linda Brannan, Mrs  
Self  
Dumas, TX

I do not believe nor do I want a man dressed as a woman in women's bathrooms. Men are men no matter what they feel like or think they are. It is my right as a woman to feel safe when I enter a public restroom. It's immoral and unsafe for a man to use a woman's bathroom.

Beth Egar

Self

Meadows Place, TX

My name is Beth, and I live in Austin, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms people of all genders trying to access bathrooms to simply use the restroom, access family violence shelters during crisis, and seeking appropriate and safe placement in correctional facilities. It especially harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting already vulnerable people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after deadly floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texans. Let's focus on creating disaster and resiliency plans and improving our roadways and infrastructures, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm Texans and those who visit our state.

Joyce Statz

self/retired

Austin, TX

This bill targets some of the most vulnerable in our communities; please have a heart and allow them to use the spaces in which they'll feel the most safe. We need to uphold the dignity and safety of all our citizens. Please vote against this bill.

Bruce Martinez

Self

El Paso, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time-and taxpayer money-on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. As well as preparing for any potential freezes this coming winter to avoid yet another power outage catastrophe. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Bea Cannon

Self

Houston, TX

Do we really have to write to ask you to support what should be common sense to all? Boys belong in boys bathrooms. Girls belong in girls bathrooms. There are ONLY girls and boys. So do the right thing and support this bill.

Cole Weaver  
CWA Local 6154  
Cedar Park, TX

My name is Cole Weaver, I am a certified Peer Support Specialist speaking on behalf of CWA Local 6154, which represents workers at Local Mental Health Authorities in different parts of Texas. We as a local are strongly opposed to Senate Bill 8.

As professionals that provide community-based services to individuals with mental health challenges and/or intellectual and developmental disabilities, we are concerned about how this bill will directly impact the safety and mental well-being of our clients. The population we typically serve are experiencing chronic homelessness, psychiatric hospitalizations, or are fleeing domestic violence. These situations are already deeply traumatic, and our clients are fighting to survive as is. This is especially the case for trans and intersex clients, as many of them are homeless and underemployed because of being outed as trans or intersex. Many are also recovering from trauma and mental health challenges because of abuse, violence, hate, harassment, and most importantly, discrimination.

Criminalizing the most natural bodily function in the name of protecting women's privacy will not protect women and girls. They will instead be forced to undergo invasive physical inspections or to share their IDs, both of which will either place women and girls at risk of physical exploitation or require them to divulge private information such as home address and birth date in order to access public restrooms. This bill will also impact trans and intersex clients, especially when they are in facilities such as psychiatric hospitals, shelters, or jails, as they will be at greater risk of violence and sexual assault. It's even more cruel and absurd to subject clients who are homeless and don't have access to IDs or are experiencing severe mental health crises to these invasive verification processes.

Whether someone is trans, intersex, or neither, no one should be denied the personal freedom to use a private space without proving their gender. Transgender and intersex people are part of our workforce, our neighborhoods, and the clients we serve. They, along with every other Texan, deserve the safety and privacy to use the restroom like human beings. Our clients deserve to be free from exacerbated trauma or prolonged mental health challenges that would be caused by these violent and invasive laws.

Frankly, working Texans have had enough of the legislature prioritizing harm and discrimination over investing in laws that will actually help the community and the workforce. Therefore, CWA Local 6154 respectfully urges this committee to oppose wasting time and resources on invasive government overreach. Vote NO on SB 8!

Alice Baker  
Self, Graphic Designer and Web Admin  
Austin, TX

Small government should not interfere when no harm is being done. Statistically, trans people are more likely to be assaulted than to assault someone else. Sexual assault is already a crime, so no further laws are needed. We do not need to make cis women show their chest or genitals to prove their gender, or trans women to go into a men's bathroom where they are more likely to be assaulted, or trans men to go in the women's restroom where they may be attacked. Worst of all, we do not need trans people in prison in the wrong faculty to be attacked and raped. Please reject this harmful bill.

Jacqueline Baez-lugo  
Self  
Edinburg, TX

Please stop the whole transgender insanity. Men and boys do not belong in women's restrooms! Why is that so hard to comprehend? This whole transgender insanity is like a cancer that has infected every institution. Men has penis and women have vaginas! Transgender people are mentally disabled and deserved their own healthcare and facilities. Enough of men pretending to be women. The way I will solve this problem is by creating transgender spaces and bathrooms for them, I don't see a problem with that. Disturbed transgender men just want to force themselves into women private areas and that's disgusting. Caitlyn Jenner is not a woman, the guy was called Bruce Jenner for the longest time and later decided to transition, that's his choice, not mine or yours. Pass Sb8 and protect women's safe spaces.

Lisa White  
Self  
Flower Mound, TX

Bathrooms and dressing rooms should be gender specific according to biological/status

Ronald Gross  
Mary Lee Foundation  
Austin, TX

SB8

Alexandra De La Mora  
Self  
Austin, TX

I firmly oppose SB 8. This bill violates the right and dignity of trans Texans by placing them in potentially dangerous situations by not allowing them to use the bathroom corresponding to their gender. Trans Texans deserves the same rights as Cis Texans. I urge the members of the committee to vote NO on this blatantly transphobic bill.

Korey Young  
Self  
Austin, TX

I often visit public schools and universities for my job, and I need a place to use the bathroom during the work day. The women's bathroom won't work for me anymore because I have been on testosterone for years and I look and sound like a man in every way. Unless someone forced me to take my clothes off to prove I was born a female, nobody would know I'm transgender. However, some of my coworkers know I'm transgender for other reasons. If they reported me for peeing during the work day, the \$5000 fine would be more than I make in an entire month of work.

Julie Sims  
Self, Homemaker  
Colleyville, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Thank you,

Chris and Julie Sims  
Colleyville, TX

Sarah Beck

Self - Commercial Interior Designer

Austin, TX

There are four main concerns I want to call your attention to:

Firstly, enforcement:

How would this bill actually be enforced? It dictates that state agencies must take “EVERY reasonable step” to ensure someone of the opposite sex doesn’t enter, otherwise the facility will be responsible for \$5k and subsequently a whopping \$25k for every violation.

So what is a reasonable effort? Checking IDs for every patron to use the bathroom? Is that not a poor utilization of publicly funded spaces and staff and also personally invasive?

Does it mean checking people in as they enter the building and requiring a badge or pin with their sex boldly printed on it? Is that not a form of sex discrimination that would bleed into other areas or activities?

Or does it mean that officers, typically men, are to be at the ready to storm into the restrooms and demand to see ID (which not everyone carries) or for visual inspection of someone’s body? And is that not the whole thing we’re trying to avoid?

We have already seen this last scenario occurring, women being harassed while undressed in a stall and demanded to step out and show their breasts. How this bill is written right now, it is the Women’s INVASION of Privacy Act.

Secondly, this bill could put undue burden or completely deny the rights of disabled folks in need of aid or supervision, because how is someone supposed to determine which disabilities are deserving of an aid as noted in the exceptions? Will they also be harassed in the bathrooms? There is no disability identification card. And in case you’re not aware, about 80% of disabilities are hidden but may require support, such as for folks with PTSD, epilepsy, autism, and chronic pain.

Thirdly, this bill has mountains of flaws and poorly written loopholes. For example, if personhood begins at conception, then per Section 1.07 (3), EVERY single person is technically female. Or in Section 3002.053 parts (1) and (2), an adult male could accompany a young boy into the women’s restroom and NOT violate this bill.

And finally, this bill has the potential to fine public facilities to the point of closure due to the hefty civil penalties and an unrealistic task of verifying everyone’s sex at the bathroom. Libraries, schools, parks, event spaces, and domestic violence shelters would be tasked with the burden of either discriminating and violating people’s privacy or facing immense fines.

Our communities deserve better. Do NOT vote this bill forward.

Thank you.

Esperanza Barela

Self/ small business owner and mother of 6 children

San Antonio, TX

Please support SB8. It is very important for the safety and privacy for women. I believe we have the right to be respected by having privacy. These are our private places.

Herman Chow

Self

Plano, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Amber Andress

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I'm 100% for this bill. Men should NOT be in women's private spaces

Amanda Havron

Self /retired /student

Flower Mound, TX

Please prohibit men in women's private spaces; bathrooms, changing locations and all other areas to include gym facilities for women only, excetera. Male only male; women only women. Not Thank you.

Susan Anderson, Dr.

Self

Benbrook, TX

There is no problem with bathrooms in this state and so this bill is nort needed. Rather, it is a political stunt meant to please the MAGA base while further marginalizing people who are already struggling. Transgender people aren't hurting anyone, yet this bill would cause harm to them. Please vote against this unnecessary and harmful bill.

Andrea Juarez

Self

mcallen, TX

This bill protects no one, and endangers all my trans friends and family that already are hesitant to use the bathroom in public spaces. Bills like these make America a nightmare to live in if you physically appear to be slightly different than what people think you should look like, trans or not. This will affect everyone and put people in danger. Stop policing Americans for our gender expression and stay OUT of our bathrooms. I would love to share a bathroom with a trans person rather than a bigot.

Caitlin Rybiski

Self, Sales Manager

Austin, TX

Why are we debating this or anything else when Texans have no flood relief or disaster preparedness in sight as Hurricane season starts? No one should have to pass a genital inspection or worry about being harassed or assaulted because they used a public restroom. This bill is frivolous, discriminatory and does not help any Texan of any gender. Focus on the floods and do your job.

Amy Layne

Self / Public Safety Telecommunications

Pasadena, TX

Good morning. Regrettably I am unable to share these comments with you in person as I am working at my job supporting first responder emergency communications systems of the type supported by numerous bills filed before this Legislature, namely HB 3.

I am a career civil servant working in the public safety telecommunications industry; I have worked directly for a fire department, a law enforcement agency, and for the IT departments of two of the top 5 largest cities in the state of Texas. I was deployed for two weeks continuously in west Harris County during Hurricane Harvey in 2017 where I provided communications support to National Guard troops who were performing search and rescue operations. One of my banner accomplishments was upgrading the communications backhaul network for an outdoor warning siren system in a top-5 population Texas city of the type that, had it been installed along the Guadalupe River in Kerr County, would have undoubtedly saved lives during the July 4th floods this year. I have performed this work for 12 years alongside other dedicated civil servants of every race, creed, religion, and political belief that can be found in the state of Texas, all without incident. I also happen to be transgender, a facet of my life which, until this Legislature proposed this and other legislation of its ilk, had not posed a single impediment to the performance of my duties. This legislation seeks to criminalize an action which myself and other transgender civil servants have been engaging in, without incident, for years with the open support of our female coworkers, and notably does not include a funding mechanism for government agencies to construct new or retrofit existing facilities into unisex single occupancy so that we may continue to perform our essential bodily functions with privacy and safety... though a reasonably educated individual could also draw a mostly straight line across the arc of history between the construction of "third gender" public restrooms and the "colored" restrooms of the Jim Crow era. I leave it to the members of this Committee to ponder the implications of that comparison and where they may fall on the side of history.

Out of a state of roughly 11,000,000 people I am one of maybe less than 300 working in my particular civil service sector, a number that becomes even smaller when reduced to people with my specific skill set and experience working with the largest public safety radio communications vendor in the state of Texas. If this legislation is voted into law and I am no longer able to safely use the restrooms in the facilities I work in that number will be less than 299. I urge you to find your conscience, your sense of decency, the better angels of your nature, or whatever small voice speaks to you in difficult times and vote this bill down so that myself and the other transgender civil servants in this state can continue serving our communities with hard work and quiet dignity.

Debra Levy

Self

Dallas, TX

Dear Committee Members:

I have been observing the Texas' drive toward a "bathroom bill" since 2017. My first encounter with it was standing among families of youth who could be harmed by policies of fear, hatred and exclusion, who only want safety for their children, and to be left in peace. I watched the gathering in the rotunda, outside and inside, filling the State House, begging for mercy above ideology or politics. These are the casualties of culture war: people are leaving Texas, and children are afraid to be themselves. We know where this leads, and it is to suicide attempts and self-harm.

Life is hard enough for those in the margins, whatever your beliefs. To heap shame and difficulty upon them is ungodly. Wrong. God does not ask us to persecute others, but to protect his spark in every one of us. God is beyond gender, beyond orientation, beyond all, and asks kindness, mercy and respect of us all. :

As a Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed "inspectors" to harass those who don't fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color in ways that are dangerous and irresponsible.

The dangers of this legislation are clear - these provisions will lead to harm and harassment. There seem to be no constraints or guardrails against abuse of process, or harm, in this law.

This bill failed when it came before the legislature in 2017. When Odessa passed a similar measure last year, it was abandoned after they found the legislation cannot be enforced. Entertaining this bill distracts your attention from more pressing issues while escalating the risk of severely violating the bodily autonomy of Texans.

My Jewish tradition teaches that every person is created b'tzelem Elohim – in the image of God. That belief calls us to respect each person and celebrate the beauty of each person as their full self. SB 8 seeks to marginalize and demonize, rather than cherish and uplift.

Texans have made it clear that they oppose this legislation. Please oppose SB 8 and do not vote it out of committee. Do not allow irresponsible and bureaucratic edicts to be held over school districts, targeting those busy with educating all children. There is no place in schools for witch hunts, and bounty hunters.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debra Levy

Karmen Baker

Self, homemaker

Austin, TX

Trans people are more likely to be assaulted than to assault someone else. We do not need to make cis women show their chest or genitals to prove their gender, or trans women to go into a men's bathroom where they are more likely to be assaulted, or trans men to go in the women's restroom where they may be attacked. We also do not need trans people in prison in the wrong facility to be attacked and raped. Please reject this harmful bill.

Anne Glickman

Self

West Lake Hills, TX

I am a licensed professional counselor associate here in Austin, Texas. I have been working as a counselor with trans and queer youth ages (12-25) for the past two and a half years. I have personally witnessed and heard the mental, emotional and psychic damage legislation like this results in. All Texans should have the right to use public facilities that align with their chosen gender identity. This bill is a thinly veiled assault on LGBTQIA+ people who are some of the vulnerable in our community in terms of mental health struggles and rates of suicidality. I am not overstating things when I state that this bill will contribute to further damaging the well-being, and undoubtedly adding to the numbers of young LGBTQIA+ lives lost. Vote NO on this bill.

Megan Upton

Self

Tuscola, TX

As a veteran, mother and woman with short hair. I'd really like to not have to beat a homophobes ass when they eventually harass me for needing to pee. I'd really just rather not deal with legal paperwork as I'm quite busy at the moment. Stop being so concerned about HOW I pee, it's really creepy but on brand for yall.

Kayla Bingham

Self, homemaker/Mother

Allen, TX

I am a mother of a young daughter. She deserves to live in a place where she can safely go to a public bathroom where only other females will be present. There are numerous examples of men with obscene sexual perversions using "gender confusion" as a way to gain entry to these spaces and prey on women and girls. Texas needs to be the leader in our country for common sense, privacy rights, and truth. If the legislature wants to earn back the trust of Texans, this would be a good place to start. This tiny minority of deviants do not get to take over our state, our bathrooms, or our locker rooms.

Sameera Balay

Self

Austin, TX

I as a women ppose this bill because it is really not related to "Women's Privacy Act".The bill is hard to enforce and is very subjective depending on who files the complaint. The litigation associated with it is waste of tax payer dollars.

Kaitlyn Brenner

Self

Austin, TX

I am a Native Texan and I am opposed to this bill. There is absolutely no way to enforce this ban without violating people's civil rights. This bathroom bill not only discriminates against transgender individuals but also targets individuals who might not present in a way that aligns with their sex at birth, even if they identify as such. We have the opportunity to show Texans that everyone is welcome here, but instead, people who are born and raised in our beautiful state are terrified of the potential consequences not only from their peers, but now the legal system. The queer community is already facing an increase in discrimination and assault, as this bill is more ammo for a regular person to take matters into their own hands when they decide that someone doesn't belong in the faculty in question, even if they actually do. Not only that, but people should be allowed to exist in public spaces without the fear of being falsely accused of using the wrong facilities in question. This rhetoric and thought process opens the door to before the Stonewall riots, when women were getting arrested for wearing men's clothing and it was required by law to wear three articles of clothing that aligned with your sex at birth. Is this really the direction we want to go in? Is this really what we think our beautiful state and beautiful Texans deserve? We cannot go back to a time where we are policing people for simply existing in public. We deserve better. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sean Gulick, Dr  
Self  
Sunset Valley, TX

In SB 8 I also wish to express deep concern on the language of this bill; if someone has transitioned and is now a different gender it is harmful to the public to force the use of a bathroom that does not match their gender. This means we will have women with breasts and no male parts being forced to be in the men's room. Men with beards, no breasts and a hairy chest sharing a girl's locker room. The gender after transition is their gender and to pretend otherwise will cause extreme discomfort on the part of the public and humiliation on the part of our citizens. Moreover, putting someone who is clearly a women in with men in a jail cell will undoubtedly lead to sexual assaults and it will be the fault of the state and any lawmaker that voted for this bill. This is not in the interest of public safety. I urge voting against both of these bills.

Normalicia Saucedo  
Self  
Amarillo, TX

Why is this still an issue? Girls are entitled to their safe spaces just as boys are entitled to theirs. Gender confusion should not confuse our legislation. Only biological girls should be allowed in girls' bathrooms, just as biological boys should be allowed in boys' bathrooms. Their confused state of mind does not change their genital makeup. Why is this still an issue? Please take a stand and protect our children. Vote no on allowing trans people to use any bathroom or dressing room they want. Why should our children be punished for their confusion???

Jennifer Miller  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

Message example:

I am writing to express my strong support for SB8. I believe in the importance of protecting women's safe spaces and preserving the right to dignity, privacy, and security for women and girls.  
Women should not be forced to share private facilities with males, including those who identify as transgender or who suffer from gender dysphoria. These spaces, whether bathrooms, locker rooms, or shelters, were created to protect women's safety and sense of security. Allowing biological males into them undermines those protections and puts women at risk.  
I respectfully urge you to stand firm in supporting SB8 and to continue to uphold policies that defend the dignity and safety of women and girls.  
Thank you for your service and for considering my perspective on this critical issue.

Kala Simpson, Mrs.  
Self  
Amarillo, TX

No forms of abortion in Texas.  
No men in Women's/girls bathrooms.

Protect our children in every way.

Jennifer Muenster, Miss  
self  
Abilene, TX

I am commenting to oppose this bill as it will damage civil rights in Texas and cause havoc for women in public places.

Jamie Hash

Self

Austin, TX

Chair, Members of the Committee,

I am a proud Texan and proud American. I have served my country in uniform for 14 years with honor, courage, and commitment. I have deployed overseas, missed anniversaries, birthdays, and holidays. I have carried the weight of leadership and the sacrifices of military service. I have always asked of myself what the military asks of every servicemember: to put mission above self, and to live by integrity, service, and excellence.

I have recently been told that my service no longer matters—not because I have failed in duty, but because I am transgender. I am being purged from the very institution to which I have dedicated my life. I cannot fully express the pain of being discarded by the country I swore to protect simply because of who I am.

And now, this legislature considers SB 8—a bill that, like the policy driving thousands of patriots out of the military, targets people like me strictly for political gain. Trans and intersex Texans are not bargaining chips. We are not distractions. We are your neighbors, your coworkers, your veterans, and your fellow Texans. We are people who love this state and contribute to its future.

It is shameful that, in the midst of so many real crises, taxpayer dollars are being spent not to improve lives, but to harm them. Texans are still recovering from devastating floods in Kerrville and across Central Texas. Our energy grid has failed us in freezing winters and scorching summers, and it still lacks the resilience Texans deserve. Rural hospitals are closing, leaving communities without lifesaving care. Teachers are fleeing classrooms because of underfunding and political interference. Families are being crushed by rising property taxes, housing costs, and the price of basic necessities. These are the emergencies Texans sent you here to solve.

I swore to defend this nation against all enemies, foreign and domestic. What I did not expect was to have to stand here today and defend myself against my own elected officials.

SB 8 is not about protecting Texans, it is about targeting a marginalized group of Texans for perceived political incentive. And it will be remembered as such. I implore you to reject this bill. Choose courage over fear. Choose service to all Texans, not just some. Choose to honor the dignity and humanity of every person who calls this state home.

Thank you.

James Westbrook

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am writing to express my strong support for SB8. I believe in the importance of protecting women's safe spaces and preserving the right to dignity, privacy, and security for women and girls.

Women should not be forced to share private facilities with males, including those who identify as transgender or who suffer from gender dysphoria. These spaces, whether bathrooms, locker rooms, or shelters, were created to protect women's safety and sense of security. Allowing biological males into them undermines those protections and puts women at risk.

I respectfully urge you to stand firm in supporting SB8 and to continue to uphold policies that defend the dignity and safety of women and girls.

Thank you for your service and for considering my perspective on this critical issue.

Maryann Jacobson

SELF

Georgetown, TX

SB 8 is an abomination. I strongly feel this is entirely about giving the public a legal way to harass, embarrass, and bully suspected trans individuals. If you have done your homework, you would know that trans individuals do not want or care to do anything but live their lives in peace. My daughter's life partner is trans and has been harassed on several occasions who follow them into the restroom and peer over the stalls to make sure they have the correct body parts. They were changing their tampon inside a private space, which was obviously an essential hygiene activity for a person who is female. It's simply disgusting. Who is this bill protecting? Absolutely no one, because there is NO THREAT - except to protect crazy, mean-spirited Karens who hate anyone who doesn't look and act like them. I am appalled by this action, and urge the state of Texas to stop this.

Colleen Bardelli

Self

Austin, TX

I can't believe this is something even being discussed at this point. There are real issues going on! Which bathroom someone is using is just a distraction. I expect my elected officials to be using their time to improve lives, not make them worse. Please focus on the economy and gun safety and prevention. Literally no one cares about bathrooms.

Heather Podbielski, Ms.

self

Arlington, TX

"I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

Lilly Melott

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am in favor of this bill. Men should not be allowed in women's private spaces.

Tammy Robinson

Self

Amarillo, TX

Biological Men should not be allowed in women's spaces. It is unsafe.

Jessica Salinas

self, Montessori teacher

Austin, TX

I am against this bill. It penalizes people based on how they look, and addresses a non-issue.

Dee Harrison

self, product manager

Austin, TX

As a transgender Texan, this bill represents the latest in an attack on my personal liberties and the latest attempt to push people like me out of public life. The dangers represented to us by this bill - not being able using a restroom that does not correspond to our gender - is real and significant, and the benefits are non-existent. Many transgender Texans work for the state and in many other public buildings serving the state in many different ways and making their fellow citizens' lives better. You are punishing these people, and punishing people like me, for no reason. I have lived here 20 years and I love this state; Texas is freedom and Texas is friendliness and openness. The fact you are taking time in the lege to attack us is hurtful and upsetting, and you have better things to do.

Kathryn Schrub, Mrs.

Self

Fort Worth, TX

Please vote in favor of passing this legislation.

