



Representative John Turner

District 114 | November 11, 2021

Significant bills passed in 2021

Bills were passed in the 87th Regular Session unless otherwise noted

Subject	Bill	Description	How Rep. Turner Voted
Budget & Taxes	SB 1	<p>SB 1, the budget bill, appropriates more than \$248 billion over fiscal years 2022-23. Among many other funding measures, the bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds public education at the same basic per-student levels established in 2019; • Provides an additional \$60 million for supplemental special education services; • Maintains funding for enrollment growth at institutions of higher education; • Provides \$897.6 million (an increase of \$39.5 million) to maintain current health insurance premiums and benefits for retired teachers through TRS-Care; • Provides an additional \$76.9 million to shorten the community waiver interest list for individuals with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities; and • Provides funding for many other traditional state functions such as transportation and criminal justice. 	YES
	HB 2	<p>HB 2 is a supplemental appropriations bill for fiscal years 2020-21. Included is \$44.7 million to start the process of building a new state psychiatric hospital in the DFW area. (Additional funding for this facility was also provided in SB 8 in the third special session, referenced below).</p>	YES
	<p>HB 5 <i>Second Special Session</i></p>	<p>Further supplemental appropriations bill that allocates funds to implement measures passed during the second special session, including an additional one-time "13th check" for retired teachers.</p>	YES
	<p>HB 9 <i>Second Special Session</i></p>	<p>Further supplemental appropriations bill that allocates \$1.8 billion in state funds over the next two years for border measures, including approximately \$800 million for border wall and barrier construction. This money is in addition to \$1.05 billion the legislature approved for border security in SB 1, referenced above.</p>	NO

Subject	Bill	Description	How Rep. Turner Voted
Budget & Taxes	SB 8 <i>Third Special Session</i>	Allocates much of the \$16 billion Texas received from the federal government as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Among other funding items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional funding for a DFW state psychiatric hospital - \$237.8 million • Replenishing the state Unemployment Compensation Fund - \$7.2 Billion • Staffing for hospitals and nursing facilities to assist with COVID-19 response - \$2.4 billion • Retired teachers' healthcare - \$286.3 million • Tourism and hospitality industry recovery grants - \$180 million 	YES
	SJR 1 <i>Third Special Session</i>	Proposes a constitutional amendment to increase the residence homestead tax exemption for school district property taxes from \$25,000 to \$40,000. School districts will be held harmless and the difference in revenue will be made up through state funding. The amendment will need to be approved by voters in 2022.	YES
	SB 8 <i>Second Special Session</i>	Allows people to qualify for the residence homestead property tax exemption in the year they acquire the property. Previously, a homeowner would have to wait until the beginning of the next tax year to receive the benefits of a homestead tax exemption.	YES
	SB 12 <i>Second Special Session</i>	Extends the school district tax rate compression for property taxpayers established in 2019 to those over 65 and those with disabilities.	YES
Electrical Grid	SB 415	Allows transmission and distribution utilities (TDUs) to contract to maintain emergency battery storage reserves to help ensure reliable service.	YES
	SB 2	Reforms the governance of ERCOT, including requiring every member of the governing body to be a Texas resident.	YES
	SB 3	Requires weatherization for certain power generation and transmission infrastructure and tasks ERCOT with inspecting facilities for compliance. The bill also establishes a critical infrastructure list for natural gas production sites.	YES
	HB 16	Bans the sale of wholesale electricity-indexed plans by retail electric providers to residential customers.	YES
	HB 1520	Provides for securitization financing for gas utilities to recover the costs of securing and providing services during the February 2021 winter storm and during similar events that may occur in the future.	YES
	HB 2586	Requires an annual independent audit of ERCOT to ensure its compliance with all Public Utility Commission standards.	YES
Public Education	SB 1365	Revises public school performance ratings and procedures for school districts that have received multiple years of unacceptable ratings.	YES

