

Texas Legislative Update Summary of 88th Session

Predatory Gambling Alert for Important Hearings on March 22, 2023

The SBTC and TERLC Legislative Priorities for the 88th Legislative Session are [here](#).

There are some very important hearings this week at the Texas Capitol, and we need your help!

Even if you are not able to come to the Austin Capitol to testify, provide written copies of your testimony, or sign in at the computer kiosks in person, there is plenty you can do to be a voice of truth in the public square!

You can call our Texas House Representatives or Texas Senators, and/or submit your comments online - *AGAINST the seven predatory gambling bills below. See INFO and ACTION points below.*

PREDATORY GAMBLING BILLS - Wednesday, March 22, 2023, 10:30 a.m. - [schedule](#)
Read our latest - "Texans Say NO to State-Sanctioned Predatory Gambling" [here](#)
The 2022 SBTC resolution AGAINST Predatory Gambling is [here](#)

What:

HJR 155 and HB 2843 - These two bills would legalize CASINOS and other forms of predatory gambling. Texas has been very successful without state-sanctioned, predatory gambling. This is devastating and wrong for Texas, our families, and young people.

To understand the dangers of Casino gambling see here:

*stoppredatorygambling.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2019-Briefing-on-Regional-Casinos.docx.pdf

*stoppredatorygambling.org/sitedevelopment2017/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Georgia-State-problem-gambler-costs.pdf

View HJR 155 text [here](#)

View HB 2843 text [here](#)

HJR 102 and HB 1942 - These two bills would legalize Sports Betting in Texas which is known to be highly addictive, especially for our young people. The Sports Betting industry preys on our citizens with aggressive and constant marketing campaigns and ads that lure them with free offers which result in loss of income along with many damaging problems and addictions.

To understand the dangers of Sports Betting see here:

* gabaptist.egnyte.com/dl/DTpe6TXkog

* vox.com/23641580/draftkings-fanduel-sports-betting-gambling-problems-march-madness

View HJR 102 text [here](#)

View HB 1942 text [here](#)

HB 904 and HB 2142 - These two bills would legalize Daily Fantasy Sports by amending the definition of a bet. To understand the dangers of DFS - especially to our youth - and to understand that this is **not** the same as the hobby form of traditional, season-long fantasy sports, see here:

*stoppredatorygambling.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/2018-Fact-Sheet-for-National-Website.doc.pdf

[*ncfamily.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/FNC-Spring2016-DailyFantasySports.pdf](http://ncfamily.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/FNC-Spring2016-DailyFantasySports.pdf)

HB 904 text [here](#)

HB 2142 text [here](#)

When: Wednesday, March 22, 2023, 10:30 a.m. (arrive 45 minutes early to park and sign in)

Where: Texas Capitol, House State Affairs Committee, Room JHR 140

Park: Capitol Visitor's Parking Garage at 1201 San Jacinto Blvd, Austin, TX 78701, or Bob Bullock History Museum, 1800 Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701

Action:

*If you choose to testify AGAINST these bills, testimony will be limited to 3 minutes per person, per bill.

*You can sign in AGAINST HJR 102, HB 1942, HB 904, HB 2142, HJR 155, HB 2843 at the computer

kiosks located near the hearing room - JHR 140.

*You can also choose just to provide written testimony only by bringing 13 copies for each bill with you and handing them to the committee clerk in the hearing room.

*Or you can submit written comments online [here](#) AGAINST HJR 102, HB 1942, HB 904, HB 2142, HJR 155, HB 2843.

*You can call or email your elected representative and let them know you are opposed to these bills - wrm.capitol.texas.gov/home.

*Please also contact the members of the State Affairs Committee and ask them to vote AGAINST these gambling bills - HJR 102, HB 1942, HB 904, HB 2142, HJR 155, HB 2843. Texas does not need predatory gambling which harms our youth and families.

House State Affairs Committee Members:

Rep. Todd Hunter - (512) 463-0672

Rep. Ana Hernandez (512) 463-0614

Rep. Rafael Anchia (512) 463-0746

Rep. Jay Dean (512) 463-0750

Rep. Charlie Geren (512) 463-0610

Rep. Ryan Guillen (512) 463-0416

Rep. Will Metcalf (512) 463-0726

Rep. Richard Pena Raymond (512) 463-0558

Rep. Shelby Slawson (512) 463-0628

Rep. John T. Smithee (512) 463-0702

Rep. David Spiller (512) 463-0526

Rep. Senfronia Thompson (512) 463-0720

Rep. Chris Turner (512) 463-0574

What: HB 1759 Electronic Raffle Bill lobbied by professional Sports Teams - This bill not only opens Texas up for Class III federal gaming laws with IGRA, it is a set-up for sports betting. Electronic raffles are not the same as paper raffle tickets at ball parks. This would allow a statewide electronic raffle and people across the state can place a wager which we currently do not have the ability to do. How do you verify if someone participating is a minor? And no matter what is promised, it would be difficult to prevent out-of-state players. This is another attempt for the predatory gambling organizations to get their foot in the door in Texas.

View HB 1759 text [here](#)

When: Wednesday, March 22, 2023, 8:00 a.m.

Where: Texas Capitol Building, Licensing & Administrative Procedures, Room E2.010

Action:

*If you choose to testify AGAINST this bill, testimony will be limited to 3 minutes per person.

*You can sign in AGAINST HB 1759 at the computer kiosks located near the hearing room - E2.010

*You can also choose just to provide written testimony only by bringing 13 copies with you and handing them to the committee clerk in the hearing room.

*Or you can submit written comments online [here](#) AGAINST HB 1759

*You can call or email your elected representative and let them know you are opposed to this bill - wrm.capitol.texas.gov/home.