Laura Giles

Self

Blue Ridge, TX

If a facility is designated with signage for a specific gender & purpose, the expectation is that it is to be used only by that defined gender & purpose. Why have signs if they can be disregarded?

Colleen Timmermann

Self

Pleasanton, TX

I'm for this bill.

Kaitlen Eckmann

Self - Archivist

Galveston, TX

Enforcement of any of SB 8's provisions could easily prove deeply troubling and invasive for all Texans, even the "women and girls" this bill claims to protect. I oppose this bill.

David Poe

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned. Your obsession with genitals is concerning. or our genitals inspected.  
I oppose SB8.

Licy Corral

Self / Land Developer

Galveston, TX

Leave yes people alone once and for all. Really? Our country is in crisis and you are so petty to care whether a person has a vagina or not. What are you going to do? Require everybody to drop their pants to prove whether they have the right genitals?

Gretchen Miertschin

Self

Houston, TX

I do not support this bill. Gender identity issues are very real. A person who is non-binary or transgender deserves to be treated with the same respect as a cisgender person. This bill not only allows for disregarding their right to basic privacy in choosing a bathroom and acceptance as individuals in public places, but it goes so far as to impose legal penalties. There is no evidence of harm being done to cisgender people by allowing trans and non-binary people to live in their identity. There is quite a bit of evidence to indicate that non-binary and trans people are hurt by this kind of discrimination. The bill is, in my opinion, not only unproductive but mean spirited.

Robin Covington

Self

Richardson, TX

Why can't we just leave trans people alone? So what if they are trans? They don't need the harassment, and people who may look trans but aren't don't need the harassment. I'm not worried about a trans WOMAN in the restroom either, I barely look at other people in there. I thought Texas was the friendly state, but I guess that doesn't apply to everyone. Sad.

Gary Bauer

Self, Video Producer

Garland, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation." We have two daughters and 4 granddaughters!

Stacie Zercher

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Vote for this bill

Rhonda Denman

Retired/Family Therapist

Kemp, TX

I most definitely support SB7 and the safety and protection of all females!

Russell Mirabelli

self

Grand Prairie, TX

This is nothing more than another infringement on the civil liberties of innocent Texans just trying to live full lives. Gender is a spectrum. There are more intersex folks than there are redheads. And despite trans people narrowly making up about 1% of the total population of the U.S., they are a subject of significant ire on the national level and especially here in Texas. Therefore, this bill becomes yet another eugenicist measure to further marginalize and ostracize our neighbors. Not to mention the fact that this will undoubtedly lead to cisgender women being harassed and targeted for not looking feminine enough. Look no further than the incident at a Buffalo wild wings in Minnesota not but a few days ago where a cisgender 18 year old girl was confronted in a restroom about looking like a man, and felt like it was necessary to expose her breasts so that the server that confronted her would believe her. Who knows if this will get a lick of attention by those who need to read it, but if it does, trans people are people too. And they can only take so much. By implementing legislation that makes people feel foreign in their own bodies, you will undoubtedly drive people take their own lives. They will take their own lives because you couldn't contend with the fact that the traditional modes of sexuality in our society are flawed and patriarchal.

Chris Boas

Self, Concerned Citizen

Austin, TX

This bill will not fix any problems.

This will cause women to be targets for harassment.

This will cause an economic loss for Texas both in lost opportunities and lost tourism.

This bill outright encourages vigilantism, and will most likely lead to an increase in violent crimes.

It is a bill born of hate and fear, and that is not the proper future for our state and country.

I hope that these comments and others will reach you, even though I have no faith that they will. I suspect that you have already closed your ears, your eyes, and your hearts, and opened your mouths.

Melissa Davis

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve to pee in peace. Our genitals and gender are not the Texas governments business. I oppose SB8.

Joe Johnson

Self

San Saba, TX

Any man who claims to have a right to enter the women's restroom is a pervert. Texas needs to stand against this nonsense. A man is anyone with a Y chromosome. It's really simple. Protect women and girls in Texas and keep these mental cases out.

Antonio Ward

self, IT

Buda, TX

Back in my day, "genital inspection day" was dark middle school yard humor. Now you're actively telling me you want vagina inspection day? Seriously? A nightmare waiting to happen.

Ellie Dixon

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing to express my deep anger and disapproval regarding SB8. This law is an outrageous attack on the basic rights and freedoms of Texans. By placing bounties on private citizens, deputizing strangers to interfere in personal medical decisions, and stripping people of control over their own bodies, SB8 sets a dangerous precedent that undermines both privacy and constitutional rights.

This legislation does not protect Texans—it endangers them. It creates fear, division, and suffering. I expect my elected officials to uphold personal liberty and protect the health and dignity of their constituents. SB8 does the opposite, and I urge you to fight for its repeal and ensure that reproductive healthcare remains safe, accessible, and free from political interference in Texas.

Elizabeth Boas

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is absurd. The only outcome will be people dressed as men going into the women's room and vice versa.

margaret stenz, dr

self, government worker

Austin, TX

OPPOSE

Merle Oz, Dr

Self family physician

Dripping Springs, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters and granddaughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. Our sons and grandsons need to know that this is basic respect that every biological female deserves. Gender is not fluid and pretending that it is is demeaning, especially to girls and women.

Ashley Everhart  
Self  
PFLUGERVILLE, TX

Monitoring gender (genetalia) is a slippery slope. Texas has more important things to address.

Margaret Stenz, Dr.  
self, government worker  
Austin, TX

oppose

Nicole Evins  
Joy to You  
New Braunfels, TX

In favor of

Mia Hannah  
Self, airline employee  
Colleyville, TX

I absolutely feel that discrimination of transgender use of public restrooms is appalling and disrespectful. There has been no actual proof that transgender women create issues in these facilities and the only reason you have for pushing such bill is created out of hate for and discord for a community of people who know more about Loveland respect than the current administration is capable of showing. The use of lies and deception to promote such a bill is considered unconstitutional. No transgender woman belongs in men's restrooms, especially if transition has produced certain levels of physical characteristics that is indicative of womanhood, such as breast. Forcing transgender women to use men's restrooms will cause more harm, potentially physical harm, to these people. Transgender women are women and should be treated as such. It is time we stop living in the past, and look to the future of mankind showing compassion and empathy for you fellow men and women. The Bible states this in multiple chapters and preaches unconditional love for your neighbors and to treat them as you would have them treat you. This bill should be struck down in it's all to never see the light of day in becoming law. No one should be told what we are supposed to be other than being a decent and loving person.

Nancy Harhaway  
Self  
The Woodlands, TX

I believe this bill protects NO ONE and evidences the lack of understanding of and respect for persons who are sexually different from most of us. That difference does not threaten others. Please vote NO on this bill.

Dana Boland  
Self  
Wills Point, TX

Males (anyone with a penis) should NOT be able to go in/use a women's rest room, changing rooms or anything specific to a certain sex only. DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN in any form. You are born male or female and should only use the facilities of the sex you were born

Christina Hernandez

Self/Teacher

Kyle, TX

Dear Donna Campbell,

My name is Christina Hernandez and I'm a resident of your district. I am writing to express opposition to Senate Bill. This bill puts everyone in danger. There is no way to "check" to enforce this bill. People will be physically harmed based on their appearance and people's assumption of their gender.

I urge you to vote against this bill for the safety of all Texans.

Simon Marquis

Self, student

Commerce, TX

I believe this bill violates the rights of the minority to assuage the majority. The sheer improbability of properly installing bathroom controls without violating further rights or falsely targeting those who do not visually "clock" as the correct gender is a problem I fail to see the solution to. The fears of people who cannot take the time to learn about the people they are attempting to segregate are repeating mistakes we have seen the aftermath of.

Sandra White

Self/retired

Austin, TX

Surely Texas has bigger problems to solve than inspecting the genitalia of people needing to use a restroom--problems like funding public education, overhauling our inadequate disaster response systems, and providing better healthcare insurance for low-income families. As a lifelong member of a faith community, I am proud to say that my "chosen family" includes many people of different backgrounds and genders. Our worship buildings provide restrooms for all to use, and we don't monitor who is qualified to use which one. Let people use the bathrooms in peace! NO on SB8.

Darcie Skrzycki  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

Let's call this what it is: bathroom bans targeting Transgender people are not about protecting women. They are about weaponizing women's safety as a political shield for bigotry. You are exploiting fear and perpetuating lies to justify stripping a vulnerable group of their most basic human rights.

There is *\*zero evidence\** that allowing Transgender people to use the restroom that matches their gender identity threatens women or children. None. Women's rights groups, sexual assault prevention organizations, and law enforcement have said it plainly: these laws do not make anyone safer. What they *\*do\** is create danger—by inviting harassment, policing, and violence against Transgender people simply trying to exist in public.

And here's the truth you'd rather ignore: by passing these bans, you endanger cisgender women, too. Any woman who doesn't "look feminine enough" risks being questioned, shamed, or forced out of a restroom. You are legislating a culture of suspicion where everyone's body is up for debate. That is not protection—it is surveillance and control.

These laws are not just cruel, they are cowardly. They target a marginalized community already facing disproportionate violence, poverty, and discrimination. They deny Transgender people dignity, privacy, and freedom of movement. This is state-sanctioned humiliation, a calculated campaign to push trans people out of public life. That is not governance—it is oppression.

If you cared one ounce about women's safety, you would confront the *\*real\** issues: epidemic rates of domestic violence, sexual assault, pay inequality, lack of affordable childcare, and inaccessible healthcare. But instead of doing the hard work, you scapegoat Transgender people—people who are not the threat. Women are not safer because of these laws. Transgender people are not safer because of these laws. The only people who benefit are politicians clinging to power by stoking fear.

History will remember this moment. It will remember who stood up for human rights and who used women as an excuse to trample them. Bathroom bans are not protection. They are persecution. And those who champion them are not defenders of women—they are violators of freedom.

Repeal these laws. Reject these proposals. End this sham of "protection." Transgender people belong everywhere in public life, including in the restroom. Anything less is a blatant violation of human rights and an unforgivable abuse of power.

Taylor Fox

Self

Austin, TX

Sen Paxton stopped my testimony on SB 8 during the first called session because she said I was "attacking the members." What I said was (and I'm not saying this as an attack, just to provide context), that "the only thing trans people threaten is Sen Middleton's fragile masculinity." I ended my testimony as requested.

Afterwards, one of men who testified in support of this bill began following me around, recording me with his phone, attempting to bait me. Side note: This was just a little bit before Sen Middleton tweeted about Gene Wu going back to China, so y'all just have really classy folks on your side of this argument.

Now I don't see my statement as an attack. An attack would be targeting your communities through racially gerrymandered redistricting, effectively silencing your vote. An attack would be ignoring your family tragedy by refusing any kind of flood relief through governor's executive orders or legislation. An attack would be plastering religious indoctrination on the walls of your children and grandchildren's classrooms. An attack would be denying pregnant folks access to medical care. An attack would be passing legislation that subjects you to unfair scrutiny just for using the toilet.

Me calling Sen Middleton a fragile little man baby is nothing compared to the attacks that y'all launch against the people of Texas everyday y'all meet.

I guess what I'm saying is that while this bill says men are a threat to women's private spaces, it seems that the real threat is y'all. The party of Trump loyalists. The party that covers up for him, a man who has bragged about going into women's dressing rooms. A man who has been convicted of sexual assault. A man who is very likely a pedophile. And still y'all vote for him, y'all do his bidding. You try to distract with flashy topics like trans folks, while you disenfranchise your own constituents to protect the actual worst president in US history.

Y'all gotta break up with him. I know you think he loves you, but he doesn't.

Brenda Howard, Voter

Self

Belton, TX

I am FOR SB8. I am shocked that we even have to have this law. Common sense tells us that all people should use the bathroom that is appropriate for their biological sex. I am extremely uncomfortable with the possibility of a man using the restroom in the women's bathroom. I am 66 years old and am simply shocked that any man would even want to use a women's restroom, unless they are a sexual predator. Please vote FOR SB8 to protect all women. Thank you!

Kristin Ruiz

self-grocery store employee

austin, TX

We all deserve to use the bathroom in peace, this is a hateful and discriminatory bill. a trans person using a public bathroom is not a threat to anybody. You cannot "always tell" what someone else's body parts are and it's really not anyone's business. This is dangerous everyone and WILL harm trans and cis people. We cannot let this happen.

Jess Mall  
Self, Artist  
Salado, TX

My name is Jess and I am against SB8. This bill deeply harms the LGBTQ community, particularly our beloved trans family. Additionally, cis gendered women who may not present in the “traditional” or “expected” norms, are being targeted and harassed, proving that when politicians put forth laws that are blatantly discriminatory against one community, they begin a domino effect that harms MANY communities. This is wrong, inhumane and abusive. Instead of focusing on their discrimination and hatred of those who they do not understand, I would ask the authors and supporters of this bill to remember their humanity, educate themselves by actually LISTENING to the experience of a trans human. If that is not enough to change your mind, then I request that you ask yourself this question: if you were on the receiving end of your actions - this bill - how would you feel? If you were discriminated against because of misinformation and hate and laws were made to demean and dismiss your entire existence, HOW WOULD YOU FEEL?! Remember your humanity. Do better. Listen to the people, even and especially if they are different than you, when we say WE DO NOT SUPPORT OR WANT THIS BILL, IT HAS NO PLACE IN TEXAS.

Julia Griffith  
Self, education outreach manager  
Lubbock, TX

Rights for trans members of society to use the bathrooms they identify with safely and without consequence. Trans people need to be able to live their lives without being targeted and attacked for simply existing. Current bills up for vote are simply enabling hate speech and hate crimes against the trans community and need to be rejected

Bettie Taylor  
Self  
Fort Worth, TX  
Protect our girls

Allison Craig, Dr.  
self, college professor  
Fort Worth, TX

This bill is discriminatory toward older women, women of size, and disabled women, as well as trans people. Please don't pass it to make a political point and thereby make our lives less safe by opening up more possibilities that a stranger will flag us as going into the wrong bathroom because of the ways our bodies look, humiliate us, and subject us to scrutiny by law enforcement. People of all genders are able to determine where they need to go to the bathroom, and getting the police involved is government overreach as well as an invitation to harassment of many, many trans and cisgendered people.

Douglas Hinds  
Self  
Keller, TX

As a father and grandfather to seven Texan girls, I fully support the enactment of SB8 for protection of their safety and privacy.

Whitney Kenney  
Self  
Celina, TX

As a parent, nothing matters more to me than my child's safety, dignity, and peace of mind. Every child deserves to feel secure and respected in the most private spaces at school. I want my daughter to walk into a bathroom or locker room without fear, without discomfort, and with the confidence that her privacy is valued. Protecting our children in these vulnerable moments isn't just a policy matter—it's a responsibility we all share. Please vote in SUPPORT of SB 8, the Womens Privacy Act. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms!

Brooke Rodabaugh

Self

Aubrey, TX

I thoroughly against this bill passing as it discriminates an already marginalized group of Americans. This is a detriment to trans peoples of America and should not be tolerated.

Rachel Gonzales

Self

Dallas, TX

It is disgustingly wasteful that tax payer dollars are still being used to target and harm this tiny and most vulnerable population of Texans. What an embarrassment to all Texans. We have real issues that need the time and energy of our legislators. Leave trans people alone and stop using them in your political games.

Jamie Kimbrough

Self

Haskell, TX

Please pass this bill.

Eric Bengs, Self

Self, retired educator

Abilene, TX

Women should not be subject to men being in spaces reserved for females - restrooms, changing rooms, locker rooms or anywhere else there is a need for privacy.

Mitch Friedman, Mr.

Self

Cedar Park, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Jeannette Kincaid

Self

Austin, TX

It is nearly impossible to find documented cases of transgender people harassing and assaulting people in public bathrooms. Since states started passing bathroom bans requiring people to use the bathroom of the sex assigned at birth, you can find never ending documented cases of woman who were born women being harassed in bathrooms by men who were born men. These laws are emboldening people to police people they don't know, insisting that women that seem less feminine "prove" they are women. Just last week a 16 year old girl was forced to show her breasts to a male waiter who thought she was transgender to be allowed in the bathroom.

You can use this same test down the line of all the areas looking for bans. You can't find documented cases of transgender women assaulting women in prison, but there are MANY documented cases of trans women being assaulted in men's prisons. You can't find documentation of transgender people assaulting others in shelters, and so on.

Further this bill will be used by child predators to gain access to our children. "There is a bill.... I have to check." Is definitely something a vulnerable child will hear as the access point to sexual abuse.

You are passing a law to prevent an issue that isn't happening, and the law is already creating real dangers for women and children.

Carol Holder  
Self  
Kingwood, TX

I believe girls restrooms and dressing rooms should only be for girls and they can feel safe.

Linda Lockhart  
self  
Cross Plains, TX

Please pass SB 8 out of committee. Girls deserve to be safe in their private spaces.

LaFawn Thompson, Ms.  
SELF/Administrative Assistant  
New Braunfels, TX

I am highly FOR this bill. It's time to return to normalcy in this State, and I'm tired of those who don't understand why females and males need separate personal spaces in bathrooms, locker rooms, etc. to maintain their privacy in those areas of undress and exposure.

Patty Cope  
Self  
Marble Falls, TX

Texas allows men in areas where girls disrobe- seriously? I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Marisa Williams  
Self  
McKinney, TX

Our family supports single-sex bathroom designation indicated by biological gender. We support modesty, privacy and safety. Thank you for voting yes for SB 8.

Karen Maguire, CFE  
None  
Argyle, TX

This is in compliance with Title X. Men have a biological advantage, and should not be exposing themselves, nor be in close proximity to females in their private space (restrooms, bathrooms, locker rooms, sleeping quarters, etc.) VOTE YES.

Isis Ortiz Carbonell  
Self  
McKinney, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Juliette Wyatt  
Self, medical assistant  
san marcos, TX

I oppose SB8; we all should be allowed to use the restroom without fear of having our gender questioned by strangers or liberties infringed on by threat or follow through of genital inspection. I vehemently oppose SB8.

Lauren Jones  
Self  
Angleton, TX

For - Men should NOT be allowed in women's restrooms for any reason. Provide a seperate, single bathroom.

Daniel Louis  
Self  
Austin, TX

Why are we wasting time and money just to hurt people, when there are so many areas we lack funding and support. Pick a better cause, be a better person. This is atrocious.

Amanda Lajaunie  
Round Rock  
Round Rock, TX

I am opposed to this bill and ask that you consider the children and families that you will be hurting with this legislation. The parents of transgender kids are watching basic human rights getting stripped away from their children. I ask that you learn about the trans community, specifically transgender youth, before pushing another anti trans legislation through. Talk to your constituents who worry about sending their kids to a school each day. And not because of bullying from other kids but bullying from adults who hold their religious ideals closer to their heart then the wellbeing of thousands of innocent kids. These are children who are not a threat to you or your family. In fact, our children will be the first to advocate for others and help those that need it. I ask that you leave trans children and adults alone. Focus on the real threats in this community, in our state and in our country. They are not your enemy. You hold the mental wellbeing of our kids in your hands. You have the ability to walk away and let parents raise their children. I am new to this fight but I will never back down. Parents of trans kids will never back down.

Nick Burns  
self  
Amarillo, TX

Dear House State Affairs Committee,

“Hi, my name is Nick and I live in Amarillo, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the issues that effect ALL Texans. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting less than 1% of population as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let’s focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank You.

Betty Stewart  
Travis County Precinct Chair 45  
Austin, TX

This Bill must pass. It must become law. Reign in the LGBTQ insanity for the safety of our children and the future of our state and country.

Marian Francis  
self  
Sugarland, TX

I'm appalled that instead of focusing on issues vital to all Texans, such as improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas, this bill targets trans people as pawns for political gain. There is a limited amount of time in a special session. Why is the legislature wasting time—and taxpayer money—on persecuting trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans and their families? This is a time for solutions and care. Targetting people based on gender is a distraction. How many more children must die before we can work together towards much needed solutions? This bill is about dividing us further.

Jerica Weber  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

REMOVE THIS BILL.

Ted Shaw  
Life long conservative Texan who is retired  
Colleyville, TX

"I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

Julie Kellogg  
Drlf  
Ector County, TX

I support common sense legislation such as SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Kim Ihle  
self  
Pflugerville, TX

People are people; stopped targeting marginalized groups and making life miserable for people you do not understand and clearly fear.

Connie Stamps  
Heart of Texas Conservatives  
Waco, TX

I support keeping men/boys out of female designated spaces and facilities.

haley henley  
Self, Retail Manager  
Houston, TX

I am writing to urge the House to not pass this bill. It will put all types of people in danger, including the children this bill is supposedly meant to protect. I read a story of a teenaged girl (born a girl, if it matters to you) who was coerced into showing her privates to a waiter before she was allowed to use the restroom under the guise of making sure she was using the “right” restroom. People want to mind their own business. Predators don’t care about laws, and this law will not prevent predators from creating plans to hurts others. This law will not prevent predators from entering spaces they don’t belong in. All this will do is give people permission to harass others in public. This bill seems like it’s meant to try to hide trans people from public life. “Maybe if they can’t use public restrooms they will stay out of view.” It’s only meant to punish people simply trying to exist in public.

What happened to small government? How could our government waste time and money considering such an over bearing, rights-breaking law? It’s a waste of our tax dollars. Do the right thing and drop this bill.

Reef Stone  
Self  
Austin, TX

This bill is a direct violation of people’s privacy. It is also a way for minorities to be sexual assaulted/harrassed. Please do not sign this bill!!

Sarah Galindo  
Self, creative reuse center associate  
San Antonio, TX

Hi, my name is Sarah Galindo and I am a constituent from San Antonio, Tx. I’m writing to urge our government not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. I read the transcripts that showed Kerrville was approved for millions of dollars to be used for a flood warning system, instead we acted selfishly, are we, Texans truly so petty? I have family who's lived in the hill country for years. Seeing the devastation first hand has left us shaken by what could've happened. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem.

I ask that the Senators vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee.

Thank you for your time.

Isabel Buchman  
Self  
San Marcos, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the bathroom in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

Jessica Rains

Self

Austin, TX

This bathroom bill is unnecessary and you waste our time, energy and money every time you drag this back up to committee. Texans have made it clear where our priorities lie and where people use the restroom is not it. Please stop deflecting, avoiding and ignoring the actual issues in Texas. You've done enough to this tiny minority of Texans. You've been cruel and mean enough. Move on.

Connie Lein, Born and Raised Resident of Texas

Self

Robstown, TX

Please pass SB 8 to ensure bathrooms and other sensitive facilities remain clearly designated by biological sex, giving parents peace of mind that their children's privacy, safety, and innocence are safeguarded. As a woman, I also value the reassurance of knowing that private spaces intended for women remain exclusively for women, also safeguarding our privacy, safety, and dignity. It would give me peace of mind to know that the spaces we use, including bathrooms or changing rooms, truly are safe places by restricting access based on biological sex.

Sharon Loveall

Fort Worth

Fort Worth, TX

Please bring back common sense. It is a shame we even have to have a bill like this. Please protect the privacy of women. Thank you.

