

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence  
For HB 1738

Compiled on: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 8:38 PM

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Hearing Date: April 8, 2025 10:30 AM - or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted

Chris Donofrio

Self

The Woodlands, TX

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB 1738.

It is a significant start on addressing the State's view on homosexuality. This bill's changes are needed now.

I suggest the following additional changes. Making them removes a clearly outdated opinion, not fact, about a homosexual lifestyle. Today, Americans view same-sex marriage as acceptable, including having the right to adopt children.

1) Delete all the text found on p1, L13-15, not just the change found in HB 1738: "(2) state that homosexual conduct is not an acceptable lifestyle and is a criminal offense under Section 21.06, Penal Code."

2) Delete all text found on p2, L17-20, not just the change found in this bill: "(8) emphasis, provided in a factual manner and from a public health perspective, that homosexuality is not a lifestyle acceptable to the general public and that homosexual conduct is a criminal offense under Section 21.06, Penal Code."

So, let's start to move forward on this. No need to be tentative.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB 1738.

Please, pass it out of Committee.

Respectfully, Chris J Donofrio

Greg Torres, Mr

Self

Sweetwater, TX

This is a very bad and immoral bill and it goes against human nature. It has been a law due to the fact that it is wrong and goes against what the majority of people have always know is wrong, evil and against God. God created man and woman for each other. Any other type of sexual relationships are an abomination. Our fore fathers would never have allowed this type of behavior. As a registered Texas voter, I would ask all involved in the decision making vote against repealing this law and leave it in place as it was always meant to be. It has been there for a reason and a very good reason.

Debbie Wolgemuth, Ms

Self, Accounting

Waco, TX

OPPOSE

Eric Riddle

Self

Perryton, TX

I cannot imagine the Great State of Texas decriminalizing acts between two people of the same gender when those acts run contrary to norms in society. Yes, there has been a shift among those who are not offended by these acts to remove criminal penalties, however I have children, grand children, step children, step grand children and even a great grand daughter who I wish to have protection from heinous acts. This law would remove some of the legal consequences currently defined by statute in this Great State, and leave a legal void to prosecute those who would violate others. Rather than removing laws that protect the overwhelming majority of Texans from lustful pursuit and perversion, and define consequences out of the normal, lets reinforce mental health, and make normal, normal again.

Melinda Catching, Dr.

Self

Lexington, TX

Do not vote for this Bill! It does not represent Texas values!

James Ransdell, Mr

Self

Seguin, TX

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill No. 1738, which proposes to repeal Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code and remove related references from health and safety statutes.

While I understand that this law is currently unenforceable, I believe it remains an important reflection of the values held by many Texans. Striking this provision from our laws would send a message that undermines the importance of moral standards and traditional family values. Furthermore, altering educational materials to remove clear guidance on this issue risks confusing our youth about behaviors that have long been discouraged in the interest of public health and community well-being.

I respectfully urge you to vote against H.B. 1738 and to stand for policies that reflect the values and principles of your constituents.

Patricia Cummings

Self

Lorena, TX

I support teaching children under 18 that homosexuality is not an acceptable lifestyle.

Brenda Howard

Self

Belton, TX

I am AGAINST this bill because I believe in the Biblical principle of one man and one woman. Removing the Texas penal code would be an attempt to normalize a behavior that is often a result of sexual abuse. Ideally, we should always strive for a nuclear family of one woman and one man, for the ultimate success of children. This section of the Texas Penal Code serves a valuable purpose and that purpose has not changed. I am against this bill.

Richie Grant  
Arklatex Assessment  
Texarkana, TX

I am against this. I grew up with my brother who was raped 3 times by gay men. It scarred him for all his life. He was tormented by the memories committed suicide at age 39. Rick was incredibly intelligent and kind. Leave the children alone. Do not erase the penalty.

I am a Masters Level Licensed Professional Counselor and my Husband worked for the Bureau of Prisons heading a drug Tx program for 21 years as a Psychologist. We beg you, for all those who have been irreparably harmed and their families, do not pass this out of committee.

