



## Texas Pastor Support Points on HB 46; Protecting Privacy and Safety

1. A bill like HB 46 is necessary because every law abiding person in Texas should have equal protection in every county, every city, every school. Equal protection has been threatened in Texas by a proliferation of local ordinances and school policies that create a new “protected characteristic” called Gender Identity and/or Gender Expression with open-ended definitions that vary from city to city.
  - a. **Dallas**<sup>1</sup> – “... means an individual’s real or perceived gender identity as male, female, both, or neither.”
  - b. **San Antonio**<sup>2</sup> – “... means a gender-related identity, appearance, expression or behavior of an individual, regardless of the individual's assigned sex at birth.”
  - c. **Houston** (defeated by voters, Nov. 5, 2015) – “...means an individual’s innate identification, appearance, expression or behavior as either male or female, although the same may not correspond to the body’s gender as assigned at birth.”
  - d. Three major cities, three different definitions, processes and punishments for any who do not allow biological males to have access to women’s restrooms, showers and locker rooms.
2. These “non-definitions” clearly allow any biological male or female to declare their “identity” is of the opposite of that on their birth certificate and legally be allowed to use the showers, locker rooms and changing rooms of the opposite sex. No teenage girl should be forced to shower with a biological male.
3. HB 46 creates a limited, statewide standard regulating facilities in which adults or children are in a state of undress and have a historic expectation of privacy and safety. Without it we will continue to face statewide “whack a mole” chaos in which over 1900 incorporated cities and over 1200 Independent School Districts create that many different definitions of “gender identity” with equally varying criminal punishments on individuals and businesses.
4. HB 46 protects decency, privacy and freedom for our most vulnerable family members uniformly in every city in Texas, so there are no UNEqual rights given to a few that threaten the equal rights for all. All women and children in Texas deserve equal protection!

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<sup>1</sup>

[http://library.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/Texas/dallas/cityofdallastexascodeofordinances?f=templates\\$fn=default.htm\\$3.0\\$vid=amlegal:dallas\\_tx](http://library.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/Texas/dallas/cityofdallastexascodeofordinances?f=templates$fn=default.htm$3.0$vid=amlegal:dallas_tx)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.municode.com/library/tx/san\\_antonio/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICO\\_CH2AD\\_ARTXNSCPO](https://www.municode.com/library/tx/san_antonio/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICO_CH2AD_ARTXNSCPO)