

Texas DeMolay Government Day

House Rules of Procedure

Rule 1: Election, Duties, & Rights of Speaker

- a. **Election of Speaker:** The state master councilor shall convene the house at the time determined by the government day director, and shall immediately take nominations for and preside over the election of a speaker in substantially the same manner as that specified for the speaker in conducting ordinary business pursuant to these rules.
- b. **General Duties of Speaker:** The speaker, with the assistance of the parliamentarian appointed by the government day director, shall enforce, apply, and interpret the rules of the house in all deliberations of the house; enforce the legislative rules prescribed by the statutes and the Constitution of Texas; and decide all questions of order.
- c. **Calling the House to Order:** The speaker shall take the chair on each calendar day precisely at the hour to which the house adjourned or recessed at its last sitting and shall immediately call the members to order.
- d. **Laying Business before the House:** The speaker shall lay before the house its business in the order indicated by Rule 4 and shall receive propositions made by members and put them to the house.
- e. **Decorum:** The speaker shall preserve order and decorum, and shall see that the members of the house conduct themselves in a civil manner in accordance with accepted standards of parliamentary conduct. The speaker may, when necessary, order the sergeant-at-arms to clear the aisles, seat members, or remove members or other parties from the house floor so that business may be conducted in an orderly manner.
- f. **Putting Questions to the House:** The speaker shall put questions to the house substantially in this form: "The question occurs on _____" (here state the question or proposition under consideration). "All in favor say 'Aye,'" and after the affirmative vote is expressed, "All opposed say 'Nay.'" If the speaker is in doubt as to the result, or if a division is called for, the house shall divide: those voting in the affirmative on the question or proposition shall signify so by standing first to be counted by the clerk, and after being seated by the speaker, those voting in the negative on the question or proposition shall do the same. The decision of the house on the question or proposition shall be announced by the speaker and recorded by the clerk, including the yeas and nays in cases of division.
- g. **Designee when Absent:** The speaker shall have the right to name any member to perform the duties of the chair related to presiding over the house in the speaker's absence.
- h. **Qualifications of Speaker:** The speaker:
 1. must be an active member of the International Order of DeMolay or the International Order of Rainbow for Girls;
 2. must have attended at least one government day prior to being elected to serve as speaker; and
 3. may not be a current or former state officer of the Texas jurisdictions of the International Order of DeMolay or the International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

Rule 2: Duties of the Parliamentarian, Clerk, & Sergeant-at-Arms

- a. **Parliamentarian:** The parliamentarian shall be appointed by the government day director; shall assist the speaker in resolving questions of order and legislative procedure; and shall generally assist the speaker in administering his or her duties.
- b. **Clerk:** The clerk shall be appointed by the government day director; be the custodian of all bills, resolutions, and amendments; and provide for keeping a complete record of the action taken on all bills, resolutions, and amendments.
- c. **Sergeant-at-Arms:** The sergeant-at-arms shall be appointed by the government day director; under the direction of the speaker, have charge of maintaining order in the house; execute the commands of the house; bring in absent members of the house when so directed; and supervise the door.

Rule 3: Floor Procedure

- a. **Obtaining the Floor:** When a member desires to speak or deliver any matter to the house, the member shall rise and respectfully address the speaker as “[Mr. or Madam, as applicable] Speaker” and, on being recognized, may address the house from the microphone at the reading clerk’s desk, and shall confine all remarks to the question under debate, avoiding personalities.
- b. **Multiple Members Rising at Once:** When more than one member rises at once, the speaker shall name who is to speak first. The speaker’s decision is final and not open to debate.
- c. **Granting Recognition:** When a member seeks recognition, the speaker shall substantially ask, “For what purpose does the [lady or gentleman, as applicable] rise?” and may then decide if recognition is to be granted, except that the speaker shall recognize a member who seeks recognition on a question of privilege as defined by Rule 3(j).
- d. **Interruptions:** A member who has the floor shall not be interrupted by another member for any purpose, unless the recognized member consents to yield to the interrupting member, such as in the case of raising a question to the recognized member. A member desiring to interrupt a recognized member in debate should first address the speaker for the permission of the recognized member. The speaker shall then ask the recognized member if he or she wishes to yield, and then announce the decision of the recognized member. The recognized member may exercise personal discretion as to whether or not to yield, and it is entirely within the member’s discretion to determine who shall interrupt and when.
- e. **Yielding the Floor:** A member who obtains the floor on recognition of the speaker and then yields to another thereby loses the floor to the other member. The member to whom the floor is yielded is only recognized for the remainder of the yielding member’s time as determined pursuant to Rule 3(f).
- f. **Time Limits:** All speeches shall be limited to three minutes in duration, and the speaker shall call the members to order at the expiration of their time. If so moved, the house may extend the time of any member by not more than three minutes only by unanimous consent.
- g. **Multiple Speeches on Same Question:** No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave of the house, nor more than once until every member choosing to speak has spoken, nor shall any member be permitted to consume the time of another member except as provided by Rule 3(e).