Tracy Byrne

Self

New Braunfels, TX

FOR the bill! Women deserve safety and privacy from Men's prying eyes.

Jeremy Flowers

Self

Tyler, TX

I write in strong opposition to SB 8, which would ban transgender people from accessing domestic violence shelters. This bill is not only discriminatory—it is life-threatening.

Transgender people experience disproportionately high rates of domestic violence, sexual assault, and homicide. When fleeing abuse, shelters are often their only safe option. By excluding trans survivors, SB 8 forces them to make an impossible choice: remain with an abuser or face the dangers of homelessness. This does not protect Texans—it puts them in greater danger.

Furthermore, SB 8 directly contradicts the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), a federal law that guarantees nondiscrimination protections in services funded by VAWA, including shelters. VAWA explicitly prohibits discrimination based on gender identity. Enacting a state law that requires shelters to discriminate would place Texas in direct conflict with federal law.

This conflict has far-reaching consequences. The federal government has already considered restricting VAWA funding based on claims that protecting transgender survivors is “promoting gender ideology.” Passing SB 8 hands hostile administrations another tool to justify cutting or withholding VAWA funds. That means fewer resources for all survivors of domestic violence, not just transgender individuals.

SB 8 undermines the very mission of family violence programs: to provide safety, dignity, and care for those escaping abuse. It sends a dangerous message that some survivors are less worthy of protection than others. This not only endangers transgender people—it weakens the entire system of support designed to keep Texans safe.

Every survivor deserves the right to safety. Every survivor deserves access to shelter, free from discrimination. By denying these basic protections, SB 8 endangers lives, contradicts federal law, and risks essential funding that supports countless Texas families in crisis.

For these reasons, I urge the House to reject SB 8. Protect survivors. Protect funding. Protect Texans.

allison baskin

self - retired

Kyle, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women’s Privacy Act, because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. Safety is not negotiable.

Susan McGee

Self

Garland, TX

Why are you wasting precious resources on legislating where people can urinate? There have been Trans people using bathrooms since public bathrooms were a thing, and it had never been an issue. Your attention is the only thing causing an issue. You are fostering hate that is not necessary.

Please focus on issues that need attention, rather than drawing needless attention to people just taking care of business

Nike Onayemi

Reform Judaism

Allen, TX

As a Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed “inspectors” to harass those who don’t fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

Toni Carter  
Comal Conservatives  
New Braunfels, TX

I do not want biological men in women's bathrooms.

Charles Baskin  
Self - Retired  
Kyle, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. Safety is not negotiable.

Charis Calvert  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am FOR the passage of this bill, 100%. We need to keep women safe and preserve the right of women to our own space, as well as the comfort of men and boys to have their own space as well. Texas should be a leader on this and set the example for other states.

Leslie Hall  
Self  
Austin, TX

I oppose SB 8. Texans should have the ability to use the bathroom that matches their preferred gender. There is virtually no risk to women and girls having trans Texans use the bathroom of their preference - as a woman, I have zero concern with a trans Texan using the bathroom next to me. The violence of trans Texans using the bathroom based on the sex assigned at birth is far more likely to result in violence against those individuals. This bill is stupid, I can't believe we're wasting time during a special session focusing on this and not on getting Texans affected by the 4th of July floods some relief, and working on prevention strategies for future natural disasters. That's where y'all should be focusing your attention.

Jane Shook  
RAC TX  
Plano, TX

As a Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed "inspectors" to harass those who don't fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

The dangers of this legislation are clear. Research shows that bathroom restrictions harm transgender people through harassment and violence. Particularly among transgender and nonbinary youth, this legislation puts them at risk of depression and suicide.

This bill failed when it came before the legislature in 2017. When Odessa passed a similar measure last year, it was abandoned after they found the legislation cannot be enforced. Entertaining this bill distracts your attention from more pressing issues while escalating the risk of severely violating the bodily autonomy of Texans.

The Jewish tradition teaches that every person is created b'tzelem Elohim – in the image of God. That belief calls us to respect each person and celebrate the beauty of each person as their full self. SB 8 seeks to marginalize and demonize, rather than cherish and uplift.

Texans have made it clear that they oppose this legislation. Please oppose SB 8 and do not vote it out of committee.

Second, email/email committee members directly whose votes are critical with the contact information below. These are the representatives we recommend reaching out to because we anticipate they are currently supportive of SB 8.

Adriana Bonilla  
Myself  
New Braunfels, TX

Hello whom this may concern,  
Please support Bill Sb8. Bathrooms should be assigned based on gender they had at birth. There are many safety issues when anyone uses whatever bathroom they identify with.

Best Regards,  
Adriana Bonilla

Zachary Maiberger  
Self, Lead in eStore at HEB  
Friendswood, TX

SB 8 should not pass. This bill is a gross overreach of power and is targeting a minority of Texans instead of putting tax dollars towards making Texas better for all constituents. This bill pushes penalties on people who are just trying to use the bathroom. People who are born as intersex individuals would also be impacted when they medically can be both or neither gender. People's genitals should not be the debate of the government. This bill should fail.

Micah Baskin  
self - Equipment Operator  
Round Rock, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our sisters & girlfriends deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. Safety is not negotiable.

Mary Verderber  
Self  
Longview, TX

I strongly urge the passing of this bill to support Texas girls the right to privacy and protection.

Terri Bradley  
Self  
Seguin, TX

Women should be able to use the restroom and changing rooms without having to share the space with biological men.

Lindsey Crow, Mrs  
Self  
Austin, TX

As a woman I can tell you that I have never once been threatened or exposed to any unwanted attention by a trans person in a bathroom or anywhere else. I have like so many woman been exposed to straight white men's penises, touches, and assaults which I never solicited or desired. Trans people are not the problem. Men like the president who think that can get away with unwanted sexual advances on women and children are the problem. Please don't put innocent trans lives at risk by making them use bathrooms for designated for men.

Charles Rogers  
Self, Compliance  
Austin, TX

I am appalled that any Texas legislator would consider or support setting up a legal system of discrimination and danger against any of our fellow Texans. Please soundly reject this negative legislative initiative and turn toward work that uplifts and enshrines the dignity of you and your constituents.

Alison Kafer  
Self, professor  
Austin, TX

My name is Alison Kafer and I live in Representative Talarico's district. I'm writing in opposition of SB8. This bill does nothing but make bathrooms less safe. If you really cared about women's safety, you would improve our access to affordable and comprehensive health care and sex education. You would do more to keep toxic pesticides off our foods and out of our workplaces. You would address flood safety. You would reduce access to guns. You would stop the federal government from erasing our histories and separating our families. You would make housing, drug treatment, and education more accessible to all. All this bill does is perpetuate falsehoods about LGBTQ people and give bullies permission to harass people in restrooms. Please vote no and turn your attention to the REAL issues affecting Texans.

Jennifer Surach  
RAC-TX  
Plano, TX

My cis daughter is tall, broad shouldered, and has short hair. She has been mis gendered her entire life even as a toddler. This bill would subject her and people like her who do not fit the narrow definition of what a woman or man should look like to even more harassment by so called "inspectors". I urge you to vote No to SB8 to protect my daughter and people like her.

Caryn Moore  
Self  
Waxahachie, TX

Please protect women's safe spaces - I support this bill.

Mark Petersen  
My straight Self and as an advocate for all my LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters  
Arlington, TX

Please oppose this horrible bill. Please show compassion for you fellow Texans. This will do more harm than help. This is not necessary and if you support this it is purely out of imagined concerns that have no validity.

Kara McCadden  
Self  
League City, TX

My name is Kara McCadden and I am asking that you please oppose this bill. From what you have provided in this bill, there is no reasonable way to enforce this. The only way a person would be able to determine if someone is in the bathroom that matches their biological sex would be to require genital inspections or requiring that all people carry a copy of their birth certificate while in public. This would be ridiculous, unenforceable, and unethical. This would also be unconstitutional as it would fall under cruel and unusual punishment as well as illegal search a seizure. There are no records of any trans people pursuing someone in the restroom to do anything nefarious. You are demonizing the wrong people. We already have laws that punish predators. This is unnecessary and illegal. If this bill passes, it would open up a world of vigilantes going around and judging people based on their appearance and acting out of suspicion. This will cause way more harm than good and it won't cause trans people to go away or stop using public spaces. There is no reasonable expectation of privacy while on public so passing unreasonable bills like this will not do anything to protect anyone's privacy. Please take this into consideration, act with empathy and oppose this unenforceable, unconstitutional, unethical, unlawful, un-American bill. Thank you.

Gwen Rios  
Self - hair designer  
Cedar Hill, TX

Please pass

Betty Taylor, Mrs.  
Self wife, mother, educator  
Brownwood, TX

This bill will help protect children from people who falsely present themselves as someone of the same sex when in reality they are deceived and deceiving others before a holy God to whom they will give an account . God has given government the sword to bear against the evil doer . This falsehood must stop! !

Yvette Llorance  
self  
Houston, TX

Hello Representatives, I urge you to pass Senate Bill 8. Women and men require and deserve their own private spaces. A major retailer states that if a woman is uncomfortable with men in the dressing room, tell her she can try the clothes on at home. Men are also allowed in the ladies' room at this retailer. If a parent lets their tween or teen daughter go to the ladies' room alone, they should not worry that a man will be in there with them. Why are women being told that they need to undress in the company of men. Parents should not fear that when their children are at school a man is going to walk into the girl's locker room or lavatory. Give Texas citizens the right to take civil action to defend and protect women spaces, private sex-based spaces and advance in committee SB 8.

Jane Lawrence  
self/logistics manager  
Denton, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, and making sure Texans are not falling into poverty or losing their homes because they lost their jobs.

We should be focusing on real issues like taking care of our citizens, economy and inflation, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Deanna Rademachir  
Self  
Kyle, TX

I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms. Thanks, Deanna Rademachir

Teresa Kauffman  
Self  
Amarillo, TX

We need to ban cross gender bathroom use.

Amanda Alvarado, Rev.

Self, Associate Pastor

Buda, TX

I feel ashamed of Texas. This bill is nothing more than an attempt to erase the existence of trans people. Let them use the restroom that corresponds to their gender, not the sex assigned at their birth. It's ridiculous. You do realize that this would put men in women's restrooms and women in men's restrooms, right? Have you even met a trans person? You're not protecting anyone. Rather, you're putting their lives in danger by further marginalizing them. And to those who claim Christianity, Jesus always took the side of marginalized and vulnerable people. You want to follow him? Do the same. History is watching, and you're on the wrong side.

Cody Brown

Self

Austin, TX

I am deeply opposed to the implementation of this bill because it is inherently unenforceable and goes against everything that the Republican Party Stands for.

This bill says that certain spaces, namely public bathrooms, will be restricted according to sex. The obvious question is, how is this bill going to be enforced? Who is responsible for making sure that whoever is going into a bathroom matches the sex assigned sex?

I believe that you are a group of intelligent people who tell want the best for the residents of the state of Texas, so I want you to really deeply think about what sort of world passing this bill would bring about. Would you specifically want to have to carry around your birth certificate with you every where and display it to random people just to go to the bathroom? Is this not the explicit definition of large scale government overreach and invasion of privacy? Some of you are probably thinking, "well, I specifically would never be questioned about my gender", I want you to seriously think about the implications of the world you are creating. If someone can point at any one person and claim they are not the gender they claim to be I order to enact the state violence upon them, then they can claim that literally any person is not the gender they claim to be. I hope I do not have to tell you about the dozens of cases of cis women being accosted by random members of the public because they were thought to be trans

The only thing that this bill does is make it more likely for women to be assaulted in public, that is literally all that this bill does. This bill is by definition enforceable, outside of hiring thousands of government officials to stand guard outside of all punch restrooms 24/7 to check birth certificates against everyone entering them. Do you think that would be an adequate use of taxpayer funds? Because I am sure the vast majority of Texans do not, and as a group of intelligent people I can't believe you could think along those lines.

The only purpose of passing a bill like this is to make it more dangerous for women to use public bathrooms. That is literally the outcome of this. I can't believe that you want women to be assaulted outside of bathrooms for the sin of appear to be different. I don't believe that you want anyone to be assaulted in public for any reason.

I really want to encourage you to think through the actual, realistic outcome of passing this bill, because you know that it will not eliminate trans Texans from using the bathrooms that align with their gender identity. You are smart enough to understand this, and I don't think that you willingly endanger the health and safety of Texas women to earn a few fleeting political points.

I believe that there is a voice deep down that is urging you to think twice among this bill, and I encourage you to listen to that voice in earnest.

Gloria Neel, Ms.

Self - retired public school teacher

Kerrville, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Clark Denson

Self

Cypress, TX

I support this common sense bill. Society is off the rails allowing boys in girls spaces. It's saddening we have to even have legislation to prevent biological boys from being in girls private areas such as restrooms and locker rooms. Vote yes for sanity and send a strong statement not on Texas!

Mary Wagner-Wilkins

Self

Highland Village, TX

Dear House State Affairs Committee,

My name is Mary and I have lived in Texas for over 30 years. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during the special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans, instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address warning systems to warn of floods and other natural disasters to prevent the kind of tragedy we've seen in our state this year, along with a plan to upgrade, strengthen and connect our grid to the national system to prevent another deathly freeze period that left so many without power. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you,

Mary

Samady Garza

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing in opposition to SB 8. As a mother and woman, I am disappointed to see such a violation of privacy in a Texas bill. While many proponents of bathroom bans use "protecting women and girls" as their excuse to police access to bathrooms, the only way to enforce bathroom bans are disgusting invasions of privacy that will harm women and girls. I would be appalled to imagine my daughter's privacy invaded by claims of protecting her.

Additionally, safety in private spaces is a legitimate concern, especially in a day and age where private spaces are increasingly intruded upon by influencers with cameras. We need to keep these spaces safe for all people and stop acting considering that somehow ban on certain spaces actually protects anyone. We have so many other needs in this state, I simply do not understand why this is a focus for such a body.

Maggie Mitts

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8

Kelsey Roberts

Self (Student)

Houston, TX

My name is Kelsey Roberts, and I'm writing to express my firm opposition to SB 8 and any other efforts to require state-mandated or operated facilities to restrict certain spaces, like restrooms, locker rooms, and changing areas, by "biological sex." Enforcement of SB 8's provisions could easily prove deeply troubling and invasive for all Texans, including the "women and girls" that this bill claims to protect. SB 8 would create steep fines and increase civil liabilities for trans Texans found to have violated the extreme provisions of this law. This bill would also regulate correctional facilities and family violence shelters operated by the state, putting even more vulnerable trans Texans at risk of injury or abuse. SB 8 is another cruel, baseless attack on the dignity and lives of trans Texans, and attempts to erase them from the public eye.

Trans Texans aren't threatening anyone's safety, but SB 8 certainly is. I urge you to vote NO on SB 8. Thank you.

Kevin Hoare

Self / Student

Dallas, TX

My name is Kevin Hoare, and I'm writing to express my firm opposition to SB 8 and any other efforts to require state-mandated or operated facilities to restrict certain spaces, like restrooms, locker rooms, and changing areas, by "biological sex." Enforcement of SB 8's provisions could easily prove deeply troubling and invasive for all Texans, including the "women and girls" that this bill claims to protect. SB 8 would create steep fines and increase civil liabilities for trans Texans found to have violated the extreme provisions of this law. This bill would also regulate correctional facilities and family violence shelters operated by the state, putting even more vulnerable trans Texans at risk of injury or abuse. SB 8 is another cruel, baseless attack on the dignity and lives of trans Texans, and attempts to erase them from the public eye.

Trans Texans aren't threatening anyone's safety, but SB 8 certainly is. I urge you to vote NO on SB 8. Thank you.

Michael Ormand, Mr.

Self

San Antonio, TX

This bill does not protect Texas women and girls. It harms them. Many cisgendered women have been accosted because they don't look "feminine" enough. How would they prove their gender, drop their drawers? This is ridiculous. Also, if a man wanted to rape, he wouldn't have to pretend to have a different gender identity. My rapist didn't. I was raped as a little boy in a daycare center. Stronger criminal screenings for workers around vulnerable populations is where you need to invest your resources; not this asinine witch hunt. Transgender and other gender non confirming people are just trying to live their lives in peace. One of the most ingrained values of being a Texan is to stand-up to bullies. To rally around the weaker person being targeted. That is what I am doing today. I am a cisgendered man who sees a perceived weaker and more vulnerable transgender population being bullied and I am here to say, "Knock it off!"

Madison Burns

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Madison and I live in Beach City, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Emily Witt

Self

Austin, TX

SB 8 is a state-sanctioned attack on transgender Texans who deserve safety and dignity in public spaces. Instead of doing your job to serve Texans, the author is wasting taxpayer time making it harder for people to pee. The cruel legislation is pathetic, and our elected officials should be ashamed of attacking transgender Texans instead of passing meaningful legislation to ensure Texans have jobs, healthcare, are safe from gun violence, and have adequate warning about natural disasters.

As a woman, I'm not scared of a transgender person in my bathroom. I'm scared of men who want to control my body, police bathrooms, and use their power to bully others, like the author of this bill. SB 8 will undoubtedly cause both cis and transgender people to be harassed and assaulted in gendered spaces. And it will make it even harder for transgender people to receive vital services, like resources from family and domestic violence shelters.

Texans don't want culture wars. We want policies that reflect who we are: Kind neighbors who know transgender Texans belong in our state. I urge you to reject SB 8, a dangerous piece of legislation.

Anna Nguyen

Self, software engineer

Austin, TX

I am against SB8.

As a transgender woman in Texas, the SB8-style bathroom bill represents a direct threat to my safety, dignity, and ability to exist freely in public. On its surface, the law is framed as a matter of "privacy" or "protection," but its real purpose is to target people like me—forcing me into unsafe spaces, exposing me to harassment, and branding my existence as unlawful.

The most immediate danger is physical safety. I live and present as a woman. If this law requires me to use the men's restroom, I will stand out instantly. Entering a men's restroom does not just feel wrong; it places me at serious risk of being confronted, mocked, or even assaulted. Transgender women already face disproportionate rates of violence, and this law magnifies that risk by forcing us into environments where we do not belong. Something as routine as a bathroom break at a gas station or shopping mall could become a moment of fear for my life.

Beyond physical danger, the bill criminalizes ordinary daily living. Using a restroom is a basic human need, yet this law threatens to turn it into a punishable act. I should not have to weigh whether relieving myself could lead to fines, lawsuits, or public humiliation. By turning restrooms into sites of legal jeopardy, the state makes every public outing exhausting and stressful.

What makes SB8-style laws especially harmful is their enforcement model. Just like the abortion law, it deputizes private citizens to act as enforcers. This gives strangers permission to monitor, question, and report me simply for existing. It encourages harassment under the guise of "protection." The law does not just authorize discrimination—it rewards it. Knowing that anyone could decide to police me leaves me feeling unsafe everywhere I go.

The health consequences are equally serious. Many trans people cope with bathroom restrictions by avoiding restrooms altogether, leading to dehydration, infections, and long-term medical issues. I have often considered "holding it in" rather than risking confrontation. Over time, that damages both body and mind. This law forces me to choose between my health and my safety—something no one should face.

Perhaps most painful is the message the bill sends: that I do not belong in my own state. It tells me my gender identity is invalid, that I am a threat, and that my dignity can be stripped away. For young trans Texans, this message is devastating, teaching them shame instead of acceptance. For me, it is isolating and exhausting, a reminder that my humanity is up for debate in the legislature.

I am a Texan too. I work, contribute, pay taxes, and live openly as myself. The danger of the SB8 bathroom bill is that it reduces me to a problem to be legislated away. But my existence is not a crime, and my identity is not a threat. What truly endangers Texas is the decision to turn fear into law, sacrificing the safety of its own residents for political gain.

Keaton McMonagle

Self

Plano, TX

As a resident of Texas, I am vehemently opposed to SB8. This legislation will not protect cisgender women but police their access to women's facilities based on standards that are impossible to consistently enforce in practice, enabling bad actors to harass cisgender women and transgender people up to and including coerced exposure (i.e. sexual assault) to "prove" what facilities they can use.

Natalie Adams

Self

Conroe, TX

Please stop trying to legislate where people use the restroom. I'm a woman who has NEVER felt danger from sharing a restroom with Trans women. This bill harms women by exposing us to random people who want to inspect us if we aren't sufficiently feminine by their random standards. It's unnecessary government overreach. Please vote NO.

Brian Burgess, pastor

myself and my family

Waxahachie, TX

This bill must be passed to protect my wife, my daughter, and my granddaughters.

Victoria Alvidrez

Self

El Paso, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Victoria and I live in El Paso, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the funding challenges that our local public schools are facing. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you

Devon Zukowski

Self

New Braunfels, TX

For

Shelly Reardon, Dr.

Self

Austin, TX

I have been a physician in Texas for 22 years and it is my professional opinion that no one is harmed by transgender people using the bathroom of their choice. Laws that attempt to dictate which bathrooms people can use will harm both cisgender and transgender people. I strongly oppose SB8.

Jere Reiser, Retired

Self

Dallas, TX

Vote no on SB8. It affects less than 0.05 % of the population. Leave them alone. Stop fear mongering please.

If others are offended by trans people they dont have enough to do. Perhaps the State could help them find some volunteer work helping the less fortunate among us.

Natalie Peterson

self, therapist

Austin, TX

I oppose this because I have empathy for those more vulnerable and in need of basic safety and security.

Jerri Grunewald

Self

Dallas, TX

As a Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed "inspectors" to harass those who don't fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

M G

self

San antonio, TX

SB 8 does nothing but harm ALL Texans, not just trans people. Women and young girls are already being followed into the restroom by MEN and women, and being harassed to show their genitals in order to prove their gender. Look at the cases of Dani Davis and Gerika Mudra. This is predatory and disgusting. This behavior is not protecting anyone. The idea that trans women are men dressing as women to target cis women and children is ridiculous and fear mongering. Men don't need to dress up as women to prey on them. They're already doing it without disguises. Targeting trans people over an issue that does not exist during a time where Texans are hurting from real issues is disgraceful. Our children are being shot at school, killed in floods, and dying from hypothermia during freezes. While Texans struggle to recover after disaster, you drag your feet to give relief and rush to take away your people's rights. You are using trans people as a shield to distract from your lack of action. You are wasting time and taxpayer money. Do your job. Focus on the real issues.