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Public Education	SB 1356	Authorizes members of non-profit teacher organizations to participate in tutoring programs to provide supplemental instruction to K-12 public school students on an individualized or small-group basis.	YES
	HB 547	Allows homeschool students who do not otherwise attend public schools to participate in UIL interscholastic competitions.	NO
	HB 999	Provides a path to graduation for high school students whose ability to take and pass the required end-of-course exams was impacted by the pandemic.	YES
	HB 1525	Makes revisions to address certain unintended consequences of HB 3, the school finance reform bill passed in 2019, including issues relating to local property taxation and revenue, charter school funding, and formula funding allotments.	YES
	HB 699	Protects students who are absent from school due to a serious illness or injury from being punished or being held back due to their illness or injury.	YES
	SB 3 <i>Second Special Session</i>	Imposes certain rules regarding the teaching of controversial subjects in public schools and prohibits the teaching of specified ideas related to race, among other provisions.	NO
	SB 7 <i>Second Special Session</i>	Provides for a one-time supplemental payment, known as a “13th check,” to retired educators.	YES
	HB 1585	Extends the Teacher Retirement System until 2033 and implements recommendations made by the Sunset Review Commission.	YES
	HB 25 <i>Third Special Session</i>	Requires student-athletes who compete in an interscholastic competition to play on sports teams that correspond with the sex listed on their birth certificate. The bill prohibits the use of corrected or amended birth certificates unless the change was to correct a clerical error.	NO
Higher Education	SB 52 <i>Third Special Session</i>	Authorizes the issuance of revenue bonds to fund construction projects at public institutions of higher education.	YES
	SB 1385	Allows college athletes to receive compensation for the use of their name, likeness, and image.	YES
Pandemic / Disaster Response	SJR 27	Proposed constitutional amendment to prohibit the state or any local government from issuing any order that limits religious services, including any temporary disaster- or pandemic-related limits or restrictions. (Constitutional amendment passed as Proposition 3 in November 2021).	NO

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Pandemic / Disaster Response	SB 968	Establishes a task force to study the state's COVID response, sets standards for minimum PPE supply, and creates the Office of State Epidemiology.	YES
	SB 969	Requires the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to promptly and accurately present information regarding a public health crisis and develop statewide information reporting standards for health entities.	YES
	SB 984	Requires the Task Force on Infectious Disease Preparedness and Response to have at least one member who is an epidemiologist and requires the task force to meet at least once each year.	YES
	HB 525	Establishes religious organizations as essential businesses during disaster declarations and, among other provisions, prohibits governmental entities from altering a religious organization's activities during a declared state of disaster. The prohibition applies regardless of whether the alteration of activities is temporary or whether it is sought for reasons of public health or public safety.	NO
	HB 1239	Prohibits a government agency or public official from issuing an order that closes or has the effect of closing any "place of worship," defined as "a building or grounds where religious activities are conducted." The prohibition applies regardless of whether the closure is temporary or whether it is sought for reasons of public health or public safety.	NO
	SB 967	Provides for the expiration of certain public health orders after 15 days unless the applicable municipal governing body or county commissioners court extends the order for a longer period.	YES
Public Health	SB 827	Caps the cost of prescription insulin to \$25 per month.	YES
	HB 4	Allows multiple health services to be provided via telehealth/telemedicine.	YES
	HB 1935	Gives pharmacists the authority to dispense a 30-day emergency supply of insulin and diabetic supplies.	YES
	HB 133	Extends Medicaid coverage for new mothers from 60 days to 6 months.	YES
	HB 2658	Seeks to improve the administration and operation of the Medicaid managed care program by, among other measures, removing administrative hurdles that result in children cycling in and out of coverage.	YES
	HB 119	Prohibits discrimination against an organ transplant recipient on the basis of certain disabilities.	YES
	SB 1827	Establishes the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council to oversee the allocation of statewide opioid settlement funds and help address the opioid crisis in Texas.	YES

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Public Health	SB 224	Simplifies the process for renewing SNAP eligibility for individuals who have a disability or are over 60.	YES
	HB 2090	Requires health benefit plan issuers and third-party administrators to disclose the real, provider-specific price of a health care service, as well as the out-of-pocket expense incurred by a patient.	YES
Abortion	HB 1280	Enacts a prohibition on abortion that would go into effect if the U.S. Supreme Court were wholly or partly to reverse its precedent in <i>Roe v. Wade</i> .	NO
	SB 8	Allows a civil lawsuit to be brought by any person (other than a state or local government employee, or one who committed sexual assault against the woman undergoing the abortion) against any person (other than the woman undergoing the abortion) who knowingly provided, or assisted in providing, an abortion after the time when cardiac activity within the fetus is detected. This period has been described as approximately six weeks into pregnancy. The bill does not provide exceptions for cases of rape or incest. It provides that damages are a minimum of \$10,000, to be awarded to the person bringing the lawsuit.	NO
	SB 4 <i>Second Special Session</i>	Reduces the timeframe for a physician to prescribe abortion-inducing medication from the FDA-approved 10 weeks to 7 weeks, places additional reporting requirements on prescribing physicians, prohibits the delivery of abortion-inducing medication via mail, and bars prescription of such medication via telehealth.	NO
Elections	SB 1 <i>Second Special Session</i>	<p>Makes broad changes relating to the conduct of elections in Texas. Among other measures, the bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bans drive-through voting (other than for voters requiring certain curbside assistance), 24-hour voting, and distribution of vote-by-mail applications by public officials (unless the application is specifically requested by the voter); • Enhances the power of poll watchers at election locations; • Prohibits paid assistance to disabled voters; • Creates a felony offense for “vote harvesting,” defined as compensated in-person interaction with a voter in the presence of a ballot (including a mail ballot) intended to deliver votes for a candidate; • Imposes a new requirement for voters to provide numerical identification on both the ballot and the carrier envelope in order to vote by mail. 	NO
Public Safety	HB 103	Establishes the Texas Active Shooter Alert System in an effort to ensure that Texans are made aware immediately when an active shooter event is occurring.	YES
	HB 3712	Directs the development of training policies for law enforcement agencies and peace officers that prohibit intentional use of chokeholds and teach officers to intervene to prevent inappropriate uses of force.	YES