- h. **Opening & Closing Debate:** The mover of any proposition shall have the right to open and close debate.
- i. **Transgressions of Rules:** If any member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rules of the house, the speaker shall call the member to order, in which case the member so called to order shall immediately be seated.
- j. **Privileged Questions:** Questions of privilege are those affecting the rights of the house collectively, its safety and dignity, and the integrity of its proceedings; and those affecting the rights, reputation, and conduct of members individually in their representative capacity only.
- k. **Division:** By a majority vote of the house, a quorum being present, the questions shall be divided, but only when a motion to divide the house has first been seconded.
- l. **Tie Vote:** All matters on which a vote may be taken by the house shall require for adoption a favorable affirmative vote as required by these rules, and in the case of a tie vote, the matter shall be considered lost.
- m. **Record Vote:** On motion of any member, the speaker shall require the clerk to perform a record vote, provided the motion has been seconded.
- n. **Leadership Right to Floor Reserved:** Notwithstanding any other provision of these rules, the government day director and executive officer retain the right to obtain the floor at any time and for any reason.

Rule 4: Order of Business & Calendars

- a. **Order of Business Upon Convening:** When the house convenes on a new legislative day, the daily order of business shall be as follows:
 - 1. Call to order.
 - 2. Roll call of members.
 - 3. Unfinished business.
 - 4. The calendar assigned for the day by the government day director.
- b. **Order of Business Upon Reconvening:** When the house reconvenes for the first time following a recess, the daily order of business shall be:
 - 1. Call to order.
 - 2. Roll call of members.
 - 3. Pending business.
 - 4. The calendar assigned for the day by the government day director.
- c. **Calendars Controlling:** Legislative business of the house shall be controlled by the calendar assigned by the government day director.
- d. **Suspension of Regular Order of Business:** A motion to suspend the regular order of business to take up and consider a specified measure out of its regular order may not carry unless by a vote of two thirds of the house.

Rule 5: Motions

- a. **Motions Decided Without Debate:** The following motions, in addition to any elsewhere provided herein, shall be decided without debate unless otherwise provided by these rules:
 - 1. Motions for adjournment or recess.
 - 2. Motions to lay on the table.
 - 3. Motions to lay on the table subject to call.
 - 4. Motions to order a call of the house, and all motions incidental thereto.