Ella Bell

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Ella. I live in San Antonio, Texas. Bill SB 8 is an assault on transgender Texans' HUMAN RIGHTS because it is based on the false premise that being Trans is a choice. **IT IS NOT A CHOICE** For the very simple Fact that Elements of LGBTQIA identity have been observed in over 1500 species of animal on land, air, and sea. We can therefore surmise that we are part of nature and that our existence is both Natural and NOT a Choice. Unless your position is that penguins, fish, goats, birds, and other creatures all have Free Will to choose their identity, sexual preferences, and gender roles within their species, then we too are a Natural representation of the Trans identity in humans. Denying Transwomen or transmen the use of gender appropriate restrooms goes against Nature and denies our right to exist within the human community. We have always existed as is evidenced throughout history and in virtually every species on earth! If you are not aware of this Fact it is because we have generally, but not always, throughout the centuries tried to blend in with the gender roles of our cultures. Do you really want Transmen with beards and the muscle definition of Arnold Schwarzenegger to self limit themselves to using the women's restroom? Will you assign inspectors to look inside a Lesbian woman's jeans to see if she is Transgender because she looks too "masculine" for you? Do you want inspectors looking into your granddaughter's pants because she has short hair and a strong jawline? What problem are you solving? Where is your evidence and proof of women being threatened by transpersons in restrooms? Your inspectors will be the threat to women in restrooms! There is plenty of evidence of women and children being sexually assaulted and preyed upon by Ministers, Clergy, Youth Leaders, Coaches, even some of you elected officials. Where is the evidence of Trans people assaulting anybody? Projecting fears onto others does not make a threat real. Maybe try crafting legislation for those preying upon women and children based on real data, assuming that data has not been purged from government records by Trump and Republican policies.

Instead, why don't you address the flood victims who've lost everything in your communities? Maybe do something to prepare for the next "no one expected this" flood that could be here tomorrow! Because denying Climate change isn't going to make it go away. Just like fantasizing that Trans people are a problem isn't going to solve imaginary fears.

Stop targeting underrepresented people to incite hate and pretend you accomplished something for a photo op when you've done nothing to address disaster and emergency relief from the deadly floods in Texas that have taken the lives of men, women, and so many children! Let's focus on that, instead of bills like SB 8 that target and harm the Trans community. "Entertain the possibility that you might be wrong."

Thank you.

Amber August, Dr.

Self

Bedford, TX

Do not pass this bill. There is no reason for this. The only thing it has done is invade people's privacy. It has not protected anyone. If anything, people feel more vulnerable in bathrooms when there are people trying to gatekeep what genitals people have that are in the bathrooms. Do not pass this bill I am not in support.

Sophia LeBlanc  
Self, Air Quality Scientist  
Austin, TX

Hi, my name is Sophia LeBlanc and I am a scientist here in Austin, TX. I'm writing to urge you to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods like in Kerrville and across Central Texas. As someone from Comfort, Texas originally, I have witnessed firsthand how the July 4th flooding has devastated my community. Last month I visited town to find several rescue operations where children should be swimming for the summer but are instead witnessing volunteer recovery efforts. The community has stepped up to fill in the gaps left by a lack of government involvement. Every major flood event when I was growing up, the community would rally to pour their efforts into cleanup and recovery long after the media had left, cameras were shut off, and funding ceased. It should not be the responsibility of only volunteers to head these efforts, especially as flooding threatens to worsen in future years as our climate continues to change. Instead of targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem, we should be using precious legislative time focusing on these very real issues that impact ALL Texans. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. Thank you for your time.

Rodney Orsborn  
Self  
Amarillo, TX  
Male and Female only!!!

Dolores Arellano, Ms.  
Self and Client Advocate  
Kyle, TX

Dear Sir or Madam, I'm very concerned with the safety of women who are using bathrooms that are now free for men to walk into an area that is designated for a man and a women. This is so common sense that laws are being challenged and changed when you have a majority of people in favor of dedicated spaces for each gender. If that weren't so, then boundaries are being violated. Men walking into womens locker rooms could provoke a man to see a woman's body without clothes. Men have hormones as well as women & hormones don't need to be tampered with in a way that could cause sexual arousement or curiosity. This could lead to acts of indecency and potential molestation or even rape. This seems like a form of pornography in real life as women's private spaces are being invaded. This is very dangerous to our society, because women & men have differences. These differences need to be respected vs. a do whatever feels good mentally. Let's get back to safe boundaries in restrooms, locker rooms, or swimming spaces.

I recently went into a famous department store and asked a worker in the women's clothing area about an item & had no idea what I was talking about or help me. Why? Because it was a man dressed up as a woman. I was speechless and sad for the women who needed help with important questions, but was really brought a righteous indignation was that this man was walking into the women's dressing room, because he was given permission & placed in that area to work. It is unsafe, uncomfortable, and unhealthy. I called the manager & spoke to her about it and there was nothing she could do about it. She stated that by law an employer could not discriminate against sexual rights. That is not a right, but a preference of genders and it's concerning that a few or small percentage of people are in an uproar about this issue. Times may have changed, but a man will always be a man no matter what you do to the physical body. I believe that men should not be able to go into any area designated for a women. What about the rights of a woman to be heard about how they feel if some man went into their space. Boundaries bring order & crossing over brings chaos! Let's protect women!

Priscilla Duron  
Self  
Manchaca, TX

For those who want to police safety of women while on putting them in danger, for those who endanger trans people and put them in harms way and for those that have made it a hobby to make life miserable for those who are marginalized. I hope he'll is bright so you cowards have no where to hide.

Evan Mian  
self, student  
Cedar Park, TX

So where do intersex people go to the bathroom? Or does this bill refuse to account for a population of people because they are "too few to matter"? Please consider what happens when you toss your residents to the side. What about transgender people who are fully post-op? Do we need to do blood tests before using the bathroom to determine chromosomes, then? Is that a 3-5 business day wait? What about single fathers who need to help their child in some way? This bill does not desire to protect women, though it is under the guise of doing so. It truly and simply hinders the normal daily lives of everyone by adding an extra, unnecessary step. A predator will not be stopped by somebody saying "no," so what makes anyone think they'd be stopped by a sign, a change in legislation? Do you really think breaking the law is what predators struggle to grapple with? It's already illegal to assault somebody. Telling people where they can and cannot go based on something they have zero control over is an exertion of power on the autonomy of the people.

Heather Dority  
self  
Austin, TX

I believe policing restrooms will increase bullying and harassment based on appearance and stokes a sick obsession with identifying the genitalia of citizens. Prioritizing this while flood victims still need help is unconscionable, and is creating a problem out of nothing. I think passing this will result in increased harm to both trans and cisgendered people alike.

Andrew Noble  
Self Tracher  
Austin, TX

Gender is a fluid concept as exemplified by the frills and wigs worn by our Founding Fathers. Let all Texans enjoy the freedom of navigating the spectrum of gender freely. This includes the use of public restrooms. Very little has changed about the need to relieve one's bowels and bladder over thousands of years of human experience except that now with the modern conveniences of indoor plumbing we must often confront others in public spaces. It's a shame that we can not urinate and defecate on the ground or in a stream like we all once did. Being that it must be a social event let's strive to keep it civil. Let the people go where they most find comfort. It's not the government's responsibility or business to tell us where to responsibly do our business. It would be better off to keep its proverbial nose out of it.

As for sexual predators in the restroom, we already have plenty of laws to deal with them and they should be dealt with. They are the only people who should be stuck using single gender toilets in a jail cell somewhere.

Maitlyn Kraft  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

No men should ever be allowed in women's  
Bathrooms.

Christy Stanearth  
Self  
Gainesville, TX

The fact that we are even having this conversation is mind blowing. Please, protect our children. Protect women. Say NO to this nonsense of having men in women's bathrooms or sports or anywhere else that they do NOT belong. We have elected you to protect our conservative values and respectfully demand that you do your job we have entrusted you with. Men do not belong in women's restrooms - never have and never will!

Robert B.

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs Committee,

My name is Robert, a Dallas resident. I respectfully ask that you vote \*NO\* on SB?8.

This bill would harm transgender, gender-nonconforming, and intersex Texans for simply using a restroom that matches their gender presentation (the gender they identify with which is often the gender they actually look like). It also endangers cisgender women by encouraging invasive policing and “gender-policing” based on assumptions rather than behavior. Evidence from other states shows such laws do not increase safety; they create harassment, costly legal battles, and a climate of fear for all Texans.

During this special session we have far more urgent priorities: support Texas public education for our students and teachers, and improving disaster preparedness after the recent floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. Our limited time and resources should be spent on issues that protect and benefit the entire community, not on legislation that targets a small, vulnerable group.

Thank you for considering the real needs of Texans and for protecting the rights and safety of all our citizens.

Sincerely,

Robert, Dallas, TX

Christina Polanco

Self

Seguin, TX

I am a constituent from seguin. I am commenting to say I am wholly and aggressively against sb8. You are not protecting women. You do not care about children. If this law passes, it will only invite violence again already vulnerable peoples. This bill is an open pass to try to fit people into your strict narrative of what a woman or man should look like. It opens an even greater potential for non-gender conforming and trans people to be attacked for either trying to follow the law by going by assigned at birth sex, or using the bathroom based on presentation. Both of which could be potentially highly dangerous, either resulting in verbal or physical abuse. There have already been attacks on cisgendered people using the "proper" bathroom, because they did not fit the attackers view on how their gender should be presented. On the point that this bill is, "ment to protect children", never has a man needed to dress like a woman to enter a woman's bathroom. Aggressors do not care about going through the trouble of wearing feminine clothing, shaving, make up and wearing wigs, simply to peep or attack women or children. They just waltz right in and do it. Trans and non-gender conforming people are not out to hurt your kids, that is a blatant lie transphobes made up. You are more likely to see a trans person put themselves in danger to protect a child from sexual or physical abuse. Stop with the bigotry. This is not protection. It's control. By definition this law makes no sense, do you have different bathrooms in all of your houses for separate genders? I'm betting your answer is no, and if it's not that's weird, and perhaps you should spend your money on better things, like helping your community. I would personally rather share a bathroom with a transgender person, then a straight man, especially a white straight man, who are statistically most likely to commit sexual assault, 100% of the time. Do not pass this bill, or live with the blood of even more innocents on your hands, because apparently the recent floods weren't enough. That is all I have to say.

Brianna Archer

Self

Wimberley, TX

Im asking you to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Bobby K.

Self

Meadows Place, TX

To the House State Affairs Committee:

As a Dallas constituent, I urge you to reject **SB 8**, a harmful, unnecessary bill that endangers *trans, intersex, and cisgender Texans*—especially women baselessly assumed as "masculine." Bathroom policing *doesn't protect women*; it *emboldens harassment* by men claiming to "enforce" the law, while criminalizing people for existing.

This bill *wastes time and money* targeting a marginalized group for political gain—*while real crises go ignored*: gerrymandering, underfunded schools, and disaster response after deadly floods. *Trans Texans are our neighbors*, not bargaining chips. Judge people by their *actions*, not their bodies.

*Vote NO on SB 8*. Focus on *actual safety*—don't cause manufactured fear. *Vote NO on SB 8*. Please Protect all Texans. Please protect yourselves if you are for the people. *Vote NO on SB 8*.

—Bob, Dallas

Daniel Svoboda

Self

Austin, TX

I am against SB 8. It makes restrooms less safe for both trans people and cis women.

Adam Werner, Mr.

Self - educator

Fort Worth, TX

Vote no. Unenforceable and unnecessary. This bill is being used to oppress and impart unfounded fear.

Theresa Garcia

Self

McKinney, TX

We need to fully support the privacy and protection of both men and women's designated spaces and facilities according to their sex at birth. I support this bill.

Erin Fleming

Self, Engineer

Houston, TX

**AGAINST.**

This bill will make Texas **LESS** safe for **ALL** in bathrooms, changing rooms, shelters, and correctional facilities. Time is limited in a special session. Please focus on bills that **HELP** all Texans, like improving disaster, and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

Please Vote **NO** to SB 8.

Kristopher Vasco

Self

Round Rock, TX

Dear House committee,

SB8 is a harmful bill that will do nothing but harm Texans of any kind. This bill will not just affect trans people but non conforming cis people as well. This law like similar laws that have passed before it like in other states will embolden more people to harass people who they deem unfit to be the current bathroom as them. Whether it be an actual trans person or a cis woman who is too masculine presenting or a cis man who seems to be too feminine presenting. Cases have already popped up where masc presenting women have been harassed by law enforcement or simple citizens like a server in a restaurant to where they had to prove they themselves were a woman. In one case in Arizona, a 18 yr old had to prove herself by exposing her breast for the server to quit harassing her for just going to the bathroom.

A bathroom should not have to be a place where people have to be stopped & frisked just cause of what other assume to be in their pants. Issues such as bathrooms should not be worried about to this extent and waste tax payers money on enforcing and implementation of these types of bills. We have bigger safety issues going on that deserve better attention like the gerrymandering of house/senate seats along with the act of gun violence that harms more lives then a trans person does in a bathroom. Another thing is, if a person really wanted to sexual assault someone, nothing would stopped them not a locked bathroom stall or anything. A rapist wouldn't care about going on years of hormones and transitioning fully to just get into a bathroom to finally assault someone. If that was the case we'd have it be more common for sexual assault crimes to be reported highly against us trans people. In the end of the day the reason to resist and enforce laws against trans people is total and utter nonsense when there are bigger issues to focus on then where someone pees.

Gabrielle Boyle

self, teacher

Austin, TX

This will not keep anyone safe. This will only harm trans people and create more violence for all of us.

Suzette Holley

Self

Houston, TX

I support SB8

Katie Drackert

Self - Advocacy Coordinator

Austin, TX

As a woman with short hair and a smaller chest, I do not want to be profiled when going to the public restroom because I don't have traditional feminine features. I shouldn't have to describe my body on the record to anyone for justification to use a public restroom in peace, but this is what this legislation will continue to do if passed. Force someone like me to reveal parts of themselves that are inherently private and personal. This bill threatens the safety of all Texans. We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our genitalia inspected or our gender questioned. Trans Texans are not a threat, but forcing random Texans to show their body parts sure is.

John Rutkowski

Self

Haskell, TX

Please vote 'Yes' on this HB

Shelly Ahlfinger

Self

Kennedale, TX

Please say no to men in women's spaces. Protect all biological females. You don't know when a pedophile will decide to dress up as a woman, or say he is a woman to molest children. And yes it has happened before

Susan Valliant, RN

"self", SREC SD10

Arlington, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Lisa Reed

Self

Dallas, TX

Hi, I am in favor of SB8. As a concerned citizen, I am writing you today because under no circumstance should a male be allowed in a female bathroom. It is a major violation of privacy and a major security risk. Most importantly, I am writing you in order to protect

little girls in public bathrooms from being raped by grown men. I don't know a single woman that would be okay with changing out a tampon or going number two with men in the restroom. I also don't know a single woman who would be comfortable with men looking through the cracks of the stall door trying to get a peak of your private parts while they are waiting their turn to use the restroom. Likewise, I don't know a single parent who would be comfortable with their little girl going to use the restroom with a grown man in there. Females shouldn't have to be scared to use the restroom! I urge you to do the right thing by protecting women and innocent, little girls!

Russell Moses, PhD

self educator

AUSTIN, TX

I am speaking in opposition to SB 8 which is to be cited as the "Texas Women's Privacy Act."

I am in favor of privacy. However, I don't see how a law that cites itself in favor of women's privacy would require them to divulge such intimate facts and details of their anatomy. In order for an individual to be considered a woman in the first place, this law requires the individual to disclose whether she "naturally has or will have, or had or would have but for a congenital anomaly or an intentional or unintentional disruption, a reproductive system designed to produce, transport, and provide eggs." Public determination of such intimate personal facts and histories would require a pretty thorough invasion of privacy for women in Texas.

Since the terms of the law blatantly contradict the proposed citation, a proper respect for plain language would insert the words "invasion of" into the citation so that it reads more honestly as "Texas Invasion of Women's Privacy Act." Were an honest citation to be provided in Section 1, I think the abject flaw of this law would be more obvious from the outset and we could have a more honest conversation about whether a "Texas Invasion of Women's Privacy Act" would be in the state's public interest.

Linda Lafferty

Republican Women of Gregg County

Longview, TX

While this should not be an issue, it is. The safety of girls in their locker rooms and restrooms has become a serious concern. The world has reached a level of insanity that dictates we have to make new laws in order to protect our children. It's become a problem due to perverted minds being made to think it's okay to pretend to be a girl and enter their space. Men and boys are claiming this as a right to enter these spaces, so they can act out on their fantasies. It's dangerous and must be stopped. There is not a sane male who would want to enter a female's restroom with the sole intend of relieving themselves. Period!

Charlotte Friend

self

Houston, TX

I'm a cis woman with medical conditions that not only mess with my hormones, but also that make a short haircut a necessity. I have already been questioned and harassed for using the appropriate restroom. My husband sometimes waits outside the restroom for me when we make stops on road trips. This bill will not keep anyone safe. It will only make things more dangerous. Please vote no on SB 8.

Stan Yoder

Westside Unitarian-Universalist Church

FORT WORTH, TX

This proposed law protects no one, harms some of the most vulnerable in our society, is based on virulent ignorance and cruelty, and should be thrown away as the garbage it is. Better yet, change it to designate all bathrooms gender neutral like other countries do without any negative consequences. What is this sick Republican fixation on genitalia?

Crystal Lathe

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Each sex deserves their own restroom. I should not be in fear of taking my daughter to a public restroom, just because someone identifies as a different sex.

Angela Lehman

Self

The Colony, TX

It's absolutely disgraceful that the GOP is spending time obsessing over other people's genitalia instead of prioritizing flood relief or doing anything else productive. As a woman, this bill will make everyone LESS safe by encouraging busybodies to harass anyone they don't think looks feminine enough to use the women's room. I'd feel much safer sharing a bathroom with a trans person than any female member of the Republican party. You will also all be responsible for killing business and travel in the state.

Robyn Carafiol, Ms.

Temple Shalom Sisterhood

Dallas, TX

I'm 66 years old and seeing a man in the women's room has never been a problem. You are creating a problem where none exists! People who transition from one gender to another have the right to use the restrooms without interference from the government. They've been using bathrooms for decades (centuries?) without a problem. As a Jew, I believe everyone is created in God's image, and I respect the rights of people to decide they want to transition to from female to male, or from male to female. Transgender people are not perverts. They're people, just like you and me, and we have no business asking to see their birth certificate before they can go to the bathroom, and we certainly have no business checking out anybody's genitals! Not everybody is just like you, Dan Patrick. Some people are different, and that makes life beautiful and interesting. It's time to leave people alone and let them decide what they want to do with their bodies.

Brenda Troutt white

Individual

Fredericksburg, TX

I stand for women's right to privacy, safety and dignity, therefore I support SB 8 providing protection of our young women in public schools. Please advance this bill.

Jacque Cunningham

Self

Stockdale, TX

I am against this bill. I personally am against it because I know the lasting damage it will do to children and adults, no matter their assigned gender. I do however also want to ask, how exactly do you plan on enforcing this? Are you planning to allow children to have their birth certificate or genitals checked before using the bathroom? I want to know if it worth wasting tax payer money to talk about, debate, and put in place a law I HOPE you plan not to enforce. The only way to enforce it would be to create people who have the job of looking at children's genitals. Well, I guess you could force us all to carry around our birth certificates. That however, sounds like a political group from Germany you hopefully do not want to be connected to. So, to save tax payer money, prevent child abuse, and most importantly, protect the rights of HUMANS, this law should. It be put on the books.

Daniel Jaque

Self

League City, TX

Disgusting and un-American

Wendy McRoberts

Self

Danbury, TX

We have been doing this for 10 years with no rise on women in restrooms by trans people. However, there has been a rise in male cops storming into women's restrooms to make sure we're all women. There have been attacks on cis women who others don't see as feminine enough.

This is just a continuation of the "Ban" bandwagon that the gop can't seem to legislate without.

It's called LIBERTY!

Oz Perkins

Self

Tyler, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Oz and I live in Tyler, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans, instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms gender non-conforming, transgender, and intersex Texans. It is shameful enough that some representatives personally want their own constituents to be othured and harassed, but going so far as to legislate against us is appalling. I urge the committee to work toward improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal flooding throughout Texas, rather than waste time sowing discord for political gain.

Thank you.

Craig Licciardi

Self

Flint, TX

I strongly support SB8 by Middleton. We have tried for years to codify sanity and normalcy in our society, and it's time for it to pass and become law. Biological men do not belong in girls restrooms and it is unconscionable to continue to allow it in the state of Texas. Please vote SB8 to the floor so we can finally pass common sense legislation protecting our daughters and wives.

Chase Taylor  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am for this bill.

Melissa Yamashita  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

Good afternoon, I am writing to express my strong support for SB8. I believe in the importance of protecting women's safe spaces and preserving the right to dignity, privacy, and security for women and girls. Women should not be forced to share private facilities with males, including those who identify as transgender or who suffer from gender dysphoria. These spaces, whether bathrooms, locker rooms, or shelters, were created to protect women's safety and sense of security. Allowing biological males into them undermines those protections and puts women at risk. I respectfully urge you to stand firm in supporting SB8 and to continue to uphold policies that defend the dignity and safety of women and girls. Thank you for your service and for considering my perspective on this critical issue.

Sincerely yours,  
Mrs. Melissa Yamashita

Lillian Turner  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I'm for this bill. I believe God created only two genders and I have a daughter and 2 granddaughters and do not want them or myself to have to encounter men in women's spaces. Time after time perverted men have used this to sexually abuse women and girls. I will never support the atrocity of men in women's spaces!

Heidi Pezdek  
Self  
Lorena, TX

Please Vote in favor of SB 8

I have been at the capital in Austin and have experienced concerns for my safety in the statehouse women's restrooms. Please enforce privacy and safety for women. Two sexes, male and female. Two safe bathrooms for Two sexes! Men and Women . This also makes gurls vulnerable to sexual predators  
Thank you

Lydia Nunez Landry, Ms

Self

Seabrook, TX

Senator Middleton,

Today I write to you as a disabled woman and friend of transgender people. As a disabled person, I frequently must have a personal attendant assist me in restrooms. My attendant is my partner; he must accompany me to help lift me from my power wheelchair. I am concerned that this unnecessary Bill penalizes people who are not threats to others, and this includes transgender individuals. Despite a limited amount of time in the special session, the legislature seems intent on squandering limited time and taxpayer money on explicit attacks on trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Keep in mind that people like me will also be harmed by this unnecessary hysteria. Rather than focus on the many dire issue that affect all Texans, for example, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas, we should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Senator vote NO on passing SB 8 out of committee. And I ask that focus be placed on improving disaster relief. As a disabled person in your district, people like me and my elderly neighbor are particularly vulnerable.

Sincerely,

Lydia Nunez Landry

Andrea Guerra

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Please protect our natural born females in public spaces. My daughter and elderly mother, does not need to worry about being in a vulnerable state with strange men (transwomen). Please please keep men, including transwomen, out of women's restrooms, locker rooms and other spaces

Dawn Kaufman

Self

Dallas, TX

This bill offends me. Who gives you the right to decide what makes a person a man or a woman? God does not make mistakes. If a person feels they are in wrong body and God has given us the ability to correct the external look of that who do think you are to question that? You need to worry more about keeping pedophiles out of women's bathrooms.

Cindy Grove

New Braunfels citizen

New Braunfels, TX

NOOOO to men in women's private spaces, please!!