Jay Roberson  
self  
Austin, TX

Honorable Representatives,  
I urge you to vote against HB1738 and not pass it out of committee. Even though it apparently is unenforceable, Texas should stand on principle and not delete homosexual content from Texas Penal Code 21.06. While I don't hate anyone, I hate what the Bible clearly calls sin (Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Lev.18:22). This truth is timeless. It brings dishonor on those who practice it and the nation who tolerates it. To tell the truth is not hate or hate-crime if you want what's best for all people, families and this state. It only brings heartache, tragedy and ruin to innocent children who are caught up in it. I can't control whether people are offended by the truth, when my intent is their own good. Thank you.

Shann Turner  
Self journalist  
Lexington, TX

There are 2 sexes and that is fact.  
We are made man and woman. It is not the school or state's job to direct any child in his or her sexuality.  
Children are easily persuaded and confused.  
This is unacceptable and the law has no place shaping our children's sexual preferences. This is a hard NO for me.

Denise Cullens  
Self  
Axtell, TX  
OPPOSED.

Tyler Landrum  
self, inventory management  
Austin, TX

I support this movement. The law to be repealed is antiquated and not based in fact or an understanding of the best needs of Texans.

Tom Nobis  
self - retired  
Houston, TX

I am against this bill. This bill will not protect families or children in Texas. There is a need to stop sexualizing kids in Texas and this bill would act against that desire.

Karen Santhanam

Self

Cedar Park, TX

I support this bill. There is nothing wrong with homosexual conduct. It's normal and human and should never have been criminalized.

phil casali

self

point, TX

oppose

Deborah Avellano

Self

Corinth, TX

I oppose HB 1738, as it does not educate children that this conduct is illegal. I do not feel it should progress any further.

Rebecca Bullard

Self / communications

Austin, TX

It's time for the State of Texas to join the U.S. Supreme Court in protecting our right to privacy in the bedrooms of consenting adults. Please repeal the unconstitutional 1973 Texas law that prohibited intercourse between consenting adults of the same sex.

Hedrich Michaelsen

self

Austin, TX

I would like to state as a staunch ally of the LGBTQ community, which includes friends and family of mine, that I 100% support this long-overdue bill. People's consensual private lives should not be regulated or criminalized.

Hollie Toups

self

Austin, TX

Support this bill

Kenneth Embry

Self

Duncanville, TX

The end result of this bill would make homosexuality more acceptable in materials read by children and is an attempt to make homosexual conduct more acceptable in our great state of Texas. What a person chooses to practice with another consenting adult is one thing, but actively + agenda on children and on the wider culture is quite another which will not lead to social flourishing. Please vote AGAINST HB 1738.

Amanda McLaughlin

Self

Garland, TX

Homosexual conduct is not a criminal offense. The sexuality of a person is a private matter. Please pass HB 1738

Ruth York  
Self - direct sales  
Cisco, TX

I oppose HB 1738 and ask you to do the same. Research shows children raised by their natural parents in a loving marriage fare better on social and educational markers throughout life. Children have a right to know and connect with their own two biological parents where possible. Homosexual conduct is antagonistic to this important right of children.

Kristine Robinson  
Self/Social worker  
Austin, TX

Dear Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, I support this bill and the overturn of the unconstitutional 1973 Texas Law that made what consenting adults do in our bedrooms a crime. Thank you.

Daniela Silva  
Self  
Austin, TX

Please support HB1738.

Marcy Sutton  
Dallas  
Waxahachie, TX

Sexual interaction is a personal choice between consenting individuals and should not be a criminal offense.

Bianca Arvin-Eagle  
Self  
Lago Vista, TX

My name is Bianca Arvin-Eagle. I support HB 1738 and I urge you to do the same. Updating Texas Code to reflect the law that apredates allows consenting adults to engage however they like in the privacy of their own home is a simple and necessary action to keeping Texas freedoms free. SUPPORT HB 1738.

Lani Thomison  
Self  
Austin, TX

Please support HB1738.

Julie Croy, Mrs  
Self  
China Spring, TX  
Oppose

Teresa Martinez  
Self - State Worker  
Austin, TX

I support HB 1738 and urge you to, as well.

Thank you.