5. Motions to extend the time of a member speaking under the previous question or to allow a member who has the right to speak after the previous question is ordered to yield the time, or a part of it, to another.
 6. Motions to order the previous question.
 7. Motions to divide the question.
- b. **Motions Subject to Debate:** The speaker shall permit the mover and one opponent of the motion three minutes each during which to debate the following motions without debating the merits of the bill, resolution, or other matter, and the mover of the motion may elect to either open the debate or close the debate, but the mover's time may not be divided:
1. Motions to suspend the regular order of business to take up and consider a specified measure out of its regular order.
 2. Motions to place a bill or resolution on the calendar assigned by the government day director.
 3. Motions to take up a bill or resolution laid on the table subject to call.
 4. Motions to suspend the rules.
 5. Motions to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days.
 6. Motions to order the previous question.
 7. Motions to order the limiting of amendments to a bill or resolution.
- c. **Motions Allowed During Debate:** When a question is under debate, the following motions, and none other, shall be in order, and such motions shall have precedence in the following order:
1. Motions to adjourn.
 2. Motions to recess.
 3. Motions to lay on the table.
 4. Motions to lay on the table subject to call.
 5. Motions to order the previous question.
 6. Motions to amend.
- d. **Statement or Reading of a Motion:** When a motion has been made, the speaker shall state it, or if it is in writing, order it read by the clerk, and it shall then be in possession of the house.
- e. **Withdrawal of a Motion:** A motion may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before a decision on the motion, even though an amendment may have been offered and is pending. It cannot be withdrawn, however, if the motion has been amended. After the previous question has been ordered, a motion can be withdrawn only by unanimous consent.
- f. **Motions to Adjourn or Recess:** A motion to adjourn or recess shall always be in order, except:
1. when the house is voting on another motion;
 2. when the previous question has been ordered and before the final vote on the main question, unless a roll call shows the absence of a quorum;
 3. when a member entitled to the floor has not yielded for that purpose; or
 4. when no business has been transacted since a motion to adjourn or recess has been defeated.
- g. **Matters Tabled Subject to Call:** When a bill, resolution, or other matter is pending before the house, it may be laid on the table subject to call, and can be taken from the table at any time except when there is another matter pending before the house. A bill, resolution, or other matter can be taken from the table only by a majority vote of the house.
- h. **Motions to Order the Previous Question:** Motions to order the previous question shall be admitted only when seconded, but are out of order when made subsequent to a

motion to table that is still pending before the house. A motion to order the previous question is not itself subject to a motion to table. As in all other propositions, a motion to order the previous question may be taken by a record vote if demanded by any member. If ordered by a majority of the members voting, a quorum being present, the motion shall have the effect of cutting off all debate except as allowed by Rule 5(i).

- i. **Limitation of Debate After Previous Question Ordered:** After the previous question has been ordered, there shall be no debate upon the question on which it has been ordered, except that the mover of the proposition or amendment upon which the previous question has been ordered shall have the right to close the debate on the particular proposition or amendment. Then a vote shall be taken immediately on the proposition or amendment.
- j. **Application of the Previous Question:** The previous question may be ordered only on the proposition or amendment before the house at the time for which it is moved.

Rule 6: Bills, Joint Resolutions, & Resolutions

- a. **Contents of Bills:** Proposed laws or changes in laws must be incorporated in bills, which shall consist of:
 - 1. a title or caption, beginning with the words "A Bill to be Entitled An Act" and a brief statement that gives the legislature and the public reasonable notice of the subject of the proposed measure;
 - 2. an enacting clause, "Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas"; and
 - 3. the bill proper.
- b. **Amendments to the Texas Constitution:** A proposed amendment to the Texas Constitution shall take the form of a joint resolution, which shall be subject to the rules that govern the proceedings on bills except Rule 6(f).
- c. **Authorship and Sponsorship:** A house bill or resolution may have only one author. A senate bill may have only one sponsor before the house.
- d. **Order of Consideration:** All bills and resolutions before the house shall be taken up and acted on in the order in which they appear on their respective calendars.
- e. **Second Reading Presumed:** A bill shall not have the force of law until it has been read on three several legislative days in each chamber and free discussion allowed, unless this provision is suspended by a vote of four fifths of the members present and voting, a quorum being present. The yeas and nays shall be taken on the question of suspension by record vote. Bills listed on the calendar assigned by the government day director shall be presumed have been read the first time already.
- f. **Limiting a Bill to a Single Subject:** Each bill shall contain only one subject.
- g. **Adoption of Joint Resolution:** A joint resolution shall be adopted on any reading after the first if it receives a vote of two thirds of the elected membership of the house. A joint resolution that does not receive a vote of two thirds of the elected membership of the house may be adopted only if it receives a simple majority vote of the elected membership of the senate on both second and third reading, unless the joint resolution proposes an amendment to the Texas Constitution, in which case if it does not receive a two thirds vote of the elected membership of the house it fails of adoption.
- h. **Resolutions:** Resolutions shall be considered by the house only at the time assigned for their consideration on the calendar assigned by the government day director, and shall require only a simple majority vote on first reading for adoption.
- i. **Filing:** Bills, joint resolutions, and resolutions listed on the calendar assigned by the government day director are presumed filed. Before being added to the calendar or

otherwise taken under consideration by the appropriate motion, other bills, joint resolutions, and resolutions must first be filed with and appropriately numbered by the clerk.

