

DISTRICT 10

[DELIVERED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL]

February 10, 2023

Governor Abbott:

It is an honor to serve 30 million Texans alongside you. As you are aware, the Legislature is prohibited from acting on legislation during the first 60 days of session, unless you specifically designate "emergency items." It is my understanding that you plan to lay these items out during your State of the State address next week. While there is a long list of items that deserve our attention this session, I would like to respectfully ask that you include the following in your "emergency items" list:

1) Protect Texans by securing the border

President Biden is solely responsible for the economic, public health, humanitarian, and national security disaster on our southern border. However, Texas can – and must – save America from this crisis using all available tools. Thank you for supporting my "Texas Title 42" proposal to use our public health authority to secure the border by requiring immediate deportations. The federal Title 42 order will likely end in May, and, by the Biden Administration's own estimates, this will result in over 500,000 illegal crossings per month. This is undisputedly an emergency matter requiring immediate action.

2) Empower parents with education freedom

You are right to demand universal parental choice in education, and Texas should be leading. Unfortunately, we are lagging far behind. Over 30 other states – including the nine most rural states in America – have empowered parents with some form of school choice. With Texas students falling behind and liberal indoctrination on the rise, parents deserve action now. This is going to be an uphill climb to defeat the stranglehold liberal teacher unions and taxpayer funded-lobbying organizations – who oppose every single conservative value Texans hold dear – have over legislation, and we need every minute of this session to make sure parents prevail.

3) Protect children by banning gender modification procedures

You were right to call these procedures child abuse, and the Texas legislature should have banned them last session. Since that did not happen, please allow us to begin working to protect children. Additionally, there is an option to protect children now: your appointees on the Texas Medical Board should replicate what their counterparts in Florida did administratively and immediately add these procedures to the list of prohibited practices. Further delay literally risks lives.

4) Protect medical freedom by banning all COVID-19 vaccine mandates

COVID-19 vaccine mandates destroy medical freedom and have no place in Texas. Thank you for your repeated calls since 2021 for the legislature to statutorily protect the medical freedom of Texans by comprehensively banning all public and private COVID-19 vaccine mandates. Texas should be leading on this issue, and the legislature should have banned them during the 87th legislature. Unfortunately, careers and liberties are being ruined at this time due to existing mandates in Texas. Please allow us to immediately ban these tyrannical COVID-19 vaccine mandates without further delay.

Thank you for your consideration,

Brian Harrison