Subject	Bill	Description	How Rep. Turner Voted
Public Safety	HB 39	Seeks to better protect victims of family violence, sexual assault, abuse, stalking, and trafficking by revising various procedures related to obtaining and enforcing protective orders.	YES
Guns	SB 162	Creates the offense of making a false statement to obtain a firearm.	YES
	HB 1927	Abolishes existing permitting and training requirements for the carrying of handguns. Allows persons 21 or older, who are otherwise legally eligible to possess a firearm, to carry a handgun, openly or concealed, without first undergoing training or obtaining a license.	NO
	SB 20	Prevents a hotel from prohibiting guests from bringing in firearms and ammunition and storing them in hotel rooms.	NO
Local Government	SB 23	Prohibits counties from reducing year-to-year expenditures for law enforcement agencies, unless approved by voters in a special election. The bill applies only to the six largest counties in Texas (counties of population over 1,000,000).	NO
	HB 1900	Prohibits municipalities from reducing year-to-year expenditures for law enforcement agencies, unless an official in the Governor's office approves an exception. The bill applies only to the twelve largest cities in Texas (cities of population over 250,000).	NO
Criminal Justice	SB 69	Bans the use of chokeholds by law enforcement officers.	YES
	HB 929	Requires officers to keep body cameras turned on while wearing the camera and actively participating in an investigation.	YES
	HB 4293	Creates a court reminder program that would text criminal defendants when their court dates are scheduled.	YES
	SB 6 <i>Second Special Session</i>	Revises bail practices for criminal defendants by, among other measures, limiting the circumstances in which a judge may determine that an accused person can be released on personal bond before trial. Also implements a new assessment instrument for judges in making bail determinations.	NO
	HB 54	Prohibits law enforcement agencies from allowing the filming of peace officers in the line of duty to create a reality television show.	YES
Sexual Assault and Human Trafficking	SB 45	Establishes that sexual harassment by any employer, regardless of how many persons are employed, is unlawful. Previously, general protections against workplace sexual harassment applied to companies with 15 or more employees.	YES

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Sexual Assault and Human Trafficking	HB 2706	Streamlines processes related to the reporting and the preservation and analysis of evidence of sexual assault and other sex offenses.	YES
	HB 21	Extends the statute of limitations on a sexual harassment claim filed with the Texas Workforce Commission from 180 to 300 days.	YES
	HB 1172	Modifies law enforcement interview procedures to allow survivors of sexual assault the right to have an advocate present during interviews.	YES
Civil Jurisprudence	HB 19	Provides a separate framework for trial procedures, the use of evidence, and the determination of liability in civil actions involving commercial vehicle accidents, different from the framework that applies to non-commercial vehicle accidents and to other types of civil lawsuits.	NO
Environmental Regulation	SB 900	Creates regulations for certain above-ground storage tanks that hold large amounts of hazardous chemicals or petroleum products.	YES
	HB 7 <i>Second Special Session</i>	Prohibits certain transportation, storage, and disposal of high-level radioactive waste in Texas. Also forbids the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality from issuing a permit for the construction or operation of a facility that is licensed for the storage of high-level radioactive waste by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, with certain exceptions.	YES
Defense and Veterans Affairs	SB 623	Establishes a sexual offense prevention and response program for the Texas Military Department (TMD) and requires TMD to provide an annual report to the legislature related to sexual assault prevention and response activities.	YES
Business & Economic Development	HB 1024	Allows beer, wine and mixed drinks to be included in pickup and delivery food orders for off-premises consumption.	YES
	HB 1195	Ensures that businesses are not subject to state taxes for funds received through the federal Paycheck Protection Program.	YES
	HB 5	Helps expand broadband services to rural and underserved areas across Texas.	YES
Redistricting	HB 1 <i>Third Special Session</i>	Adopts districts for members of Texas House of Representatives based on the 2020 census. The new district plan applies beginning with the primary and general elections in 2022 for House seats in the 88th Legislature.	NO
	SB 4 <i>Third Special Session</i>	Adopts districts for members of the Texas Senate based on the 2020 census. The new district plan applies beginning with the primary and general elections in 2022 for Senate seats in the 88th Legislature.	NO