Rule 7: Amendments

- a. **Acceptable Motions to Amend:** When a bill, joint resolution, or resolution is under consideration, a motion to amend and a motion to amend that amendment shall be in order.
- b. **Motions on a Different Subject Offered as Amendments:** No motion or proposition on a subject different from the subject under consideration shall be admitted as an amendment.
- c. **Amendments Affecting Original Purpose:** No bill shall be amended so as to change its original purpose.
- d. **Filing of Amendment:** Amendments must be filed with the clerk.
- e. **Amending Titles & Captions:** It shall not be in order to amend a title or caption of a bill.
- f. **Motion to Limit Amendments:** A motion to limit amendments, having first been seconded, shall be put to a vote of the house, and if it carries, shall preclude the filing of any further amendments to the proposition then under consideration before the house.

Rule 8: Interactions with Senate

- a. **Messages from the Senate:** All messages from the senate shall be announced to the house by the sergeant-at-arms upon arrival, and shall be received by the speaker and read to the house by the messenger when announced.
- b. **Messages to the Senate:** Messages to the Senate may be adopted by resolution, and must instruct the sergeant-at-arms to deliver the message to the senate at a specified date and time.

TEXAS DEMOLAY GOVERNMENT DAY 2025
CALENDAR FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

***** RESOLUTIONS CALENDAR *****
HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

HR 1

Urging the leadership of the Texas jurisdictions of the International Order of DeMolay and the International Order of Rainbow for Girls to create a Blood Drive Award to be given to members who donate blood or volunteer at a donation center or blood drive event no less than three times.

HR 2

Urging United States President Donald J. Trump to annex the Dominion of Canada and the Autonomous Territory of Greenland.

***** CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS CALENDAR *****
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS
SECOND READING

HJR 1

Proposing a constitutional amendment legalizing lotteries, gift enterprises, and games of chance and authorizing the Legislature to regulate lotteries, gift enterprises, and games of chance by general law.

***** GENERAL STATE CALENDAR *****
HOUSE BILLS
SECOND READING

HB 1

Relating to the transfer for an athletic participation purpose of a student from the school district of the student's residence to another district.

HB 2

Relating to exempting certain homeless individuals from the payment of tuition and fees at public institutions of higher education.

HB 3

Relating to prohibiting the use of photographic traffic enforcement systems.

HB 4

Relating to prohibiting protests on the campus of a school.

HB 5

Relating to requirements for and municipal regulation of dogs in an outdoor dining area of a food service establishment.

HB 6

Relating to prohibiting the manufacture, processing, possession, distribution, offer for sale, and sale of cell-cultured protein.

HB 7

Relating to access to social media websites by minors.

HB 8

Relating to prohibiting public schools from requiring students or employees to receive coronavirus vaccinations.

HB 9

Relating to the display of the Ten Commandments in public schools.

HB 10

relating to authorizing equal opportunity for access by home-schooled students to University Interscholastic League sponsored activities; authorizing a fee.

HB 11

Relating to renaming the Gulf of Mexico the Gulf of America.

HB 12

Relating to the creation of the Texas Commission on Government Efficiency.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1

WHEREAS, The national supply of blood donated for medical use is at critically low levels according to the Blood Centers of America and other blood banks across the country; and

WHEREAS, It is the patriotic duty of International Order of DeMolay and the International Order of Rainbow for Girls to encourage young men and women to support our blood banks by donating their blood or volunteering at donation centers and blood drive events; and

WHEREAS, An award for members of the two organizations who donate blood and volunteer at at donation centers and blood drive events would encourage members of appropriate age and weight, as required by law, to do so; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 2025 Texas DeMolay Government Day, hereby urge the leadership of the Texas jurisdictions of the International Order of DeMolay and the International Order of Rainbow for Girls to create a Blood Drive Award to be given to members who donate blood or volunteer at a donation center or blood drive event no less than three times; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be delivered to the executive officers of said jurisdictions.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2