Will McLane  
self, Admin & Finance Manager  
Austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Will and I live in Austin, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans, instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans, as well as a multitude of Texans who do not present explicitly feminine or masculine on a daily basis. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address the rising cost of living with no increase to state minimum wage, which affects so many more Texans. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead spend our time on housing and rent prices, raising the minimum wage, or even improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans. Thank you.

phillip burns  
self  
NEW BRAUNFELS, TX

I support SB 8 to keep bathrooms in Texas scientifically gender specific.

Pam Kapoor  
Self  
Houston, TX

"I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8."

My house was damaged in last years Derecho and Hurricane Beryl. Please help us by focusing time and resources on disaster prevention.

Nick Guerra  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

Natural born men should not be in the restrooms, locker rooms or other public spaces with my wife, my mother, my daughter or granddaughter. Vote to keep natural born men out.

Venita Zavidny  
Self  
Houston, TX

Please advance this important measure to protect Texas girls. This measure has my full support.

Catherine Eckert  
Solomon's porch  
Fischer, TX

In FAVOR

Brianna Hoffschwelle

Self

Prosper, TX

I am a 5th generation Texan. I love this state and have always proudly declared I'm a Texan. And increasingly, I'm ashamed of my state. The posturing and game playing, especially this 89th (and subsequent special) session(s), turns my stomach.

About the Texas Women's Privacy Act: Do I believe women should feel safe in public facilities. 100%

Should we protect individuals who are incarcerated and in the state's care? Yes!

Should victims of domestic violence have a safe place to turn? Yes & yes!

And is this bill the most effective way to achieve that goal? Absolutely not!

It is more political theater meant to stir up strong emotions, further divide Texans, and win favor with a portion of the broader national audience who have more fringe beliefs.

By requiring individuals to use a restroom based on their sex assigned at birth, you are now asking every Texan to eye their fellow Texans with suspicion. You are opening up opportunities for MORE assaults in public spaces, not fewer.

Instead of focusing Texans' time and resources on divisive bills that do not serve the larger population, perhaps we should focus on Texans' immediate needs, such as the devastation left behind after the July 4th flood. Perhaps tackle how to affect useful change in our schools and eliminate school shootings by implementing useful curriculum that trains teachers, students, parents, and entire communities how to employ emotional intelligence and empathy rather than further reinforcing an "Us vs. Them" mentality. Let's not leave our already emotionally fragile students unable to use a restroom at schools out of fear.

(As an aside, Dr. Becky Bailey, a fellow Texan, has developed a phenomenal curriculum that could heal our schools and communities. It is called Conscious Discipline. Please look into it.)

Since the 10 commandments are now in classrooms, let me use a Bible reference to illustrate my ultimate point.

In Matthew 22, Jesus is asked which is the greatest commandment. He says first to love God. He follows up with secondly to love your neighbors as yourself. Mark 12 is similar. Love God and love your neighbor as you love yourself. If you, our representatives, hold to the Bible as your guiding truth, please ask yourself, "Does this bill actually love our gender expansive neighbors well or does it serve to further divide Texans?" If the Bible is not something you believe in, and you currently support this bill, I'd ask a similar question, "does this bill really provide the best protection for women against predators in public spaces or does it create greater opportunities for women AND gender expansive individuals to be placed in harms path?"

Please vote "No" to SB 8 and then move on to the things that help all Texans and bring us all back together. Remind us that we are a strong and proud state full of people who will stop at nothing to help their neighbors and take care of those in need. Help me to once again call myself a proud Texa

Garrett Nafzinger

self

Austin, TX

My name is Garrett, and I live in Austin, Texas. SB 8 isn't about stopping men from entering women's restrooms. It's a targeted bill that restricts transgender, gender-expansive, and intersex Texans from using basic facilities. That's not safety. That's exclusion. This bill solves no real problem, but it divides and makes Texas a place where discrimination and division are acceptable and that, is not acceptable to me, or anyone else who believes in doing what is right.

The economic fallout is real. In 2025, business leaders warned that anti-trans laws will scare away investments and talent. Equality Texas tracked over 200 bills targeting LGBTQ+ Texans this session—the highest number ever filed. That atmosphere of hostility hurts productivity, erodes workplace inclusion, and damages Texas's reputation.

Meanwhile, our communities urgently need support. Dozens of lives were lost in deadly floods across Central Texas. Families are still rebuilding. What we need now is better emergency planning, stronger infrastructure, and support for displaced Texans. Not bills that single out and harm a vulnerable minority.

Please do the right thing. Reject SB 8. Focus on defusing disaster, not dividing our state. Families, businesses, and communities are counting on you.

Patricia Kirk-Trimble

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Men and boys should NOT be allowed in girls/women's spaces. Before the unhinged left total sexual perverts invading female spaces could land you on jail. Now the perverts on the left want to make it legal to sexually harass females. No female wants to see exposed genitalia in their spaces. Those that advocating (Democrats) should seek professional help for their sexual fantasies

Dio T

Self

El Paso, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues of improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Virginia Donnelly

Self

Spring Branch, TX

No to men in women's/girls bathrooms. It needs to be a law to help prevent males from invading female bathrooms

Steven Horwitz

Self

Rockwall, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Any father's paying attention?

Linda Swaim

Solomons porch

Marion, TX

I am IN FAVOR for tomorrow's committee hearing on Senate Bill 8.

Lanny Bonafilia, Mrs.

self

McKinney, TX

The underlying problem at hand is not fundamentally tied to religious beliefs; instead, it revolves around a conflict of morals and ethics. I wholeheartedly support SB 8 because it plays a vital role in protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of young girls who are attending schools in Texas. I strongly encourage you to advocate for this important piece of legislation.

Robert Mueller

self, minister PCUSA

Wimberley, TX

As the father of two queer children, one of whom is trans, I know from personal experience how terrifying this bill is. Under the RUSE of trying to protect women from assault this bill will create extremely hostile environments for trans individuals and will unquestionably result in more assaults on their persons and their lives. More women have been assaulted by cis-gender men in female bathrooms than by ANY other group. To discriminate against this class of persons because of a fabricated fear is UnChristian, UnAmerican and UnTexan. I emphatically urge you to vote NO on SB 8.

Kristia Leyendecker

self

Flower Mound, TX, TX

This is a bill in search of a problem. It is cruel and mean and unnecessary. There are more important things that the House should be focusing on.

Edith Rogat

self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose SB 8. This bill singles out transgender and nonbinary Texans for discrimination by attempting to dictate which public spaces and facilities they are allowed to use. Everyone deserves dignity, privacy, and safety in their daily lives. SB 8 undermines those values.

This bill does nothing to make Texans safer. Instead, it creates confusion, fear, and stigma, particularly for young people already at higher risk of bullying, isolation, and self-harm. Forcing people to use facilities that do not match their lived identity endangers them, increases harassment, and denies them the basic respect every Texan should expect. Further, women and girls will feel uncomfortable when sharing a bathroom with trans men.

Our state should be working to expand freedoms and protections, not limit them. SB 8 wastes time and resources policing bathrooms instead of focusing on real issues—like improving education, expanding health care, and supporting Texas families.

I urge lawmakers to reject SB 8 and stand for fairness, equality, and the fundamental rights of all Texans.

Ana Luisa Salas-Porras

SELF

Austin, TX

My name is Ana Salas-Porras. I am a mother, sister, aunt, grandmother and frequent user of public restrooms. In my 75 years, I have never experienced any threats in a public bathroom. Those of you on this committee have not been able to find even one case of any attack, threat, rape, etc. by a Trans person in a restroom. In my experience, people just want to relieve themselves and find toilet paper available. You Republicans continue to resurrect this bathroom bill over and over. It has brought notoriety, bad press and threatened loss of business to Texas. Stop targetting Trans people. Why are you so fixated on this? And, exactly how are you planning to enforce this bill? Will there be genitalia monitors in every public restroom? Will the bill demand visual confirmation or will groping by sufficient? This is ridiculous! Stop wasting our time on culture issues and do something useful like expanding Medicaid, fully funding our public schools and reducing the Maternal Mortality rates in Texas. Many of us are tired of Texas ranking in the bottom percentiles. No one cares about this issue. I strongly urge you to VOTE NO.

Tara McCarthy

Self / Behavior Analyst

Austin, TX

I support people having the right to say what space they feel comfortable in and accessing. I do not support needing to show my genitals to prove what space I am allowed to go in. I do support promoting gender neutral bathrooms. Designating spaces and facilities by sex does not make those spaces safer and does not make Texas better. As a Texan I am against SB8.

Jed Ullrich

Self

Dallas, TX

I am against this bill due to the ethics and supporting individuals to harass others and demanding for proof of sex or to see their genitalia. This will ultimately lead to sexual harassment.

Kel Keenan

Self

Shertz, TX

As a 6 foot 3 inch tall, mustachioed, 230 pound weightlifter with tattoos who looks very male and intimidating but was assigned female at birth, I will comply with this law, should it be passed. And I will make women as uncomfortable as I can by my mere presence. And I will tell each nervous woman, as I refuse to leave the women's locker room/bathroom, that they can thank their Republican state representatives for legislating me into their "safe space." I'll also remind them that it is possible that I am a male pretending to be assigned female at birth, just to get alone with them in a bathroom, and that they will never know because in the name of safety their representatives have made them potentially more unsafe. Good job Texas Republicans!

Audrey Griffin

Self, Library Worker

Austin, TX

I am writing as a concerned Texan to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 8 by Senator Middleton. As someone who believes in treating all people with dignity and respect, I cannot support a bill that singles out and discriminates against transgender individuals. It is also completely impractical to enforce, and would open up more potential for harassment of people who did not fit into gender norms. This bill is government overreach at its worst: it tells local communities, schools, and businesses how they should handle issues that they're perfectly capable of managing themselves. I'm asking you to vote against Senate Bill 8 because it would hurt real people in our communities without making anyone safer.

Kingsley Taylor

Self

Austin, TX

If this bill is passed, it is one step closer to destroying trans and queer communities. The destruction of those communities will only lead to more rights being stripped from more and more people. Why must we feel threatened by people different than us? We should accept people by who they are and let them into our hearts rather than ruining their lives. If this bill is passed, me and hundreds of people lose one of their rights. This isn't a war, this is a battle within it. Our rights get stripped away more and more. Teachers not allowed to connect with a student because of their gender is preposterous, leading to poorer educational outcomes as well as students not being able to belong anywhere. If y'all really do care about your citizens, you'd know that SB 8 would cause turmoil within the Texas queer community. It is unconstitutional to deny people's right of expression. Trans people want to be apart of society. They don't want to be in there because they're attracted to that gender, they want to be there because that's who they are. Would you be comfortable in the opposite gender's restroom? Of course not, so why would we want to?

Cassandra Mendoza

Self

Amarillo, TX

Please don't allow cross gender bathroom use. My girls don't feel safe with a man pretending to be a woman in their private rooms.

Shannon Beene

Self

New Braunfels, TX

For

David Gibson

Constituent

Amarillo, TX

This is absolutely the opportunity to guarantee that anyone born a male will never be allowed in a women's/girl's restroom, locker room, or any place where there is an expectation of privacy.

Joseph James, Mr.

Self

Denton, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Your daughters are counting on you! Don't let them down.

Max Smith

Self

Houston, TX

I am writing to express my strong opposition of bill SB 8 by Middleton. This bill, which mandates that transgender individuals use restrooms according to the sex assigned at birth, poses serious safety, privacy, and human rights concerns.

Forcing transgender people to use restrooms that do not align with their gender identity does not make anyone feel safer. Rather, it puts trans individuals at heightened risk of harassment, assault, and emotional harm. This bill creates an environment of fear and discrimination and does not protect anyone.

Inclusive restroom policy's protect everyone's safety and dignity. There is no evidence suggesting that allowing people to use the restroom of the gender that they align with poses a safety risk. However there is evidence suggesting that forcing transgender people individuals to enter a restroom that they don't align with poses a safety risk.

Ashley Lane

self/ Landscape Designer

Austin, TX

(SB8 Please vote no) I am and have always been a strong Texas woman. Like every other woman I know, I have encountered scary situations with men. Not a single one of those scary encounters has ever occurred in a women's bathroom. In fact, I remember being taught by other women in my life exactly what I should do if I was in danger on a date. "Go to the bathroom," she said "and text someone you trust to come get you. Do not leave until they get there." If this bill passes, I'm worried that what used to be a safe place for us will instead be a place where abusers feel newly empowered to stalk their victims.

This bill is a disaster for women's safety because it allows abusers to paint themselves as the hero with one sentence that doesn't even have to be true: "I thought I saw a man."

To that point, I'm deeply concerned by two separate news stories I've read of women who were rightfully using the bathroom of their gender, but were violently confronted by men anyway. And just to clarify, none of these stories involves a single transgender person. In one case, a Walmart employee was mistaken by a man for being a man because she is tall. Being wrong never stopped a man before, so he took it upon himself to enter the women's restroom where he began threatening and verbally harassing her as she tried to hide in a stall. Although this kind of harassment is illegal even without a "bathroom bill," the man faced no repercussions from the store, or from law enforcement. The woman however, who was not transgender and was completely within her rights, did. She was fired from her job.

Another woman, in a different news story I read, was dragged out of a public bathroom half-pantsless by security at a hotel because she was mistaken for being a man. The reason he thought she was a man? She was wearing basketball shorts. Similarly to the first, this woman was also not a transgender person.

The Texas Legislature seems to think that transgender people are the issue. That couldn't be further from the truth. Regular men emboldened by bills like these are the issue. And it's only very recently become an issue at all. When regular men become an issue in the bathroom, we could easily address this with laws we already have... that is, we could if we had the guts to believe women when they tell us a man is dangerous.

Representatives, if you truly insist on doing something nice to help women in the bathroom instead of providing much needed relief to recent flood victims, can you please make those little air-gap-thingies in the stalls illegal? Like they have in Europe? Sure seems like that would solve a lot of even hypothetical issues. And truth be told, those gaps make everyone really uncomfortable.

Jay Cullender

Self. Analyst

Austin, TX

Dear Members of the Texas Legislature,

I am writing in strong opposition to SB-8, commonly referred to as the “bathroom bill.” This legislation is not only discriminatory in its intent and impact—it is a dangerous distraction from the real and pressing issues facing Texans today. SB-8 targets some of our most vulnerable community members, including transgender youth, under the guise of public safety. In reality, it undermines their dignity, safety, and rights. As a parent and a Texan, I find it unconscionable that our legislature would prioritize such a harmful bill when our state is grappling with far more urgent challenges.

Consider the ongoing need for flood relief and infrastructure resilience in the face of increasingly severe weather events. Or the alarming efforts to disenfranchise voters through out-of-cycle redistricting—an affront to democratic principles. These are the issues that demand your attention, resources, and leadership.

SB-8 does not reflect the values of fairness, compassion, or responsible governance. I urge you to reject this bill and refocus your efforts on legislation that strengthens our communities, protects all Texans, and upholds the integrity of our democratic institutions.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jay Cuillender

Annie Boyer

Self

Austin, TX

I am strongly opposed to SB 8 and frankly embarrassed that this bill has even been added to the agenda for this special session. This bill is not about protecting women, no matter how many times y’all claim it is. The fact that this bill even exists has led to an increase in women being forced to “prove” they “belong” in women’s restrooms. This is extremely dangerous and will make public spaces more dangerous for women and all genderqueer individuals. You know, populations of people that are already subjected to unnecessary harassment in public spaces. No good will come of this bill. Stop being so obsessed with what folks are doing in the bathroom and start paying attention to any number of the REAL ISSUES facing Texans.

Clayton Ghering, Mr

Self

Austin, TX

This bill will only harm those you're intending to protect. If you're going to pass a bathroom bill make it have something to do with washing your hands!

Vote no against this harmful distraction of a bill and get back to doing the real work Texans need you to be doing!

Crystal Byrd, Mrs.

Solomon’s Porch Ministries

New Braunfels, TX

I am for Tomorrow’s committee hearing on Senate Bill 8

Renee Verhagen

Self

Conroe, TX

I am a biological female and I do not want transgender, biological men in women's spaces. My rights as a woman are being violated by a bunch of mentally ill perverts

Randi Ceh  
Solomon's Porch Ministries  
New Braunfels, TX

I am IN FAVOR of this Bill.

Judie Willey  
Self  
Plano, TX

Restrooms need to be 100% restricted to gender assigned at birth ( with the exception of those persons who are caregivers for a wheelchair bound patient who is unable to transfer from the chair without assistance , in which case they must announce that they will be coming into the restroom) This should also apply to parents bringing minor children over the age of 5 of the opposite sex into the restroom with them . Quite frankly it makes me physically uncomfortable going into a ladies restroom and having boys who are 7, and older hanging around waiting for their mother. ( or coming out of the stalls, because they usually leave a mess)

I also feel that it is highly inappropriate for a male to take his daughter into the men's restroom. Let her go into the ladies room. He can stand outside the door, and wait for her . Most ladies will be happy to help her if she has a problem.

I am not saying that the use of facilities meant for the opposite gender can't be used in case of an emergency. I know of situations where where ladies have used men's facilities, due to especially long lines, or being cleaned) generally someone will make sure the men's room is empty, and someone else will " stand guard to make certain no men go in while the ladies are in there ( and vice versa) .

One last solution is to require more places to provide single stall gender neutral or " family " restrooms. Those are especially helpful because then they could provide diaper changing stations, rather than placing them in the toilet stalls that are set up for wheelchairs accessible use.

Sadie Anomalous  
Self  
Austin, TX

This bill will make school more unsafe for girls and women attending. It creates a space where they could be asked to "prove " their gender and is a form of sexual abuse. The obsession with children's genitals is strange and unrelated to their safety and well being at school. Children should not have to live in fear and especially not at school where they are supposed to be safe, and furthermore they have no option to abstain from if this law makes them feel unsafe.

Starza Thompson  
Self, Fiduciary Assistant  
Kyle, TX

Dear Representatives,

I urge you to oppose SB8. This bill is harmful, unworkable, and dangerous.

SB8 forces schools and agencies to police bathrooms, but there is no practical or legal way to do that without violating people's privacy. The only way to "enforce" this bill would be to subject Texans—cisgender and transgender alike—to invasive questioning or even physical inspection. That is government-sanctioned harassment and potential sexual assault, not safety.

There is also no evidence that letting transgender people use facilities matching their identity creates risk. What SB8 guarantees is harassment, bullying, and violence against people just trying to live their lives. It burdens teachers, staff, and local officials with impossible rules, wastes taxpayer money on lawsuits, and makes Texas look hostile to businesses and families.

SB8 is about control, not safety. Please reject it and focus on policies that actually support Texans.

Sincerely,  
SJ Thompson  
Kyle, TX

Debalene Endsley  
Myself  
New Braunfels, TX

As a woman, I want my privacy protected, as a mother I want my daughter's privacy protected and as a grandmother, I want my granddaughter's privacy protected from men.

Men have no place in women's restrooms or other private spaces. I don't care if they are wearing a dress. If they have a penis, they are a man.

Cameron Coburn  
Self  
Austin, TX

You say they are a man yet they are a woman. I woman was harassed to show her bra because someone "thought" she was a man. How have we as an American society allowed ourselves to pivot to such immature hate.

My tax dollars should go to something meaningful and not childish hatred. I vehemently oppose this bill. This childish, immature, ludicrous, hateful, petty, un-Christian, un-American, unholy Bill

Kati Adair  
Self  
Jacksonville, TX

On SB 8 Middleton:

Again, keep your nose out of others business. Please tell me one instance where you've encountered a trans person in anyway, harming another person of their gender. Stop trying to police others bodies and telling them what they can and can't do. They simply want to exist, as they are. Not what you have designated them to be in your small scope. Your civil right of action is to mind your damn business.

Mel Martinez, Rev.  
Safe Harbor MCC  
Wichita Falls, TX

Stop this madness. Vote no. You are focusing on false narratives. This bill is unnecessary.

Iris Salls

Self, massage therapist

Houston, TX

Hello, my name is Iris Salls, I'm a born and raised Houstonian.

It's deplorable to me that my representatives are wasting their time on taking people's rights away when we have so many other more important issues to focus on. Our flood preparedness is still far behind what it needs to be, especially in rural areas. We could also be spending this time on improving our green spaces, bolstering public transportation, controlling the rent that is pushing vulnerable families into homelessness, fixing the teacher turnover crisis, or any number of other things that bring vulnerable citizens up instead of pushing them down.

Trans people simply want to exist quietly. Targeting a tiny group whose life expectancy is in the 30s solely due to murder and suicide (is it any wonder, when so much slander and violence is being levelled at them in an attempt to remove them from the public sphere) is cruel and tantamount to schoolyard bullying. Your backs must ache from punching so low.

Please spend my hard earned tax money on something that improves lives.

With hope for your consciences,

Iris Salls

Michael Marohn

Self

Dallas, TX

Women train for many years to compete in a fair and organized sport, men should absolutely not be allowed to dominate woman's sports. Let men compete with men and see their worth. Going from mediocre to winning by changing gender rules is unfair to our woman competitors.

Mark Byrd, Mr

Solomon's Porch Ministries

New Braunfels, TX

I am in favor of tomorrow's committee hearing on Senate Bill 8

Steve Ceh, Pastor

Solomon's Porch Ministries

New Braunfels, TX

I am in favor of SB 8!

Tristan Thomas, Ms.

self

Austin, TX

If those civil servants working in the Texas government were concerned with the safety of women, they should focus on prosecuting rapists and allowing safe abortions. No life will be saved by SB 8. In fact, many could be endangered needlessly.

Dylan Rooney

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing to urge you to oppose the proposed bathroom ban legislation. Far from increasing public safety, these laws actually make women, children, and gender non-conforming people less safe.

Bathroom bans force people—especially transgender and gender non-conforming individuals—to use facilities where they are far more likely to face harassment or violence. They also create a chilling effect for parents with children and women who may be targeted for simply “not looking feminine enough.” These policies invite strangers to police who belongs in a restroom, putting countless people at risk.

Public safety is best served by inclusive policies that respect privacy and dignity. Everyone deserves to use the restroom without fear. I urge you to stand against this harmful legislation.

Lori Schechter

Self

Dallas, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as pawns in some political game with harmful and dehumanizing consequences and no real benefit. There is limited time in a special session. The focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas, and ensuring that our schools are safe and inviting to Texas children of all faiths, backgrounds, and economic circumstances. It should not be wasted explicitly harming transgender Texans.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Kymerly Oltrogge

Self

Dripping Springs, TX

Good day. I write as a mother and a Christian. I am a Christian who believes we are all made in God’s image—trans people included. This bill hurts people made in God’s image. It is unjust. It is mean-spirited. It is unnecessary—trans people are not attacking women in the restroom—this is a manufactured issue. Be compassionate. Vote no on this bill.

Michele Pettigrew

Self - Receptionist

Garland, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Michele and I live in Garland, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let’s focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans people.

Michelle Bucey

Self, Security Monitor, Registered Nurse. Ambassador of Christ  
Corpus Christi, TX

I am writing as a concerned constituent to express my strong opposition to policies or legislation that would allow biological males to use girls' bathrooms and biological females to use boys' bathrooms.