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Redistricting	SB 6 <i>Third Special Session</i>	Adopts districts for U.S. House of Representatives from Texas based on the 2020 census. The new district plan applies beginning with the primary and general elections in 2022 for congressional seats in the 118th Congress.	NO
	SB 7 <i>Third Special Session</i>	Adopts districts for State Board of Education (SBOE) based on the 2020 census. The new district plan applies beginning with the primary and general elections in 2022 for SBOE seats in 2023.	NO
Miscellaneous	HB 1925	Institutes a statewide ban on camping in public places (other than as authorized for recreational purposes) and creates a low-level penalty for violating the ban.	YES
	SB 4	Prohibits a governmental entity from entering into any contract with a professional sports team involving a financial commitment unless the team specifies that it will play the U.S. National Anthem before all sporting events.	NO
	SB 15	Introduces various new restrictions upon state agencies' ability to sell or disclose personal information to third parties.	YES
	HB 20 <i>Second Special Session</i>	Among other provisions, authorizes individual lawsuits against large social media companies for blocking user content based on viewpoint; provides that any potential viewer of the content may sue the company for a violation.	NO
	SB 5 <i>Third Special Session</i>	Establishes new and more protective standards of outdoor shelter and care for dogs.	YES

Significant bills that were proposed but did not pass in 2021

Bill	Description
SB 281	Would have made results of “investigative hypnosis” inadmissible against a defendant in a criminal trial.
HB 492	Would have limited issuance of “no-knock” warrants and required their approval at the highest level of a law enforcement agency.
HB 834	Would have prohibited arrests for fine-only offenses.
HB 686	Would have provided inmates serving life sentences for offenses committed as minors with an opportunity to be reviewed for parole.
SB 118	Would have expanded eligibility for Medicaid in Texas under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
HB 240	Would have required private health plans to cover treatment of serious emotional disorders in children.
HB 326	Would have required certain health care facilities to adopt a workplace violence prevention policy and plan to protect health care providers and employees from violent behavior and threats occurring at the facility.
SB 14	Would have imposed statewide preemption over local ordinances relating to employment benefits and policies.

Bills that became law of which Representative Turner was the primary author or sponsor

Subject	Bill	Description
Addressing illegal street racing	HB 2315	Adds illegal racing to the list of offenses for which civil forfeiture of instrumentalities of the crime (including the vehicle(s) used in the racing) is available. Forfeiture of the vehicle may occur upon a second conviction of a racing offense, if the driver was intoxicated, or if a person was killed or injured as a result of the racing activity.
	SB 1495	Creates the offense of a “reckless driving exhibition” and enhances the penalty for obstructing a highway while engaging in a reckless driving exhibition.
Adolescent mental health	HB 3121	Creates a voluntary certification process for facilities providing psychiatric care in a residential setting to teens and adolescents with significant emotional disturbances or mental health diagnoses. The certification requires that a facility meet certain quality standards, to be determined through state inspection and review.
Certification of nurse aides	SB 1103	A statutory fix providing the Health and Human Services Commission with the authority to conduct comprehensive background checks on certified nurse aides.
Dual credit academic advising	SB 1277	Ensures that all dual credit students are provided with a designated academic advisor before they enroll.
Expedited death certificates for religious purposes	HB 1101	Establishes a process for a person to request an expedited death certificate for a deceased family member when needed for religious purposes.
Pandemic preparedness	SB 437	Establishes a Personal Protective Equipment Advisory Committee under the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) that make recommendations on the procurement, storage, and distribution of PPE.
Social-emotional learning	SB 123	Incorporates social and emotional learning competencies into an existing character traits instruction program for kindergarten through 12th graders.
State agency record sharing	HB 4159	Ensures the Health and Human Services Commission has necessary access to criminal history information contained in the juvenile justice information system.
Student Loan Debt Data	SB 1019	Requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to report certain student loan debt data to better inform future policy decisions affecting Texas students.
Regulating precious metal dealers	SB 1132	Aims to increase compliance with existing regulations on crafted metal dealers by setting minimum inspection standards.

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