WHEREAS, The threats to the national security of the United States of America imposed by its geopolitical adversaries, including Russia, China, North Korea, and Iran, are serious and require immediate attention; and

WHEREAS, The economic security of the United States of America requires access to additional natural resources and the protection of our primary routes of trade and transportation by air, land, and sea to the greatest extent practicable; and

WHEREAS, The lands and waters of Canada and Greenland contain bountiful natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Canada and Greenland are well position to serve as bases of operations for the United States armed forces in protecting our merchant fleet at sea and our commercial aerial assets as they are engaged in international travel and trade; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 2025 Texas DeMolay Government Day, hereby urge United States President Donald J. Trump immediately take all action he believes to be necessary and appropriate, including entering into negotiations or engaging in military operations, to secure the Dominion of Canada and the Autonomous Territory of Greenland

as territories of the United States of America; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be delivered to the Executive Office of the President of the United States of America.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment legalizing lotteries, gift enterprises, and games of chance and authorizing the Legislature to regulate lotteries, gift enterprises, and games of chance by general law.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 47, Article III, Texas Constitution, is repealed.

SECTION 2. Article III, Texas Constitution, is amended by adding Section 47a to read as follows:

Sec. 47a. LOTTERIES, GIFT ENTERPRISES, AND GAMES OF CHANCE AUTHORIZED; LEGISLATURE AUTHORIZED TO REGULATE. (a) The Legislature shall pass no law generally prohibiting lotteries, gift enterprises, and games of chance, and any law having such effect is void and unenforceable.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the Legislature may, by general law, regulate lotteries, gift enterprises, and games of chance to vindicate the interests of the citizens of this state as they relate to their health, welfare, and morals.

SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be

submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 4, 2025. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment legalizing lotteries, gift enterprises, and games of chance and authorizing the Legislature to regulate lotteries, gift enterprises, and games of chance by general law."

H.B. No. 1

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the transfer for an athletic participation purpose of a student from the school district of the student's residence to another district.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 25.036, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) Any child, other than a high school graduate, who is younger than 19 years of age and eligible for enrollment in grades 9 through 12 on September 1 of any school year may transfer not more than once for an athletic participation purpose from the child's school district of residence to another district in this state if both the receiving district and the applicant's parent or person standing in parental relation to the applicant jointly approve and timely agree in writing to the transfer for an athletic participation purpose. The receiving district may not deny a transfer application under this subsection on the basis of a child's sex, race, national origin, ancestral language, or disability. A transfer under this

subsection remains effective until the child graduates from the receiving district, unless the child withdraws from the receiving district.

SECTION 2. Section 33.081, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b-1) The University Interscholastic League may not penalize or sanction a student for transferring to a school district for an athletic participation purpose, or penalize or sanction the school district that receives the transferring student, if the transfer meets the requirements of Section 25.036(a-1).

SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to exempting certain homeless individuals from the payment of tuition and fees at public institutions of higher education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 54, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 54.3671 to read as follows:

Sec. 54.3671. EXEMPTIONS FOR HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS. (a)

In this section, "homeless individual":

(1) means an individual who:

(A) lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; or

(B) has a primary nighttime residence that is:

(i) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations, including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill;

(ii) an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be

institutionalized; or

(iii) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; and

(2) does not include an individual who is imprisoned or otherwise detained in a correctional facility.

(b) A homeless individual is exempt from the payment of tuition and fees to an institution of higher education authorized in this chapter, including tuition and fees charged by an institution of higher education for a dual credit course or other course for which a high school student may earn joint high school and college credit.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting the use of photographic traffic enforcement systems.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 707, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Sections 707.020 and 707.021 to read as follows:

Sec. 707.020. RED LIGHT CAMERAS PROHIBITED. (a)
Notwithstanding any other law, a local authority may not implement or operate a photographic traffic signal enforcement system with respect to a highway or street under the jurisdiction of the authority.

(b) The attorney general shall enforce this section.

