
Subject: FW: LEGISLATIVE ALERT: HB 749 - Ban on Taxpayer-Funded Lobbying - Hearing This Thursday, March 25

From: Maura Gast <mgast@irvingtexas.com>

Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 5:24 PM

Subject: FW: LEGISLATIVE ALERT: HB 749 - Ban on Taxpayer-Funded Lobbying - Hearing This Thursday, March 25

Per the discussion in today's Board Meeting.

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From: Focused Advocacy <info@focusedadvocacy.com>

Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 4:10 PM

To: Maura Gast <mgast@irvingtexas.com>

Subject: LEGISLATIVE ALERT: HB 749 - Ban on Taxpayer-Funded Lobbying - Hearing This Thursday, March 25

Call to Action: Contact your legislative delegation today

Legislative Alert

*Call to Action - Contact Your
Legislative Delegation Today*



HB 749 hearing scheduled this Thursday, March 25

Taxpayer-funded lobbying ban to be considered in House State Affairs on Thursday would silence cities, counties, school districts, public hospital boards, community colleges, regional economic development coalitions, and other important community partners who engage in the legislative process

CALL TO ACTION: Contact your legislative delegation today to express your opposition to HB 749, which would silence your ability to advocate at the Capitol for unique local interests, and take away from you the tools that will remain available to every other stakeholder in the legislative process

When and where:

This Thursday, March 25 at 8 a.m., the House State Affairs Committee is scheduled to hear HB 749. On Thursday, you will be able to watch the hearing [here](#).

[Review the committee posting »](#)

HB 749 would do the following:

- prohibit political subdivisions from spending public funds to hire lobbyists to advocate before the Texas Legislature
- prohibit local officials and other community partners from joining associations that employ lobbyists, or employing in-house, salaried professionals to monitor legislation and advocate for community interests

The following community partners would be silenced under HB 749:

- cities
- counties
- school districts
- public hospital boards
- community colleges
- river authorities
- ESDs
- special districts
- regional economic development coalitions

Contact Information:

In addition to contacting your community's legislative delegation, you can contact the members of the House State Affairs Committee using this downloadable Excel file with contact info for committee members and their chiefs of staff:

Member	Phone	Member Email	Chief of Staff Email
Chair: Paddie, Chris (R)	(512) 463-0556	Chris.Paddie@house.texas.gov	John.Buxie@house.texas.gov
Vice Chair: Hernandez, Ana (D)	(512) 463-0614	Ana.Hernandez@house.texas.gov	Paige.Bufkin@house.texas.gov
Deshotel, Joe (D)	(512) 463-0662	Joe.Deshotel@house.texas.gov	Christian.Manuel@house.texas.gov
Harless, Sam (R)	(512) 463-0496	Sam.Harless@house.texas.gov	Ron.Hickman@house.texas.gov
Howard, Donna (D)	(512) 463-0631	Donna.Howard@house.texas.gov	Jacob.Cottingham@house.texas.gov
Hunter, Todd (R)	(512) 463-0672	todd.hunter@house.texas.gov	angie.flores@house.texas.gov
King, Phil (R)	(512) 463-0738	phil.king@house.texas.gov	ashley.westenhover@house.texas.gov
Lucio III, Eddie (D)	(512) 463-0606	eddie.lucio_iii@house.texas.gov	Sergio.cavazos@house.texas.gov
Metcalf, Will (R)	(512) 463-0726	will.metcalf@house.texas.gov	daniel.giese@house.texas.gov
Raymond, Richard (D)	(512) 463-0558	richard.raymond@house.texas.gov	kyle.mauro@house.texas.gov
Shaheen, Matt (R)	(512) 463-0594	Matt.Shaheen@house.texas.gov	Antonio.Mireles@house.texas.gov
Slawson, Shelby (F) (R)	(512) 463-0628	Shelby.Slawson@house.texas.gov	Caitlin.Dempsey@house.texas.gov
Smithee, John (R)	(512) 463-0702	john.smithee@house.texas.gov	Andrea.Stingley@house.texas.gov

Advocacy materials you can review and share:

(Click the images below to review the materials)

**SILENCING THESE
STAKEHOLDERS IS
DANGEROUS POLITICS**

*SB 234 (Hall) / HB 749 (Middleton) would silence local voices
who are accountable to local taxpayers and provide real
solutions in the legislative process.*

School Districts

Cities

Counties

Public Hospital Boards

Community Colleges

River Authorities

ESDs

Special Districts

Regional Economic Development Coalitions

Texans want real solutions to real problems facing Texas.
Reject petty politics.
Oppose SB 234 (Hall) / HB 749 (Middleton).

OUR HOME, OUR DECISIONS



The Texas Municipal League's (TML) "Our Home, Our Decisions" campaign is ready to roll! The goal of the campaign is to raise awareness about the State of Texas eroding the ability of Texans to have a voice in developing local solutions to local problems that affect their neighborhoods and their communities.

The League has developed informational materials for city officials to use in meetings with local groups and organizations. While the materials are suitable for any public use, they will likely be of greater interest to city residents who are already actively engaged in civic affairs through membership in business, professional, social, charitable, and neighborhood organizations and individuals who serve on city boards and commissions.

COMPONENTS

The first components of "Our Home, Our Decisions" are now available for download and use by TML member cities. They are:

- [Our Home, Our Decisions logo](#)
- [A three-minute video production](#)
- [Property tax video](#)
- [A PowerPoint Presentation \(PPT\)](#) that can be customized by cities for local presentations
- [A PowerPoint Presentation \(PPT\) with video](#)
- [Our Home, Our Decisions PPT Example](#) (Roanoke)
- [Our Home, Our Decisions PPT Example](#) (Coppell)
- [A two-sided handout \(PDF\)](#)
- [Tips \(PDF\)](#)

The video production can be used as an introduction to the slide presentation, and the handout can be photocopied and distributed to attendees. The components, as well as a document with tips on how to use them are available.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please feel free to modify all or parts of the materials to suit your city's needs. If you have questions about the materials or want additional advice on how to use them, [email Legislation](#).



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