While I believe in treating every individual with dignity and respect, I also believe it is vital to protect the privacy, safety, and rights of women and children. Separate restrooms based on biological sex have long been a reasonable standard that ensures privacy and reduces potential risks. Allowing boys in girls' bathrooms, or vice versa, undermines these protections and creates unnecessary discomfort and concerns for families and communities.

I urge you to stand against any federal or state measures that would force schools, businesses, or public facilities to adopt such policies. Instead, I ask you to support commonsense solutions that respect the privacy of all individuals while preserving the protections that separate restrooms provide.

Thank you for your service and for listening to the concerns of your constituents. I hope you will take a firm stand on this issue and represent the values of families in our community.

Respectfully,  
Michelle Bucey

Glenn Long  
Self-Lab Animal Technician  
Dallas, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Glenn and I live in Dallas, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans, as well as their children. Instead, I would really love to see the committee address issues like maternity deserts & our dearth of healthcare providers. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.  
Thank you.

Krissy Lacey, Mrs  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

Boys have a penis. Girls have a vagina.

Chelsea Niemiec  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am IN FAVOR of senate bill 8 to prohibit men in women's private spaces.

Rachel Galbreath  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am FOR this bill

Taylor Norman

Self

Allen, TX

Our girls need to be protected!

Molly White, Honorable

Self, Host: More to the Story with Molly White (pro-life podcast)

Sonora, TX

Testimony in Support of SB 8

By Molly S. White, Former Texas State Representative

Host, More to the Story with Molly White

Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is Molly White. I am a former Texas State Representative and currently host More to the Story with Molly White, a podcast that addresses issues related to life, family, and faith. I speak today in strong support of Senate Bill 8, introduced by Senator Middleton.

As a woman, I find it deeply concerning that biological males—regardless of how they identify—are being granted access to spaces that were created specifically to protect the privacy, dignity, and safety of women and girls. Women's bathrooms, locker rooms, changing areas, and other sex-designated facilities exist for a reason: to provide women a secure and private environment, free from the presence of men.

Allowing biological males who identify as female into these spaces not only erodes that privacy but opens the door to abuse, harassment, and increased risk of harm. Many of these individuals suffer from gender dysphoria, which is a recognized psychological condition (I have a degree in psychology)—not a qualification for entering protected spaces reserved for women. Others may exploit gender identity policies for predatory purposes, putting vulnerable women and children at risk.

SB 8 is not about denying anyone dignity or basic rights. It is about preserving the rights, privacy, and safety of women. Women and girls should not be forced to surrender their comfort or security to accommodate individuals who are biologically male.

I urge you to bring clarity, common sense, and moral responsibility back into policy decisions concerning sex-specific spaces. Pass SB 8 and reaffirm your commitment to protecting women in Texas.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Molly S. White

Former Texas State Representative

Host, More to the Story with Molly White

Megan Mooney, Dr.  
self, Licensed Psychologist  
Houston, TX

My name is Dr. Megan Mooney and I oppose SB8. I am a Texas Licensed Psychologist practicing in Houston. I specialize in working with children and families and am an affiliate member of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network. I have focused on serving traumatized children and families for over 20 years and have presented locally and nationally about trauma, treatments for trauma in children and families, and ways to prevent trauma in youth. I have an additional area of focus in serving LGBTQ+ youth, especially transgender youth, because research consistently demonstrates that these young people are disproportionately impacted by all forms of trauma as compared to their cisgender and heterosexual peers.

According to research, this transgender people have the highest rate of suicide attempts as compared to any other population. Research has also found causal links between the level of acceptance of transgender people and their long-term health and well-being. For example, transgender people who are rejected by their family and are not affirmed in their gender identity are far more likely to attempt suicide, experience depression and anxiety, and misuse drugs and alcohol as compared to those who are accepted by their family and friends. Two of the predictors of suicide in all people are lack of a sense of belongingness and feeling like they are a burden to others. This bill would literally communicate to transgender people that they do not belong and are not safe in public restrooms. Research tells us that most transgender Texans already avoid using public restrooms because they are afraid of being confronted. Many transgender people also limit the amount that they eat or drink to avoid using the restroom. This leads to increases in dehydration, urinary tract infections, constipation, and kidney damage.

Schools, hospitals, and several cities across the US have created policies to keep everyone safe in restrooms and include transgender people. There has never been one reported issue of a transgender person attempting to harm another person in a restroom. Transgender people are the most likely to be assaulted in restrooms. If you are concerned about the safety of girls and women in restrooms and public spaces, you should be clear that this bill does nothing to protect them – the Texas penal code already has laws making it illegal for anyone to enter a restroom with the intention of harming another person – regardless of the genders of anyone involved.

As a mental health professional who has dedicated over two decades of my career to helping individuals recover from trauma and provide evidence-based information and resources to our Texas communities to help prevent further trauma, I have grave concerns about SB8. I strongly urge you to consider the harms you will cause to an already vulnerable population while doing absolutely nothing to further protect the safety and well-being of cisgender people.

Jennifer Montgomery, Mrs  
Self  
Austin, TX

Transgender and intersex Texans deserve the same dignity and respect as anyone else. Forcing people into restrooms that don't align with their identity puts them at risk of harassment, emotional trauma, and even physical danger. It also invites invasive and humiliating enforcement practices that threaten everyone's privacy—not just trans individuals.

Jason H  
Self  
Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Jason and I am a Born and Raised Texas citizen. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms not only Transgender Texans, but the very women and girls in your lives. Your mothers, sisters, daughters, nieces, and loved ones are affected by this very bill.

Instead, I demand to see the committee address the poverty that heavily affects our Texan neighbors, or increasing number of homelessness that is destroying the very lives you claim to represent. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm EVERY texan— including transgender texans.

Randal Fernandez  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am in favor of this bill

Kendall Rester  
Self  
Crawford, TX

Please support SB 8, keep biological males out of female spaces.

Jenny George  
Texas citizens defending freedom  
Bellaire, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation."

Luhkan Mxz  
Self  
Houston, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Luhkan and I live in Houston, TX. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans. Any time you spend trying to harm fellow Texans is time that marks you as a failure in your position as a representative of the people. Do better. The people are watching, do not fail us.

Brittany Masiel

Self

georgetown, TX

I am opposed to SB 8. This bill is dangerous and dehumanizes marginalized people. Trans Texans deserve safety just as every Texan has. This bill can lead to more Trans violence like we have seen recently at Barton Springs by emboldening people to act out on their bigotry. If this bill passes you are giving the okay have Trans people be harassed simply for using the bathroom. Please focus on flood relief bills as us Texans have asked of you time and time again this special session. Thanks.

Luz Gonzalez

Self

austin, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Luz and I live in Austin, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really like the commute to address climate change, the egregious cost of health care, poverty and homelessness, the rising cost of food, the generational wealth gap- to name a few . It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you

Will Collier

America

Amarillo, TX

No men in women's bathrooms

Katrina Haley, Ms

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Mary kalian

Self

Aubrey, TX

Biological men should not be allowed into women's spaces. Spaces and facilities should be designated male or female. It is dangerous to women and children to have private spaces invaded by men

Patricia Vigil

Vigil family

Amarillo, TX

We do not want men pretending to be women in women's bathrooms are safe spaces common sense is what we want we want our girls protected just because someone has a mental disorder doesn't mean that gives them a right to rape and terrorize our little girls we won't boys bathrooms and girls bathrooms and and that goes for their in school they're dressing rooms.

April Wilson  
Self  
Denton, TX

No men in women's sports, bathrooms or locker rooms! Common sense. Don't pee on my seat!

Deanna DeHaven  
Self  
Austin, TX

To the Members of the Texas Legislature:

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed bathroom bill. As a parent and Texan, I am deeply concerned about how this legislation will harm children, families, and communities across our state. These types of discriminatory policies do not make anyone safer; instead, they create fear, isolation, and real physical and emotional harm for some of the most vulnerable students in our schools. Restroom bans impact people of all genders, as they increase scrutiny and discrimination towards all people.

This is not an abstract issue for my family—it is deeply personal. My children have close friends whose lives have already been profoundly affected by years of discriminatory laws and policies. One of those children, a good friend of my daughters, has lost more with each wave of state legislation:

Since 2021, she was banned from playing sports at school with her peers, her parents were considered child abusers for supporting her healthcare needs and affirming her identity, lost access to critical, life-affirming healthcare, lost the ability to update legal documents, was barred from GSA student meetings, and was stripped of her teachers' ability to openly affirm or acknowledge her true self.

Now this proposed bathroom bill seeks to take away her basic safety, privacy, and dignity.

Bathroom bans don't just target transgender students—they affect everyone. They create hostile, suspicious environments where kids are policed about their bodies. They put students at risk of bullying, harassment, and even violence. They force teachers and administrators into impossible roles of "gender police." They stigmatize and isolate children who are already at greater risk for depression, anxiety, and self-harm.

Every child deserves to feel safe and respected at school. That includes being able to use the restroom without fear, shame, or harassment. Laws that deny this basic right send a harmful message that some children are less deserving of safety, privacy, and dignity than others.

Texas families need lawmakers to focus on policies that help kids thrive—not on bills that endanger their health and well-being. Please reject this discriminatory and deeply harmful bathroom bill.

Thank you for your time and for considering the real impact this legislation would have on Texas children and families.

Respectfully,

Deanna DeHaven  
Texas Resident, Business Owner, and  
Proud Parent of 3 Children Born and Educated in Texas

Jean Monte  
Self  
Meadows Place, TX

Reading over the list of bills and topics for this "session", it appears to me that SB8 is essentially a non-issue compared to the rest of the topics/bills. I don't understand the fixation on bodily functions, but I do expect better from our elected officials. Please.

Alyssa Stebbing, Rev.

Self--priest

Austin, TX

I am a priest and care for a variety of individuals and families in the Austin area and in Texas. This bill is harmful to youth and adults and will set the stage for further violence and suicidal actions. As a person who deals with pastoral care issues daily, I strongly am opposed to the harm this bill will cause many, many people. This is not where we should be spending our time and money when there are real needs to care for Texas residents. This is a fabricated and unreal threat.

Nancy Garfias

Self

Harlingen, TX

I think it is time that we protect all biological women and children from having a biological male enter what should be a safe place for them to use the restroom or change without feeling uncomfortable or threatened. The same goes for biological men, they should feel comfortable and safe while using the restroom or changing without a biological women in their safe space. We should not cater to the small dilusional and confused individuals who think it is their right to infringe on biological women and men's safe space. It is to protect our little girls from a biological male entering what should be their safe space!

Tracey Friedel

Self

Austin, TX

The adoption of this would bring harm to people. Transgender are people and they have a right to safety. This bill would intentionally put them at harm. While some other people may be uncomfortable with transgender, they are not harmed. Find a different solution.

Kayla DeAnda, Mrs.

Kayla DeAnda

Corpus Christi, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation. This is it - our daughters are counting on us! Don't let them down.

Julie Caceres

Myself

Fort Worth, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Christina Lance

Self, Fundraiser

Austin, TX

I urge this committee to not harm trans people as a blatant distraction from real issues. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Aren't republicans supposed to be about SMALL GOVERNMENT? Then why do they have such a big problem getting into things that are none of their business? The government shouldn't tell ANYONE how to live their life or not live it, doesn't matter who.

The focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Gabriel Grove  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

This comment is submitted in support of Texas Senate Bill 8 (“SB 8”), which aims to prohibit biologically male individuals—that is, individuals whose sex at birth is male—from entering women’s bathrooms. The purpose of SB 8 is to protect the privacy, dignity, and safety of women and girls in spaces specifically designated as female-only. I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB 8 to uphold these essential interests.

### 1. Privacy and Safety: Foundational and Psychological Considerations

Women’s restrooms are private spaces where individuals expect security and modesty. Psychological research underscores how shared bathroom environments can trigger discomfort when boundaries of sex and gender are perceived to be blurred. One commentary notes: “When it comes to public bathrooms, someone who was born into a male body should be required to use the men’s bathroom, even if they are a woman” . This reflects a common concern grounded in risk perception and personal safety.

A study further indicates that cisgender males express significantly higher levels of concern about the presence of transgender women in female restrooms—approximately 72% of negative comments—compared to cisgender females, at about 46% . These reactions often stem from paternal instincts or protective instincts over women and girls, emphasizing societal expectations of safeguarding vulnerable populations.

### 2. Documented Incidents Justifying Legislative Action:

Several past incidents have highlighted how individuals identifying as female have abused restroom facilities to commit crimes or to intrude upon women’s privacy:

- In Big Lots, San Diego, a man dressed in a Barbie doll dress was accused of attempting to sexually assault a woman in the women’s restroom.
- In Loudoun County, Virginia, a registered sex offender, Richard Cox, repeatedly exposed himself in women’s locker rooms, gaining access by identifying as a transgender woman and using aliases. This occurred despite his record—Cox now faces 22 criminal charges, including indecent liberties with a child.
- In Massachusetts, Alexandra Nicole Zapp was murdered in the women’s restroom of a Burger King rest area in 2002 by a repeat sex offender who waited for her to enter . While the attacker was not impersonating a woman, this crime exemplifies the potential severity of violence in unsupervised bathroom settings.
- At Wi Spa in Los Angeles in 2021, an individual—with a history of indecent exposure charges—was accused of indecent exposure in the women’s changing area, leading to criminal charges. That person was ultimately found not guilty, but the incident underscores public unease around access enforcement.

These cases are not isolated anomalies. They reflect a broader pattern of risk when bathroom access is determined by identity claims rather than biological sex.

Jennifer Malone  
self  
Irving, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. I am an American citizen, born and raised, I am nonbinary, I am a human being, I have every right to live my life as I choose, as who I am, and the government has not right to take away or infringe on my rights. This is a violation of the Constitution and it is cruel and inhumane and UnAmerican.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a people who are simply living their lives, doing no harm to anyone else. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Lilith Riley

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Lilith and I live in Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address keeping our state clean and helping teachers educate our children. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Lisa Stingley

Self

Fort Worth, TX

I emphatically support SB 8! Women deserve to be protected; they deserve private spaces; they deserve sane laws!

Paul Van Helmond

Self

Katy, TX

Dear Representative - please vote no on SB8. I am the father of a thriving transgender daughter and I may not be politically active but I swear that I will do everything I can (donate, block walk, make phone calls etc.) to eliminate my representative if you vote for SB8. Best regards, Paul

Dalora Miller

Self

Tomball, TX

As people guided by compassion, from all races, religions & backgrounds, we are called to lead with compassion, humility, & love for our Texas neighbors. Trans Texans are your neighbors, students, coworkers & family members-who, like all of us, are worthy of dignity, respect & protection. As you listen, I ask that you take just a minute to see this through the eyes of your loved ones who may be trans. "Bathroom bills," while often presented as "safety measures," are not about "protecting" anyone. They end up targeting & excluding some of the most vulnerable people among us, especially our trans youth. These bills are about fear & maybe the lack of understanding which should never be the foundation of law. Let's think about this logically: Trans people already use public restrooms just like everyone else—safely & quietly. Such laws that would restrict their access which would: cause harm, not prevent it; invite harassment; deepen stigma; & threaten mental health. For our trans youth, in particular, the "Texas Bathroom Bill" is devastating. It sends the message that they don't belong in public, that they are a "threat" simply for existing. I genuinely hope you are thinking about this as if it was your own loved one, maybe even your child. There is no evidence that trans people using restrooms that match their identity poses any risk, whatsoever. There is no credible evidence that inclusive bathroom policies lead to "safety" issues. But there is overwhelming evidence that discrimination & laws singling trans people out cause real harm-socially, psychologically & economically. It leads to higher rates of bullying, depression & even suicide, particularly among young people. This should break all of our hearts. It is wrong to portray trans people as deviant or predatory. Mischaracterizing trans individuals as such is unjust, misleading, harmful & untrue. Businesses, school districts & communities across the country have spoken out because these laws are not just inhumane; they are bad policy. These laws do not reflect the heart of Christ, who consistently stood with the marginalized & challenged fear-based thinking. Religious freedom is not threatened by inclusion. In fact, our faith should compel us to ensure that all people-regardless of gender identity-can live safely & authentically. We cannot use religion to justify fear, discrimination, or exclusion. Let us all remember the definition of discrimination: "The unfair or unjust treatment of people based on characteristics such as race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or other identity markers, rather than on individual merit or behavior." More formally, the U.S. EEOC defines discrimination as: "The act of treating someone unfavorably because of personal characteristics protected by law." We urge you to reject any legislation that singles out transgender people for exclusion from public life, a basic human need, under the guise of "safety" or "tradition."

Michelle Ramirez, Licensed Masters Social Worker

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Michelle Ramirez and I am a resident of Travis County. As a social worker who has worked with youth in El Paso and Austin Texas in the last 12 years, I can confirm that passing this bill will cause harm to all Texans, but severely scar young people who are developing into their full selves regardless of policies that exist or not. Passing this bill will cause fear for so many people around a bodily function and no policy should be in the way of that. People can and will experience harassment that leads to irreparable mental health issues and in the worst case, even death. There is no actual way to check people's assigned sex, and doing so for something as simple and human as using a restroom should not be a barrier for any body. It is because of stigma and stereotypes that this bill exists which nullifies any rational that supports this bill. As a person who has fluid gender presentation, this will not stop me from using the restroom that makes me feel most comfortable, but it will enable violence from anyone who feels justified to cause harm because they cannot mind their own business in a restroom. Please say no to this bill, and protect peoples autonomy to do whatever they need to do to move in the world as themselves.

Donald Stewart

Self

Montgomery, TX

Men do not belong in woman's spaces. This bill needs to pass.

Kendra Azelton

Self, citizen

Round Rock, TX

This makes no sense, how would you police this and how would one be able to prove their sex, and that is private health information.

Nicole Cappabianca

Self

Austin, TX

I do not and will never support this bill

Sandra Georgeton

Self

Mansfield, TX

Disgusting. Archaic. Why don't we focus on actual issues instead of focusing on people peeing?

Nancy Moore, Mrs

Self teacher

New Braunfels, TX

Please do not allow men (biological or deceived) in women's spaces. I am an old woman, to allow such is a disgrace.

Jennifer Alexander

Self

MIDLOTHIAN, TX

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed legislation relating to the designation and use of certain spaces and facilities according to sex, and its authorization of civil penalties and private civil actions.

This legislation is unnecessary, harmful, and divisive. Policies that restrict facility access based on sex or gender identity create stigma, increase discrimination, and put transgender and nonbinary individuals at greater risk of harassment and harm. Everyone deserves to feel safe and respected in public spaces, and this bill does the opposite by singling out vulnerable groups for exclusion.

Moreover, authorizing civil penalties and private lawsuits will encourage costly litigation and burden courts and communities without making anyone safer. Schools, businesses, and local governments should be allowed to implement inclusive policies that work best for their communities, not be forced to adopt restrictive and punitive measures.

I urge you to reject this legislation and instead focus on policies that protect the dignity, privacy, and safety of all people, including transgender and nonbinary individuals.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Alexander

Midlothian, TX

Maria Carden

Self

San Antonio, TX

I am 100% for this bill. It's about time we do the right thing in Texas. Actually, the majority of people are for this. It's amazing to me that we even have to have a law regarding this. It's just common sense.

Alexis Black  
basic humanity  
Manor, TX

Please vote NO on SB 8. Trans people are not a problem, discrimination is. We have real issues in Texas. Transgender people are just like everyone else and should not be scapegoated for political gain. Please do your jobs. Stop hurting transfolk and deal with the treasonous monster in the WhiteHouse who threatens the very root of democracy. If you really care about protecting people, let's start with the Epstein files.

Dede Fox  
self  
The Woodlands, TX

I am against SB 8. The American Medical Association reports that exclusionary bathroom policies can lead to an increased risk for “anxiety and depression, low self-esteem, engaging in self-injurious behaviors, suicide, substance use, homelessness and eating disorders, among other adverse outcomes.” AMA policy supports transgender individuals’ use of public restrooms in line with their gender identities. I agree. This is a cruel bill.

Guy Dowdy  
Citizen  
Allen, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Jill Rutherford, Self  
Self  
Austin, TX

I urge you not to pass this harmful bill. Transgender people deserve liberty, and this bill deprives them of that. Vote against this bill and turn your attention to helping people.

Dana Posey, Mrs  
Self  
Corpus Christi, TX

Please support this bill and keep males out of girls locker rooms, restrooms, etc. This really is just common sense, but the alternative is a terrifying scenario for all girls. Thank you!

Joy Decamp  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I am all for this bill!

Monica Matheaus  
Matheaus household, Expert Defect technician  
New Braunfels, TX

I fear for my safety while using the women’s restroom knowing a man is allowed to use my “safe space “! My place of employment chooses to allow grown men to have more rights to use women’s safe space. The women on my work shift have held private meetings so we can AGAIN protest this! We as mothers, daughters, sisters and aunts are left vulnerable with men in our spaces and YES WE ARE SCARED! We now carry weapons in our pocket to protect us from what might happen with men entering our spaces. We all have been reprimanded by human resources when we complain. Where is the dignity and women’s rights?!

Raina Keller

Self

Meadows Place, TX

My name is Raina and I live in Houston, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address natural disaster response. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Jess Rothwell

Self

Katy, TX

This is a bill that will end up causing more victimization of women and girls because they may not fit the stereotypical look of femininity. We have already seen incidents in other states where people assigned female at birth, who identify as female, get accosted when using the women's restroom. Inevitably, the only way to ensure someone is using the right bathroom is by showing identification or a birth certificate. And while the proponents of this bill may say they want to create safe spaces for women, the hypocrisy is not lost on people who know that females are more likely to get hurt by someone they know. And are we actually supposed to believe that man who has intentions in raping or assaulting a woman is going to be stopped by a law? These things are already against the law. And if someone wants to victimize a woman, why would they chance it in public places where there are usually other people and security cameras. If republic politicians want to do something that meaningfully helps women, we could ensure they have prenatal Healthcare. We could have paid post-partum leave from work. We could have universal preschool. We could ensure no woman goes hungry or without a home. And maybe we could actually believe women when they say they have been assaulted instead of questioning why they were wearing something that is deemed inappropriate or suggestive. Let's ensure there are shelters for victims of abuse. There are things the state can do to help women, but bathroom bills, intentionally or unintentionally, will cause more harm than good. Let's make Texas safer for women by supporting them in times of need and quit the virtue signaling the GOP is doing here.

Kerrie-Ann Rester

Self. Homeschool Mom

Crawford, TX

I am for keeping biologically born males out of female spaces. We must keep girl'ss/women's spaces safe. This is a common sense thing. It's sad that we have to fight for this at all. Women & girls deserve safe, private spaces that men cannot violate.

Sam Farley

Self - manager

Houston, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Sam and I live in Houston, Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you

Janet Adams  
Self  
Springtown, TX

Please keep biologically born males out of women's spaces. I don't want men in spaces where women/girls are.