Sec. 707.021. USE OF EVIDENCE FROM RED LIGHT CAMERAS PROHIBITED. Notwithstanding any other law, a local authority may not issue a civil or criminal charge or citation for an offense or violation based on a recorded image produced by a photographic traffic signal enforcement system.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting protests on the campus of a school.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. FINDINGS. The Legislature finds the following:

(1) The campuses of schools that offer pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, primary school, and secondary school classes are not public forums for purposes of speech or expression contemplated by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

(2) Maintaining order and preventing disruption are essential to creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning for schoolchildren.

SECTION 2. Chapter 37, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 37.090 to read as follows:

Sec. 37.090. PROTESTS ON CAMPUSES OF PRE-KINDERGARTEN, KINDERGARTEN, PRIMARY, AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS PROHIBITED. (a) A person may not engage in a protest on the campus of a school that offers pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, primary schooling, or secondary schooling, or any combination of pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, primary schooling, and secondary schooling.

(b) Each school district must incorporate into the student code of conduct required by Section 37.001 a policy prohibiting a student from engaging in a protest described by Subsection (a).

(c) A person commits an offense if the person:

(1) engages in a protest on the campus of a school that offers pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, primary schooling, or secondary schooling, or any combination of pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, primary schooling, and secondary schooling;

(2) is 18 years of age or older; and

(3) is not a student on the campus of the school at which the protest occurred.

(d) An offense under Subsection (c) is a Class B Misdemeanor.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requirements for and municipal regulation of dogs in an outdoor dining area of a food service establishment.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 437, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 437.025 to read as follows:

Sec. 437.025. REQUIREMENTS FOR DOGS IN OUTDOOR DINING AREAS; MUNICIPAL PREEMPTION. (a) A food service establishment may permit a customer to be accompanied by a dog in an outdoor dining area if:

(1) the establishment posts a sign in a conspicuous location in the area stating that dogs are permitted;

(2) the customer and dog access the area directly from the exterior of the establishment;

(3) the dog does not enter the interior of the establishment;

(4) the customer keeps the dog on a leash and controls the dog;

(5) the customer does not allow the dog on a seat, table, countertop, or similar surface; and

(6) in the area, the establishment does not:

(A) prepare food; or

(B) permit open food other than food that is being served to a customer.

(b) A municipality may not adopt or enforce an ordinance, rule, or similar measure that imposes a requirement on a food service establishment for a dog in an outdoor dining area that is more stringent than the requirements described by Subsection (a).

(c) The requirements described by Subsection (a) do not apply to a service animal, as defined by Section 437.023(c).

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting the manufacture, processing, possession, distribution, offer for sale, and sale of cell-cultured protein.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 433, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 433.057 to read as follows:

Sec. 433.057. PROHIBITION ON CELL-CULTURED PROTEIN. (a) In this section, "cell-cultured protein" means a food product derived from harvesting animal cells and artificially replicating those cells in a growth medium to produce tissue.

(b) A person may not manufacture, process, possess, distribute, offer for sale, or sell cell-cultured protein.

(c) To the extent another state law conflicts with this section, this section controls.

SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall adopt any rules necessary to implement the changes in law made by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to access to social media websites by minors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 509, Business & Commerce Code, is amended by adding Section 509.153 to read as follows:

Sec. 509.153. USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA WEBSITES BY MINORS PROHIBITED WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT. (a) In this section:

(1) "Social media website" means a website, an application, a program, or software that collects or processes personal identifying information with Internet connectivity.

(2) "Minor" means a child who is younger than 18 years of age who has not had the disabilities of minority removed for general purposes.

(3) "Personal identifying information" means any information, including sensitive information, that is linked or reasonably linkable to an identified or identifiable individual. The term includes pseudonymous information when used by a controller or processor in conjunction with additional information that reasonably links the information to an identified or identifiable individual.

(4) "Verified parent" means the parent or guardian of a known minor whose identity and relationship to the minor have been verified.

(b) The owner of a social media website may not permit use of the site in any way by a minor without the consent of the minor's verified parent.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting public schools from requiring students or employees to receive coronavirus vaccinations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 38, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 38.854 to read as follows:

Sec. 38.854. PUBLIC SCHOOL CORONAVIRUS VACCINE MANDATES PROHIBITED. A public school may not adopt or enforce a mandate requiring a student or employee to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the display of the Ten Commandments in public schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 1.0041 to read as follows:

Sec. 1.0041. DISPLAY OF TEN COMMANDMENTS. (a) A public elementary or secondary school shall display in a conspicuous place in each classroom of the school a durable poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments that meets the requirements of Subsection (b).

(b) A poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments described by Subsection (a) must:

(1) include the text of the Ten Commandments as provided by Subsection (c) in a size and typeface that is legible to a person with average vision from anywhere in the classroom in which the poster or framed copy is displayed; and

(2) be at least 16 inches wide and 20 inches tall.

(c) The text of the poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments described by Subsection (a) must read as follows:

"The Ten Commandments

I AM the LORD thy God.

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven images.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon
the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Thou shalt not kill.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant,
nor his maidservant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is thy
neighbor's."

(d) A public elementary or secondary school in which each
classroom does not include a poster or framed copy of the Ten
Commandments as required by Subsection (a) must:

(1) accept any offer of a privately donated poster or
framed copy of the Ten Commandments provided that the poster or
copy:

(A) meets the requirements of Subsection (b);

and

(B) does not contain any additional content; and
(2) display the poster or framed copy as specified in
Subsection (a).

(e) If a public elementary or secondary school has a
poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments in each classroom
that does not meet the requirements of Subsection (b), the
school may replace the posters or copies with posters or copies
that meet the requirements of Subsection (b) using public funds
or by accepting a private donation.

(f) A public elementary or secondary school must offer a
poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments described by
Subsection (a) in the school's possession that is not needed for
display in a classroom as a donation to another public
elementary or secondary school.

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to authorizing equal opportunity for access by home-schooled students to University Interscholastic League sponsored activities; authorizing a fee.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 33, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 33.0832 to read as follows:

Sec. 33.0832. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE ACTIVITIES.

(a) In this section, "home-schooled student" has the meaning assigned by Section 29.916.

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (g), a public school that participates in an activity sponsored by the University Interscholastic League shall provide a home-schooled student, who otherwise meets league eligibility standards to represent that school in a league activity, with the opportunity to participate in the activity on behalf of the school in the same manner that the school provides the opportunity to participate to students enrolled in the school.

(c) A home-schooled student who seeks to participate or participates in a league activity on behalf of a school is subject to the following relevant policies that apply to students enrolled in the school: policies regarding registration, age eligibility, fees, insurance, transportation, physical condition, qualifications, responsibilities, event schedules, standards of behavior, and performance.

(d) The parent or person standing in parental relation to a home-schooled student is responsible for oversight of academic standards relating to the student's participation in a league activity. As a condition of eligibility to participate in a league activity during the first six weeks of a school year, a home-schooled student must demonstrate grade-level academic proficiency on any nationally recognized, norm-referenced assessment instrument, such as the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, Stanford Achievement Test, California Achievement Test, or Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills. A home-schooled student demonstrates the required academic proficiency by achieving a composite, core, or survey score that is within the average or higher than average range of scores, as established by the applicable testing service. For purposes of this subsection, a school district shall accept assessment results administered or reported by a third party.

(e) A home-schooled student's demonstration of academic proficiency under Subsection (d) is sufficient for purposes of that subsection for the school year in which the student achieves the required score and the subsequent school year.

(f) After the first six weeks of a school year, the parent or person standing in parental relation to a home-schooled student participating in a league activity on behalf of a public school must periodically, in accordance with the school's grading calendar, provide written verification to the school indicating that the student is receiving a passing grade in each course or subject being taught.

(g) A home-schooled student is not authorized by this section to participate in a league activity during the remainder of any school year during which the student was previously enrolled in a public school.

(h) The University Interscholastic League may not prohibit a home-schooled student from participating in league activities in the manner authorized by this section.