Jenifer Nicoloff  
Self  
Rowlett, TX

Trans women are women and should use the restroom they feel safest in. Trans women are not who we need to be worried about. Cis men are the people who are the perpetrators hurting our kids. Please do not pass this bill and show that you stand with ALL Texans

Sarah Boas  
Self, Concerned Citizen  
Austin, TX

This bill is an attack on the rights of our citizens, it is cruel, foolish, and Un-American.

Julia Young  
Self  
Canyon Lake, TX

In Favor of SB 8 by Middleton

Clovis Cagle  
Myself  
Wichita falls, TX

I ask that you say no sb-8 , we are not the problem you should instead focus on disaster relief efforts and education

Kim Wilkie  
Self  
Houston, TX

I have a child who was born intersex and raised male. She has Klinefelter Syndrome (XXY). She does not produce enough testosterone or estrogen to be healthy and develop fully. We didn't know until she was 17 because as a child there was no way to know. She tried testosterone. It made her both mentally and physically ill. When she made the decision to try estrogen after 3 years, her health improved and she began living a normal and healthy life that we could never have imagined for her. She was probably meant to be a girl but the Y chromosome didn't break off. Now you want to put her life in danger by forcing her to use a men's restroom. She is not a danger to anyone. Ask yourselves, are trans men and women the sexual predators in this country? The answer is a resounding no. The demonization of this group of people under the guise of safety is shameful and promotes hate. My child once said to me, people who think people choose to live like this, have no idea how hard it is. Please do not make it even harder by passing a law that puts every trans person in danger.

Nikki Henrichsen  
Self  
Sugar Land, TX

Please support SB 8 so it can go to Governor Abbott.  
Thank you!

Austin Lorehn  
Self - Preconstruction Services Manager  
Houston, TX

I strongly encourage the Texas Representatives to OPPOSE the discriminatory bill that villainizes vulnerable people and does NOTHING to protect ANYONE. Stop wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem.

Michael Treybig  
Retired  
Sugar Land, TX

I am in favor of this bill.

Kimberly Duncan  
Self: School Administrator  
Austin, TX

This bill is insidious and it puts innocent people in harm's way. Let people use the restroom in peace. Make a law that restrooms all need to be gender neutral spaces with stalls that lock. If that is not on the docket, then please leave things as they are, where there are at least some safe and neutral spaces for humans to take care of their bodily needs with dignity and safety. We all deserve that. Thank you for your time.

Sharon Smith  
self property manager  
Porter, TX

I have daughters. I do not want boys or men in the dressing room or restroom with them. Please vote against allowing this to happen. Women's rights are being trampled on. Protect tge little girls! Stop the insanity!

DEBRA Havranek  
SELF  
Allen, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation

Bobby Bonner  
Self  
Fairfield, TX

As a father of 3 daughters and a husband it is outrageous to think that we as United States would even have to consider this. Please make the choice to to keep men in where men belong. Thank you for doing the right thing.

Eleni Palumbis  
Self  
Katy, TX

Protect women at all costs!! No biological males in women's bathrooms. I am a mother of sons. However, I shiver even in the thought of a biological male entering and "using" a bathroom for biological women. Biological men's strength surpasses that of biological women's. Most females, could not overpower a biological male. Please do not subject women, esp young girls to the dangers of having biological males in biological women's bathrooms.

Katie Haber

Self

Austin, TX

We all deserve to use the bathroom in peace without the violation of having our genitals inspected or having our gender questioned. I strongly oppose SB8.

Ella Rous

Self, student

Denton, TX

This is absolutely bizarre and invasive. I am a cis woman and the idea that my genitalia is of any interest to the state is ridiculous, disgusting, and perverse. Leave private citizens alone and keep your hands out of our pants.

Margaret Samuel

self/teacher

Wellesley, TX

I am writing to encourage this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a whole host of important issues on the political docket during your special session, our lawmakers are shamefully wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, we are facing a moment in our country where real people will lose food stamps, access to health care, and already do not have access to affordable housing. Please focus on meeting the basic needs of all of your constituents rather than unnecessarily harming people for political gain. I am the mother of a transgender daughter and a "aunt" to a transgender man who is a Texas resident. I hate that they will be denied basic rights that every human being should be granted. I urge you to do the right thing and be humane and caring.

Lauren Guthrie

Self representing Texas

Austin, TX

I oppose Senate Bill SB 8. As a born-and-bred Texan, I urge you to reflect on our state's core values. This bill goes against everything Texas stands for: rugged individualism, friendship, and tradition.

### Rugged Individualism

This value, shaped by our wild frontier past, celebrates self-reliance and grit. Settlers blazed their own trails, asking only for the freedom to do so without the government's heavy hand. This bill dishonors that spirit by telling Texans who they can be and where they can go. It's a one-size-fits-all solution that brands our identity like cattle, an insult to our heritage and our core identity.

### #2. Friendship

The very name "Texas" comes from "Tejas," a Caddo Indian word for "friends" or "allies." Friendship was the foundation of our frontier—no one survived it alone. Though fiercely independent, a true Texan is a friend to those in need. This bill betrays our Tejas by creating outcasts in our own community.

This is a direct betrayal of our Tejas.

Supporting it makes you an enemy to Texas herself - allies don't dump waste filled with suspicion and fear into the well water that they and their community drink.

### #3. Tradition and Heritage

A reminder of our commitment to fight for ourselves, for each other, and for freedom from a government that means to oppress with a cruel and unusual hand.

Because what is not unusual is transgender people—they have existed in cultures throughout history.

Let us remember the work of fellow San Antonian, Phyllis Frye, a Texas pioneer and Houston-based attorney who became the nation's first openly transgender judge.

Successfully, her work in the 1980s defended transgender women from being arrested for using public restrooms in Houston.

40 years later, and this issue persists, but so do we—because we are Texas Tough.

What is unusual, and a breach of the 8th Amendment, is the cruel & unusual punishment of an individual forced to use a restroom that doesn't align with their gender identity.

Major Texas cities, including Dallas, Houston, Austin, and San Antonio, have had non-discrimination policies for years without an increase in safety incidents.

Now, ask yourself: will you fight for Texas and her values, or will you betray a spirit that is not for sale?

What gain would such a betrayal make?

Reflect on the potential economic impact of this bill, which is similar to North Carolina's HB2. Legislation that resulted in substantial losses in revenue, events, and employment opportunities.

HB2 was estimated to cost the state over \$3.76 billion in lost business over a dozen years, including \$40 million in business investment that was withdrawn and the loss of over 1,250 jobs.

Enacting this bill would undermine Texas's reputation as a business-friendly and inclusive state, potentially resulting in decreased tourism, reduced investment, and negative perceptions among prospective companies.

Remember the Alamo.

Or betray it by surrendering to a new kind of Tyranny.

Larry Schalles

Red River CEC

Avery, TX

Our Lord God blessed us with two genders. No body has the right to change or violate Our Lord God

David Ruiz

Self

Cedar Park, TX

This is a terrible and discriminatory bill.

Laura Dawley  
Self - Homemaker  
Princeton, TX

Please advance this important legislation. I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools.

Anne McKinnerney  
self  
Austin, TX

This bill is not about the "protection of women". There are already multiple laws on the books that protect women in "certain spaces". In fact, they protect women in ALL spaces. If a man enters any space and seeks to cause harm to a woman, that is already illegal. This bill only seeks to erase transgender Texans - pure and simple. Please stop this persecution of transgender HUMAN BEINGS, and focus on legislation that is actually lacking in Texas. This bill is unneeded, unwanted, and highly discriminatory!

Katelynn Zuercher  
Self  
Austin, TX

This bill is outrageous, shameful, and should not be passed. This would be very harmful and disrespectful to basic human rights. Trans people deserve equal human rights.

Felicity Berrios, Ms  
Self  
Austin, TX

we have seen in recent weeks and months how this bill will and has not only effected trans and queer folks but as well as cisgender and straight. This will inherently in danger everyone who is woman identifying or femme presenting. This will put young girls at risk as well of ridiculous questioning of their gender and sex. What comes after questioning a young girl / child of their sex / gender is a scary thought when pedophiles seek out loopholes such as these to pray on our children. This is very clearly not about protecting women and children, this is about exploiting them and harassing them. This bill benefits absolutely no one, accept men who want to harass, abuse, and exploit women and children. Cis gendered women will be questioned for their sex and gender as well just for being femme presenting. You cannot inherently tell someone's gender just by looking at them, which as clearly been said and proven time and time again. I myself am a born female , and identify as a woman, drag queen here in the state of Texas. And I alone fear for my safety not just walking down the street alone out of drag but also in drag. Most people looking at me in drag have no idea that I was born female , and usually assume that I am a man or I am a trans women. And neither are the case for me. I will, as a cis woman, have to prove my gender to someone , even out of drag, simply for being questioned in this bill gives someone the right to do so. What does private civil right if action mean exactly? If not just to be taken subjectively , and anyone having freedom of choice of how they go about "verifying" someone identity. This so dangerous and can lead to physical/sexual assault because you will be giving someone the right to question and essentially search for what they're looking for. This bill is not for Texans and is not protecting Texans. Do better

Karen Treybig  
Self  
Sugar Land, TX

I support this bill.

Ashley Dyslin

Self

Austin, TX

Regulating spaces based on people's appearances has already proven detrimental to the health and safety of women. Leave trans folks alone and pass legislation that actually HELPS Texans, rather than fear mongering. If you support this bill, you should be ashamed of yourself.

Kara Wimberly

Cartwright Construction Inspections LLC

Cleburne, TX

Please uphold decency and dignity of our youth and do not push over sexualized ideation upon them and any such matter, especially private spaces. Cross dressing should no longer be forced upon our general public, especially our children. Why is government so interested in creating such a sick, sad world where sexual perversion rules? I pray God sends real men, not gentlemen, openly wearing skirts now. Amen

Kathleen Boas

self

Austin, TX

In regards to SB 8:

Please stop focusing on something that is NOT a problem. This bill is clear on who it hurts, but is unclear on who it protects. If you want to protect children, start by paying serious attention to proposed legislation related to flooding so children aren't swept away in the night.

Update the electrical grid so children don't freeze to death when the next winter storm comes.

Make sure children have preventative medical care so they don't get measles and then get pneumonia and die. Or get measles and then get encephalitis and die. Or their mom gets measles and they are born prematurely and die.

A good education and access to good food would also help children.

Texas is not made better by foolish legislation. You can do better for children than this bill. Please vote against it.

Anne Newman

self

Boerne, TX

Please protect the privacy of women and girls by passing SB 8.

Hannah Friesen

Self

Austin, TX

This bill hurts all individuals

Marcia Caballero

Myself

Converse, TX

I am FOR this!

Nico Pivnik

Self (University Student)

Houston, TX

SB8, is an extremely harmful and discriminatory bill. It places trans, queer, and gender non-conforming folks in harms way. The trans population already experiences ridiculously high levels of violence and discrimination and that this bill seeks to add to that suffering is an absolute disgrace. It is outright embarrassing that SB8 was even drafted and considered in the first place. Those elected officials/law-makers that composed and continue to promote this piece of legislation should be utterly shamed of the hatred, bigotry, and ignorance they are displaying. SB8 will not protect anyone. In fact, it will increase drastically violence and discrimination not only for trans and queer folks, but for all Texans regardless of gender identity or sexuality. Those in power have a duty to protect their constituents and advocate for their general welfare and SB8 does the exact opposite of this. I stand in vehement opposition to this bill and so should every single elected representative in this special session.

Briana Lomu

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am writing to express my strong support for SB8. I believe in the importance of protecting women's safe spaces and preserving the right to dignity, privacy, and security for women and girls.

Women should not be forced to share private facilities with males, including those who identify as transgender or who suffer from gender dysphoria. These spaces, whether bathrooms, locker rooms, or shelters, were created to protect women's safety and sense of security. Allowing biological males into them undermines those protections and puts women at risk.

I respectfully urge you to stand firm in supporting SB8 and to continue to uphold policies that defend the dignity and safety of women and girls.

Thank you for your service and for considering my perspective on this critical issue.

Jill Cannon

self

Providence Village, TX

Dear Representatives,

I am writing to strongly oppose Texas Senate Bill 8, which seeks to impose harmful restrictions under the guise of "protecting" public spaces. This bill, which aims to regulate the use of bathrooms and other facilities based on biological sex, is a discriminatory attack on the rights and dignity of transgender Texans. Enforcing these measures through civil penalties and private lawsuits is not only invasive—it is a disturbing use of state power to marginalize vulnerable communities.

Rather than weaponizing legislation to control who uses which bathroom, Texas lawmakers should be focused on real threats to public safety. The state has more pressing issues, including the existence and protection of sexual predators—many of whom remain shielded by wealth, influence, and political connections. The public deserves justice and accountability in high-profile cases like that of Ghislaine Maxwell and Jeffrey Epstein, who orchestrated a vast network of sexual abuse with the apparent protection or complacency of many powerful figures.

It is appalling that former President Donald Trump, who had a close personal relationship with Epstein, continues to receive public and political defense despite the deeply troubling associations. Our priorities should be prosecuting and preventing actual sexual violence—not criminalizing people for using a bathroom that aligns with their gender identity.

SB 8 does nothing to protect Texans. It only promotes fear, harassment, and state-sponsored discrimination. I urge you to oppose this bill and instead direct your efforts toward meaningful legislation that confronts real abuse and defends real victims.

Samuel Trevino

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is deeply discriminatory and will hurt women across the board. Please vote against this travesty.

Christina Cortopassi

Self nurse

Lewisville, TX

I am writing today in strong opposition to SB 8. For a decade, this bill has been getting dragged back into session repeatedly and the people of Texas have made it clear that we don't want it. It is a non issue and the fact that valuable time during a special session that should only be about flood relief is getting used to ram this through is disgusting. I have been using women's restrooms my entire life and have been in there with transgender women multiple times. Never been an issue. Stop attacking a marginalized population just because you can. This bill needs to die forever.

Yahaira Verdejo

Self

Houston, TX

I strongly oppose Senate Bill 8. This bill targets transgender individuals and denies them the basic dignity of using public restrooms that match their gender identity. It promotes discrimination under the guise of safety, despite there being no evidence that inclusive bathroom policies pose any threat. Instead, this kind of legislation increases the risk of harassment and violence against transgender people — especially youth. All Texans deserve to live without fear of being policed in public spaces. This bill is harmful, unnecessary, and violates fundamental civil rights.

Christin Bentley, SD-1 SREC

Self

Winona, TX

I strongly support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act. This legislation is common sense and essential to protecting the privacy, dignity, and safety of girls and women in private spaces, ensuring that biological males are not allowed in female bathrooms and locker rooms, including our public schools.

Texas parents expect schools to be safe learning environments. Girls should never have to sacrifice their privacy or feel unsafe in spaces intended exclusively for them. SB 8 provides a clear, common-sense safeguard that respects both biology and the rights of our daughters.

Vote yes on SB 8. Texas families are counting on you to protect our children.

Suzanne Hammond

Self

Austin, TX

I urge you to support SB8, the Womens privacy act. It is critical to protect the privacy, safety and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms.

Renée Harrington

Self SAHM

Houston, TX

IN FAVOR OF!!!

Susan Waldman

self

Houston, TX

As a Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. This bill endangers the safety of Texans by enabling harassment of anyone who doesn't conform to rigid gender norms—especially transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

Bathroom restrictions like these have been shown to increase harassment, violence, and mental health risks, particularly among transgender and nonbinary youth. SB 8 already failed in 2017, and similar efforts have proven unenforceable elsewhere.

Our Jewish tradition teaches that every person is created in the image of God. SB 8 denies that dignity and promotes harm instead of compassion.

Texans have rejected this kind of legislation before. I urge you to do the same. Please oppose SB 8 and keep it from moving forward.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Karen Millerchip

self, Laboratory Manager

Houston, TX

I'm messaging Senator Middleton to not target trans people using public bathrooms as this is a non-issue and only hurts people in all communities.

Kelsey Baker

Self

Austin, TX

"We all deserve the freedom to pee in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8."

Kade Rainbow, Mr.

My Glorius Self

Amarillo, TX

SB 8 is not so great :(???Don't take me back to the cleaner restroom hahah.

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is {first name} and I live in {city, Texas}. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address {name an issue you are passionate about that impacts you and/or your community}. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Thank you.

Kiersten Barnett

Self

Austin, TX

To start, I am a cis woman, the group you feign to want to protect by enacting senseless bills like these and taking away millions of people's rights almost every day. This bill protects no one and ostracizes all. People should have the right to choose how they want to express themselves and the right to choose which facility best suits them. The bogeyman of the man dressing up as a woman to rape those within is tired and quite frankly, he still wouldn't be punished even if that strawman existed. Neither me or many of my friends and family care if someone wants to use the bathroom and the sign on the door doesn't match their birth gender. This is a disgusting use of resources, time, and outrage. Let people piss and fix actual problems in our state. Stop persecuting those who are a minority and will actively be targeted and attacked from this bill. Do the right thing, history will remember.

Melinda K Malone

Self

Sumner, TX

I support both HB 7 and SB 8. Thank you.

Olivia Hughs

Self

Forney, TX

I urge my representatives to oppose this bill. It is reductive and harmful to trans and non-binary members of our community. It is also a dangerous slope preventing subsets of people from other spaces other than bathrooms.

Christi Rhyne

Self

Atlanta, TX

Keep men out of women's bathrooms and sports.

Cristin Peterson

Hays County Republican Women

Wimberley, TX

PLEASE support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act. It is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. I urge you to ensure that SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters' safety and privacy in bathrooms and locker rooms are not negotiable. Thank you!

HALLOW Furman  
Self, UT Austin Student  
Houston, TX

On the surface, I am a person who may appear as something they are not. I wear skirts and dresses, I have breasts, but I also have stubble on my chin. My voice is low, masculine, and I always get called sir on the phone. I have short hair and don't shave my legs. These are all qualities which make people assume I am a transgender woman on a frequent basis. However, my original birth certificate says female. I was born unmistakably as a girl, but I often get dirty looks in the women's room, which, according to SB 8, is where I belong.

?

Policing bathroom usage based on gender identity does not protect women and girls. All this bill does is police the expression of everyone, which in turn reinforces rigid appearance-based standards that hurt people of all genders. Transgender men and women do not look a certain way or fit a certain box that can be profiled, nor do cisgender men and women. The vast majority of trans people fade into the background of society and would never be recognized as trans by how they appear. By attempting to police or punish people who don't fit into a certain ideal of gendered standards, no one wins.

?

Trans people who cannot pass as their true identity also deserve safety and to use the bathroom they are comfortable with, regardless of these standards. Existing as an out, non-passing trans person is already a scary and precarious experience, largely in part due to laws like this. They are not a threat to women and girls, SB 8 is. They want to live alongside everyone else like you or I, and as research and headlines show it is much more dangerous to be a trans person in their preferred bathroom than to be a cis person in the same room as someone trans.

Katherine Trundt, Dr.  
Self. Education Specialist/Psychologist  
Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the restroom in peace without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I oppose SB8.

Michael Kochumuttom  
self  
Lewisville, TX

I strongly oppose SB 8. This bill does the opposite of what it proposes. We have seen individuals targeting women, accusing them of being men and demanding to inspect their bodies. This bill has no place in Texas.

Patricia Menikos  
Self. Retired  
Corsicana, TX

Please bring this bill to a vote and pass this important protection for women and girls. Stop the loopholes which allow this to continue and vote for severe penalties to those who ignore and violate the law. Support biological designation at birth and stop the egregious assault on females.

Olivia Barnard  
OBRE  
Austin, TX

I support Texas SB 8 because it preserves women's right to privacy, safety, and dignity in spaces uniquely theirs. It does so through fair, reasoned, and respectful policy ensuring that women continue to feel secure and affirmed in the public sphere. No girl or woman should ever have to question, worry or fear who she is sharing a private or intimate space with.

Kia Khadem  
self  
Coppell, TX

I oppose SB 8 as I believe that this bill will lead to sexual harassment and discrimination against women.

Kyle Baker  
self, Data Scientist  
ALLEN, TX

We must protect our girls in Texas! I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation!

Brandi Stewart  
Self  
Glenn Heights, TX

I support this bill

Sarah Gray  
Self  
Austin, TX

I'm getting real tired of having to comment on the same old culture wars because y'all have no imagination. Let it be known that I OPPOSE SB 8. I urge the committee to not use trans people as a bargaining chip for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. And let's also remember that history and the courts have shown us that separate is NOT equal. Don't pass SB 8. Focus on more important things.

Jennifer Larrew

Self

Lakeway, TX

State Affairs Committee Members,

I am disappointed to see another attempt at a bathroom bill. I am the parent of a child who is 4 years old and I would be proud to have a trans woman in the bathroom with us. It is obvious that the majority party wants to erase trans people. My guess is that most of you have never met a trans woman or you would know that they are not intimidating. And if this passes, then what? You would require a trans women to go into a mens room? How would that go? Would they be harassed? As it is, I have heard 2 recent stories of cis gender women being forced to prove that they were in the right bathroom. Would you want that trauma for your daughters?

It is proven that trans women are more likely to be the victims of crime, not the perpetrators. So by passing this bill, you are essentially putting Texans in danger. That is wrong!

I grew up in a church that told me that gay people are sinners and that their marriages are not allowed to exist. I think this is extremely harmful rhetoric. One of my friends from church later came out as gay (though it was NOT a surprise to anyone who knew him). I know from watching him that NO one would choose to be gay. No one. It is the much harder path as families chose to abandon their children. I feel the same thing about gender dysphoria. No ONE would choose that. When you are 4x as likely to be the victim of crime. NO ONE.

So what is happening here? We take a population that is already at risk for violence and add coal to the fire by telling them they have to stand out while peeing. This is not ok. Please please think about the people that you are seeking to harm.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Jenna Larrew

Leslea Stock-Lopez

Self/business Owner

Houston, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation and protect our girls.

Steve S.

Self

Meadows Place, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,

My name is Alex and I live in Houston. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans— instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms Texans.

Instead, I would really love to see the committee address Greg Abbott abusing Texas law to obey tyrannical orders of the felon, rapist and pedophile Donald Trump.

It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm every Texan.

Thank you

Dadriann Asbell

Self

Lewisville, TX

I raised two kids in Texas, boy and girl and they are now adults. My daughter has 4 kids and two of those graduate high-school in 2026 [twins]. As a family we agree that we do not want boys or men i girls locker room or even in sports. My grandson plays Farmer football and he doesn't want girls in boys locker room. He asked, why is this so hard? He said, why dont people have common sense? Please get a grip on this immoral behaviors and stop it from happening in our schools. This is mental illness and those kids wanting to do these acts need special attention in counseling.

Darcy Schneider, Ms

Self

Elgin, TX

Please let people pee in peace without having their genitals scrutinized! Trans people deserve respect just like everyone else. Thank you.

Jamie Zeske

Self

Irving, TX

This proposal interferes with the taboo against discussing gender ideology and embracing DEI.

By legislating public spaces "according to sex" this bill seeks to divide America along sexist and discriminatory gender lines while at the same time exposing children to gender ideology.