(i) With respect to a home-schooled student's education program, nothing in this section shall be construed to permit an agency of this state, a public school district, or any other governmental body to exercise control, regulatory authority, or supervision over a home-schooled student or a parent or person

standing in parental relation to a home-schooled student beyond the control, regulatory authority, or supervision required to participate in a league activity.

(j) Subject only to eligibility requirements under this section for a home-schooled student to participate in a league activity:

(1) the curriculum or assessment requirements, performance standards, practices, or creed of the education program provided to a home-schooled student may not be required to be changed in order for the home-schooled student to participate in a league activity; and

(2) for a home-schooled student participating in an education program on January 1, 2021, the education program provided to that student may not be required to comply with any state law or agency rule relating to that education program unless the law or rule was in effect on January 1, 2021.

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to renaming the Gulf of Mexico the Gulf of America.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 1.004 to read as follows:

Sec. 1.004. GULF OF AMERICA. (a) In this section, "state agency" means:

(1) a department, commission, board, office, or other agency that is in the executive branch of state government and that was created by the constitution or a statute of this state;

(2) a university system or institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code; or

(3) the supreme court, the court of criminal appeals, a court of appeals, or the Texas Judicial Council.

(b) Not later than September 1, 2026, a state agency shall alter all official maps and documents in contemporary use by the state agency such that the body of water formerly known as the Gulf of Mexico is henceforth labeled the Gulf of America.

(b) Subsection (a) does not apply to maps and documents the state agency deems to be of historical value.

SECTION 2. Chapter 28, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 28.021 to read as follows:

Sec. 28.021. GULF OF AMERICA. (a) Not later than September 1, 2026, the commissioner shall update all references to the body of water formerly known as the Gulf of Mexico in the social studies curriculum required by Section 28.002(a)(1)(D) to refer to the body of water as the Gulf of America.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the commissioner may incorporate into the social studies curriculum required by Section 28.002(a)(1)(D) an explanation that the Gulf of America was once known as the Gulf of Mexico.

SECTION 3. Chapter 1, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 1.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 1.006. GULF OF AMERICA. (a) In this section, "political subdivision" means a county, municipality, special district, school district, junior college district, housing authority, or other political subdivision of this state.

(b) Not later than September 1, 2026, a political subdivision shall alter all official maps and documents in contemporary use by the political subdivision such that the body of water formerly known as the Gulf of Mexico is henceforth labeled the Gulf of America.

(c) Subsection (b) does not apply to maps and documents the political subdivision deems to be of historical value.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the Texas Commission on Government Efficiency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Title 4, Subtitle E, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 471 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 471. TEXAS COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

Sec. 471.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Commission" means the Texas Commission on Government Efficiency.

(2) "State agency" has the meaning assigned by Section 2052.002(e).

(3) "Political subdivision" has the meaning assigned by Section 172.003(3).

Sec. 471.002. ESTABLISHMENT. The Texas Commission on Government Efficiency is established in the office of the governor to advise the office on identifying opportunities to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse in state government.

Sec. 471.003. COMPOSITION; TERMS. (a) The commission is composed of nine members as follows:

(1) one ex officio member of the legislature

appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(2) one ex officio member of the legislature appointed by the lieutenant governor;

(3) seven members appointed by the governor.

(b) Members of the commission serve four-year staggered terms, with either four or five members' terms expiring January 1 of each odd-numbered year. The governor shall assign a schedule for terms.

(c) The governor shall designate the chair and vice chair of the commission from among the members of the council.

Sec. 471.004. MEETINGS, COMPENSATION, AND DUTIES. (a) The commission shall meet at least quarterly each fiscal year. Meetings may be held by videoconference or conference call.

(b) No member of the commission is entitled to compensation or reimbursement of expenses resulting from the performance of commission duties.

(c) The commission shall study the purpose and operations of state agencies to identify opportunities to reduce redundancy, inefficiency, waste, fraud, and abuse, and shall make relevant recommendations to the governor, lieutenant governor and speaker not later than December 31 of even-numbered years.

Sec. 471.005. ASSISTANCE OF STATE AGENCIES. State agencies and political subdivisions of this state shall

cooperate with the commission to the greatest extent practicable
to fully implement the commission's duties.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect January 1, 2027.