Furthermore, by enforcing a division of classes amongst Americans where one group is denied the same rights as another, this proposed legislation leaves decisionmakers vulnerable to expensive and unbeautiful DEI initiatives.

Louise Reyes

Myself

El Paso, TX

No. We should not be focused on restroom usage but rather the education crisis and low government funding. Not to mention the higher climb of low income families

Chelsea Christ

Self, Billing

Austin, TX

SB 8 does not protect anyone. All this bill does is incite violence against women by emboldening people with implied authority to bully, harass, and demand that women expose their genitals in order to prove that they are the type of "woman" a random person deems acceptable in a certain restroom. How else is this bill supposed to be enforced? That question is rhetorical because there is no other way and passing this bill would endorse these attacks to happen. Someone's genitals are absolutely no one else's business and that is the ultimate issue with this bill, it puts all types of women, and trans men, at risk of this harassment and assault. As a CIS woman, there is no part of me that is uncomfortable or scared of sharing a bathroom with a trans woman. Trans women are women and they are in the bathroom for the same reasons as any woman. What does scare me and what does keep me up at night is the violent nature in which this bill would be carried out against all types of women. If you truly have any care for the safety of women, you would vote no to SB 8. This bill is a dangerous distraction from work that actually needs to be done.

Dave Thomas  
Self  
Missouri City, TX

I urge this committee not to use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite the limited time in this special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender-expansive, and intersex Texans. The focus should be solely on addressing issues impacting all Texans, such as improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after the fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Mary Brown  
self  
Georgetown, TX

I am against this bill. Thank you to all on the committee who understand the harm the bill and these hearings do to the LGBTQ+ community. Thank you for understanding that there are more than 2 genders. Thank you for standing up for what is right and taking the time to understand the needs of ALL of your constituents. As a person of faith who has chosen to attend an inclusive, affirming church, I hope that others on the committee will have an epiphany and stop the harm you are doing.

Michael Simpson  
Texas resident since birth  
Corinth, TX

This is a disgusting use of legislative resources. The only support I would ever give anyone in this issue would be to provide funds for unisex bathrooms and only allowing single stall unisex facilities. As a single father of 3 daughters I have been forced to violate the outcome of this bill almost every time I took them out under the age of 6. Being unisex facilities would also help prevent the very real occurrence of changing a 9 month old girl who just had a blowout on the floor of the men's room of DFW airport. People use these spaces and facilities to do their business and go about their lives. The overinflated concern is a disgusting scare tactic meant to isolate the most vulnerable and marginalized. There is significantly more risk of the Trans individuals I know would be more targeted using their gender markers at birth because they have almost no features that would identify their gender assigned at birth. And how would this even be enforced? Someone posted at every bathroom door doing genitalia checks. I believe that would meet the standards of sexual assault.

Julie Croy, Mrs  
Self  
China Spring, TX

I support this bill.

Dr. Pamela Sardo  
self I'm a Pharmacist  
Josephine, TX

Dear Honorable Representatives,  
I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 8. SB 8 protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Every student deserves to learn in an environment where they feel safe, respected, and secure. This legislation strengthens important protections by ensuring that schools uphold standards that respect the physical and emotional well-being of female students. As leaders, you have the responsibility to safeguard the rights and dignity of children across Texas, and SB 8 is a meaningful step in the right direction. Please advance this important legislation to ensure that Texas continues to value the privacy and safety of its students.

Thank you for your service and dedication to our state.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Pam Sardo Josephine Texas

Shawn Fenwick

Self

Austin, TX

SB 8 is not about safety. It's about discrimination. Studies show that transgender Texans already face disproportionate violence, homelessness, and health disparities. Passing a bill that blocks them from restrooms only magnifies their risk. It solves no real problem, but it creates new harm.

Instead of debating how to exclude neighbors from bathrooms, we should focus on problems affecting every Texan. Floods and heat waves are killing residents, while housing costs skyrocket. Texans need solutions, not scapegoats. Reject SB 8 and show leadership that values people, not politics.

SB 8 is dangerous. Forcing transgender Texans into facilities where they don't belong increases the risk of harassment and assault. The American Medical Association has warned that anti-trans laws drive mental health crises and push vulnerable youth toward self-harm. That's not protecting Texans. That's endangering them.

We all want safe schools, safe communities, and safe families. SB 8 undermines that by targeting a small group of people for political gain. If you care about safety, then focus on real threats—gun violence, natural disasters, and public health—not manufactured ones.

Nisaa Kara

self

Almeda, TX

SB 8 explicitly harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I urge the committee to vote NO on SB 8.

Jean Stuntz, Dr.

self, retired

CANYON, TX

How is this bill going to be enforced? Are you going to stop every person going into these facilities and do a DNA test? You can do better.

Sharon Love, MS

Self

Austin, TX

I am bereft that this committee deflects attention from the urgent need of the Central Texas flood victims to use a tiny minority of trans people for political stunt theater. There is a limited amount of time in a special session and there are desperate people. The legislature is shamefully wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—to harm a tiny, microscopic population. At the same time, they are going to increase the risk that the young girls will be preyed upon by evil men who claim the right to force them to confirm that they are in the right bathroom.

Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. I personally dug through the mud with my hands to help these victims. The least you could do is prioritize their needs. But instead, you prioritize political stunts.

These good people need you. Put these stunts aside and take care of Texans!

J N

Self

Austin, TX

I disagree with the passing of this Bill Topic. I think this Bill attacks and punishes the people and individuals who are not the issue. Designating spaces in accordance with the sex assigned at birth will not create safer environments. If anything it will create more hostile environments by individuals who assume and/or associate a stereotypical look or appearance with the society's definition of female and male. And it will not protect people from the individuals set out to hurt and/or harm others.

Boo Knott  
Self  
Mansfield, TX

I urge this committee to not use trans people as bargaining chips for political gain. Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is shamefully intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, the focus should be solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

Lindsey Reed  
Self  
Carrollton, TX

Dear House State Affairs committee,  
My name is Lindsey and I live in Carrollton Texas. As a constituent, I ask that we spend our limited time during this special session addressing real issues that are impacting Texans—instead of wasting our time and money entertaining bills like SB 8. This bill is unnecessary and harms trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans.  
Instead, I would really love to see the committee address access to affordable healthcare, housing, and addressing challenges with unhoused population. It is disgraceful that we are spending our time targeting a small group of people as bargaining chips for political gain, when our leaders could instead, spend our time improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas that have taken the lives of Texas youth. Let's focus on that, instead of entertaining bills like SB 8 that target and harm trans Texans.

Autumn Chim

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Autumn, and I live in Austin, TX. I am a healthcare worker and the mother of twin toddlers. I am writing to strongly oppose SB 8, a bill that is as cruel as it is unnecessary.

As a healthcare worker, I am trained to identify and mitigate actual threats to public health and safety. This bill does not address a real threat. There is no evidence of a public safety crisis in our bathrooms. Transgender Texans are our neighbors, our colleagues, and our friends; they are not a danger to anyone. This legislation manufactures a problem where none exists, and in doing so, it causes profound and measurable harm to an already vulnerable population by promoting discrimination and stigma. Major medical and mental health associations are clear: affirming a person's gender identity is crucial for their well-being. This bill does the opposite; it is a legislative assault on their existence.

As a mother, I am trying to raise my children to be kind, compassionate, and to treat everyone with respect. This bill teaches them the opposite. It legislates fear and sanctions bullying. It tells my children that it is acceptable for the government to target people who are different. That is not safety. True safety is creating communities where all our children, including transgender children, can grow up without fear.

The most tragic part of this debate is the profound misallocation of this committee's time and our taxpayer resources. While we are here debating a solution to a problem that does not exist, Texans are still reeling from the consequences of very real and deadly failures of government.

Just last month, our communities were devastated by floods on July 4th. People died. They died because our disaster alert systems are outdated or, in some places, entirely absent. That is a tangible threat. That is a clear and present danger to the safety of every Texan. A government's primary duty is to protect its citizens from actual harm. Yet, instead of holding hearings on modernizing our emergency infrastructure to prevent future deaths, this committee's focus is on policing which restroom our transgender neighbors can use.

This is legislative malpractice. You are ignoring preventable deaths to legislate a solution in search of a problem. I urge you, abandon this discriminatory and pointless bill. Turn your attention to the real-life, life-and-death issues that actually affect the safety of our families. Protect us from floods, not from our fellow Texans. Thank you.

Nicholas Miles

self

Elgin, TX

This is a fool's errand. To try to enforce this would be like catching a greased pig - How are you supposed to confirm violations? Police budgets are already stretched thin enough as it is, and now you want them to spend their precious time checking IDs at the bathroom doors? If a person doesn't have ID, what are they supposed to do, check their pants? It's a waste of time to even hear this bill, let alone to vote for it, even more time wasted to pass it and try to enforce it.

This isn't actually a real issue anyone cares about anyway. If you just stopped trying to make it a big deal we'd all forget about it and go back to nobody caring. Please spend your time legislating things that actually affect Texans.

Heather Blackburn

Self

Seguin, TX

Common sense ban!

Emilie Christy, Mrs.

Self

Lakeway, TX

My name is Emilie Christy. I've been a resident of Travis County for over twenty years, and I'm speaking on my own behalf. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I urge you to vote against SB 8. First and foremost, vilifying trans people, for whatever reason: be it classic fearmongering, a distraction from corruption, or a lack of understanding basic biological facts-- whatever the case may be, vilifying trans people is wrong.

As Maya Angelou said, "Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."

Representatives, do better. You have the information.

SB 8 is being sold as legislation to protect women, when instead it is certain to put women in physical danger. This bill will sow fear, mistrust, and bladder infections, as anxious, or perhaps just prudent, people: grow too afraid to use bathrooms outside their own homes, ever. That of course puts places that should be accessible and safe out of reach for many.

Have you considered just how bizarre and unnatural it is to have to be concerned that some random stranger or troublemaker might decide that you don't look feminine enough to use a particular toilet? To wonder if that will lead to having to show your genitalia to other strangers?

There are no women who will be made safer by this bill, but so many more than you imagine-- than you INTEND, will be subject to violence because of it.

Representatives, do better.

If your goal is to protect Texas women, address the floods, install real warning systems, and remember that trans women ARE women.

This is a ridiculous waste of our time, when you could be addressing the real needs of Texans.

Thank you

Cheyenne Fryar

Self - student

College Station, TX

As a Texas resident and an educator in suicide prevention and mental health, I strongly oppose SB8. Students should be allowed to use the restroom that most closely aligns with their gender identity, not assigned sex, both for the benefit of themselves and others. Students who are able to present and act authentically have been shown to experience greater life satisfaction and better mental health, as well as decreased rates of suicide. Additionally, statistically this poses absolutely no risk to students who would not be affected by this bill. once again, I strongly oppose this bill and view it as a harmful initiative against the mental health and lives of students.

Karen Miller

Retired Department of Defense- self

Austin, TX

Do not support this Bill. It threatens the dignity and safety of our community!

Elaine Klein  
self  
Houston, TX

As a queer Texan and Reform Jew, I urge you to oppose SB 8. It threatens the safety of all Texans by empowering self-appointed “inspectors” to harass those who don’t fit their narrow definition of man or woman. The bill enables the targeting of groups like transgender people, children, women, and people of color.

The dangers of this legislation are clear. Research shows that bathroom restrictions harm transgender people through harassment and violence. Particularly among transgender and nonbinary youth, this legislation puts them at risk of depression and suicide.

This bill failed when it came before the legislature in 2017. When Odessa passed a similar measure last year, it was abandoned after they found the legislation cannot be enforced. Entertaining this bill distracts your attention from more pressing issues while escalating the risk of severely violating the bodily autonomy of Texans.

The Jewish tradition teaches that every person is created b’tzelem Elohim – in the image of God. That belief calls us to respect each person and celebrate the beauty of each person as their full self. SB 8 seeks to marginalize and demonize, rather than cherish and uplift.

Texans have made it clear that they oppose this legislation. Please oppose SB 8 and do not vote it out of committee.

S OS  
Self  
Meadows Place, TX

I'm opposed. This seems like a proposal made from fear and overwhelm, trying to run away from something rather than toward something. It makes me feel small, like when I read M. Crichton novels and he zooms out and points at the very small spec of time and space we're in, grand scheme of things. I hope this just means we're really early on in our time here and have a great deal more to look forward to. I know I wouldn't be where I am if I hadn't felt safe enough to make the mistakes it took to get here. I hope everyone involved and everyone this affects feels safe enough to make the mistakes it'll take to grow. Maybe to make it to some G. Roddenberry world where we all are fed, healthy and unified as a species and planet can only come from finding our way through bathroom bills. While we do that, I'm gunna go to my nephew's ball games or ballet dances or whatever he wants to get into, and if I gotta use the bathroom while I'm at it, I suppose I'll do what I have to do. You do what you have to do. Good luck.

Lisa Wegman  
Self, Healthcare  
Wichita Falls, TX

All are created equal! Please stop discrimination against transgender citizens now!

Daniel Polk  
self - church administrator  
Dallas, TX

This bill is atrocious, and needs stopped. Trans people are not a threat, but actually at risk when out in public.

Robert-Mary Satterwhite

Citizen

Greenville, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Albert Highfield, Citizen

Self, retired

Canyon Lake, TX

Every male that tries to use a facility (bathroom or locker room) designated for women should be arrested as a pervert. If he is a biological male, lock him up! The same goes for women trying to use male facilities!!! Godmade men and women different for a reason!!

KC McClain, Major General, (Retired), USAF

Self

Plano, TX

For the love of Pete, please work the real issues facing Texans everyday. Work the flood warning, work school shootings with other than thoughts & prayers, work how crops are going to be harvested, work the lack of housing construction, for that matter work affordable housing. The one thing that doesn't need to be addressed is what facilities trans peopl. This BS that bills like this are to protect "our women & girls" is offensive. I haven't seen one report where a trans women assaulted another woman in a bathroom or dressing room. I am a woman I welcome a trans woman, a gay woman to share space with me. I have shared space before & never felt threatened. In fact, I was glad the trans could use the facility as they would be safe & not threatened as they would be in a men's facility. This is a made up issue that makes trans people unsafe & waste tax dollars. Anyone who supports this bill should be ashamed of their prejudices & know that are putting other HUMANS in potentially dangerous situations. Vote NO on this bill.

Carla Franklin, Miss

self

Nash, TX

Please vote for SB 8. All God-made females deserve protection and privacy from God-made males. They should not have to deal with males in female places. (I wish we'd offer more help for the God-made males who are confused to transform their minds to match their bodies.)

Luc Gagnon

Self

Austin, TX

Please don't pass this. Our state is already totalartian enough we don't need more fascism here. Please veto this bill.

Joshua Young

Self

New Braunfels, TX

FOR IT

Mellany Lamb

Self

Flower Mound, TX

Support.

Tara Ballentine

self

Austin, TX

We all deserve the freedom to use the bathroom in peace—without having our gender questioned or our bodies inspected. That’s why I strongly oppose SB8.

Brenda Bush

Self

Houston, TX

I overwhelmingly support a bill that protects biological sexes, particularly girls and women, the right to privacy and protection in locker rooms and other designated areas. It’s what is right and just.

David Acosta

Self

Austin, TX

SB 8 is not about safety. It’s about discrimination. Studies show that transgender Texans already face disproportionate violence, homelessness, and health disparities. Passing a bill that blocks them from restrooms only magnifies their risk. It solves no real problem, but it creates new harm.

Instead of debating how to exclude neighbors from bathrooms, we should focus on problems affecting every Texan. Floods and heat waves are killing residents, while housing costs skyrocket. Texans need solutions, not scapegoats. Reject SB 8 and show leadership that values people, not politics.

Lindsey Lorehn

Self

Houston, TX

Despite there being a limited amount of time in a special session, the legislature is intent on wasting valuable time—and taxpayer money—on explicitly harming trans, gender expansive, and intersex Texans. Instead, they should focus solely on addressing the issues impacting all Texans, like improving disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery after fatal floods in Kerrville and Central Texas.

We should be focusing on real issues, not targeting a small minority for a nonexistent problem. I ask that the Representatives vote NO on passing SB-8 out of Committee.

Emily Engberson, Ms

Self

Rosenberg, TX

This bill would negatively impact the lives of Texans without providing any real benefits in exchange.

Karen Atkinson, Mrs.

Self/Trans advocate

Richardson, TX

I oppose sb8 by Mr. Middleton as it is discriminatory toward the transgender community and allows for an invasion of privacy of that community as well as the non-trans community. The trans community should not be used as a bargaining chip for political gain. Valuable time and taxpayer money is being wasted on a non-existent problem instead of focusing on current and pressing issues affecting ALL Texans, such as disaster planning and relief/recovery after the devastating floods in Kerrville and Central Texas. Disaster relief must be a top priority rather than targeting a minority population.

Melissa Smith

Self - retired

Houston, TX

This bill will NOT protect vulnerable adults or children and, instead, promises to give predators cover for accessing those groups. The first time my children are asked by some strange adult to "prove" they are "entitled" to be in a single-sex space, I will encourage them to refuse to comply and to immediately report that individual for predatory behavior. Getting kids accustomed to complying with a stranger's demands to violate their personal boundaries IS THE DEFINITION OF SEXUAL GROOMING. THINK ABOUT IT.

Tristan Hathorn-Wilkins

self

Diboll, TX

PLEASE DO NOT pass this ridiculous, dangerous, and already harmful bill! Conservative women do not want me, a bearded trans man, in the restroom with them, and when they or their men hurt me for obeying your law, I know no one will help me. We are such an unobtrusive non-violent people, and you are treating us in a deep un-Christian way. Evidence based on valid studies shows that trans people are not a threat, but many cis people are very much a threat to us. YOU, if you vote for SB 8, are very much a threat to us, and we will keep telling you about it loudly and at length and in numbers. Please just let us live in peace. Let us mind our own business and pee in peace, as we have been doing, never bothering anyone who wasn't looking for a reason to have a problem. You can stop this. Please stop this.

Gail Barnett, Mrs

Self /retired

Tomball, TX

I've never experienced any kind of problem with trans women or men being in the woman's bathroom. I think this bill is very dangerous for women who appear masculine and are unfairly profiled by bystanders. Stop attacking minority groups for existing. Please focus more attention to real issues that affect women. Transgender people are scared enough as it is. They aren't the problem.

Michele Barnes

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am FOR SB 8! NO MEN IN OUR BATHROOMS !!

Oliver Stabbe

Na

Albany, TX

I strongly urge this committee to reject SB 8. Using trans, gender-expansive, and intersex Texans as political pawns not only causes real harm but also distracts from urgent public needs. Research consistently shows that discriminatory policies targeting LGBTQ+ people worsen mental health outcomes, increase suicide risk, and drive people away from essential care. These attacks solve no actual problem—trans Texans are not a threat—but they waste taxpayer dollars and legislative time.

Meanwhile, Texas faces genuine crises. Fatal floods in Kerrville and across Central Texas highlight the urgent need for stronger disaster preparedness, emergency response, and recovery infrastructure. These are the issues that affect every Texan's safety and wellbeing.

Policy should be grounded in evidence and directed toward solving real challenges, not manufactured ones. I urge you to vote NO on SB 8 and instead focus on protecting the lives and health of all Texans.

Kathy Gonzales  
self-retired  
Fairview, TX

I support SB 8 because it protects the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please advance this important legislation.

Jared Ellis, CW2  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

Men have no business being in a woman's space at all, much less a restroom or locker room. While some may think that this being inclusive to certain people, it is giving male predators the opportunity to prey on women and girls while they are potentially in an extremely vulnerable state.

Robert Payne  
Self  
Canyon Lake, TX

I favor

Melodie Ellis  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

Men have no business being in a woman's space at all, much less a restroom or locker room. While some may think that this being inclusive to certain people, it is giving male predators the opportunity to prey on women and girls while they are potentially in an extremely vulnerable state.

Donette Bonner, Mrs.  
Self-wife-Mother-Grandmother-Woman  
Fairfield, TX

I am a woman, wife, mother and grandmother and I DEMAND as these titles listed as well as a tax paying voter that there be NO MEN ALLOWED TO COME INTO THE AREA, PRIVATE AREAS OF WHERE MY DAUGHTERS, GRANDDAUGHTERS, MYSELF OR ANY NATURALLY BORN FEMALES INTO DESIGNATED BATHROOMS FOR WOMEN EVER!!!!!!! Or Vice Versa!!!!!! It is just an open invitation for somebody to get HURT!!!!!!! So Again, I Implore and Demand whatever it takes to prevent this from happening it needs to be done!!!!!!

Vivian Goss  
Self/sales  
New Braunfels, TX

For

Robbie Raker, Ms  
self  
Katy, TX

VOTE NO.

mary clarkson

Self

Dripping springs, TX

?? Urgent Call to Action for Texas GOP Priority Legislation: Stop Sexualizing Texas Kids ??

The Women's Privacy Act (SB 8) by Senator Mayes Middleton will be heard in the House State Affairs Committee THIS Friday, August 22nd.

?? SB 8 protects girls' privacy by ensuring biological males cannot enter female-only bathrooms and locker rooms in Texas schools.

?? We need your help!

Action Steps:

? Submit a public comment to the House State Affairs Committee in support of SB 8:

??<https://comments.house.texas.gov/home?c=c450>

? Share this with friends and family and encourage them to do the same.

Sample Public Comment:

"I urge you to support SB 8, the Women's Privacy Act, because it is critical to protecting the privacy, safety, and dignity of girls in Texas schools. Please ensure SB 8 moves forward. Our daughters deserve privacy and protection in bathrooms and locker rooms."

?? The public comment portal is LIVE — comments must be submitted before the hearing ends Friday.

It's always great to follow up with a call to House Committee on State Affairs members to encourage support. You can find members here:

<https://capitol.texas.gov/Committees/Membership.aspx>

?? If you can attend in person, testify in support:

Friday, Aug. 22 | 8:00 AM | Room JHR 140

Our daughters' safety and privacy are not negotiable. Let's flood the committee with support and make sure Austin hears us loud and clear.

Garrett Ellis

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Men have no business being in a woman's space at all, much less a restroom or locker room. While some may think that this being inclusive to certain people, it is giving male predators the opportunity to prey on women and girls while they are potentially in an extremely vulnerable state.

Veronica Boyer

Self

Kaufman, TX

Please help protect women and children. We deserve safe spaces such as a bathroom without men.

Wanda Anderson  
Self/Retired Teacher  
Spring, TX

I have always been a female. I am 81 years old. That said, I would be more comfortable sharing a bathroom with Ru Paul than Chaz Bono. Which one would you prefer sharing a bathroom with?

Elaine Roome  
Self  
Austin, TX

This bill allows and encourages not just predatory behavior but whistleblowers, to seek out differences in others and weaponize them. We have the opportunity to be better, to be more human, to choose kindness and empathy. Be better.

Amanda Adams  
Self  
Austin, TX

Everyone deserves the freedom to use the restroom in peace, without having our gender questioned or our genitals inspected. I firmly oppose SB8.