



September 4, 2019

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Governor Abbott:

The undersigned members of the House Democratic Caucus write today to urge you to call an emergency session of the 86th Legislature in response to the tragic mass shootings that have taken place in our state in the last several years, including two in the last month. But it is not only mass shootings we must respond to – more than 3,000 people lose their lives to gun violence in Texas each year. That horrifying statistic alone should prompt us to take action.

We agree with your comments at Sunday's press conference that the status quo is unacceptable. Members of the House Democratic Caucus, for several sessions now, have proposed dozens of specific bills aimed at changing the status quo by making Texans safer through common-sense gun and public safety legislation.

We have attached a comprehensive list of bills our members authored in the 86th Regular Session for your review and consideration. As governor, you have the sole authority to both call an emergency session and determine the legislative proposals that are eligible to be considered. While we believe many if not all of the attached legislative proposals will help address the gun violence epidemic, at a minimum we ask that you place the following items on the call:

1. Enacting extreme risk protective order laws and closing existing loopholes in current protective order laws
2. Closing the background check loopholes
3. Banning the sale of high-capacity magazines
4. Limiting the open carry of certain semi-automatic long guns
5. Requiring stolen guns be reported to law enforcement

Additionally, given that the assailant in the El Paso shooting was driven by racial hatred and due to the ongoing potential for racially-driven violence, we request that you ask the Legislature to pass measures to combat and interrupt the rise in racism and white nationalism.

We believe these proposals will save lives and we are all prepared to do whatever it takes to pass these reforms. We know that if you put your leadership and the weight of the Governor's office behind this, together we can pass these proposals for you to sign into law.

We look forward to working with you to pass meaningful legislation related to gun violence in an emergency session of the Legislature. Thank you for your consideration.

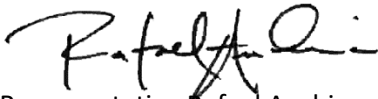
Sincerely,



Representative Chris Turner
Chair, House Democratic Caucus
District 101



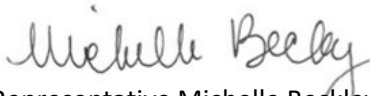
Representative Toni Rose
2nd Vice Chair, House Democratic Caucus
District 110



Representative Rafael Anchia
Chair, Mexican American Legislative Caucus
District 103



Representative Garnet Coleman
Chair, Legislative Study Group
District 147



Representative Michelle Beckley
District 65



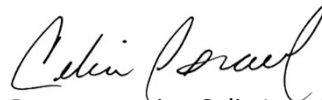
Representative César Blanco
District 76



Representative John Bucy
District 136



Representative Sheryl Cole
District 46



Representative Celia Israel
1st Vice Chair, House Democratic Caucus
District 50



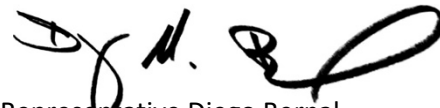
Representative Oscar Longoria
Treasurer, House Democratic Caucus
District 35



Representative Harold Dutton
Chair, Texas Black Legislative Caucus
District 142



Representative Alma Allen
District 131



Representative Diego Bernal
District 123



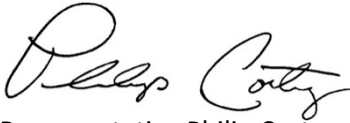
Representative Rhetta Bowers
District 113



Representative Gina Calanni
District 132



Representative Nicole Collier
District 95



Representative Philip Cortez
District 117



Representative Alex Dominguez
District 37



Representative Art Fierro
District 79



Representative Jessica González
District 104



Representative Vikki Goodwin
District 47



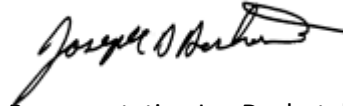
Representative Roland Gutierrez
District 119



Representative Abel Herrero
District 34




Representative Donna Howard
District 48



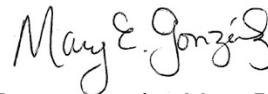
Representative Joe Deshotel
District 22



Representative Jessica Farrar
District 148



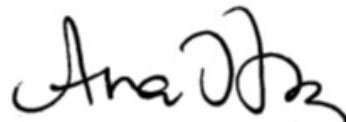
Representative Barbara Gervin-Hawkins
District 120




Representative Mary E. González
District 75



Representative Bobby Guerra
District 41



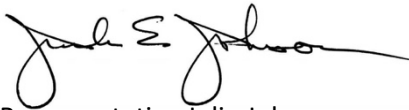
Representative Ana Hernandez
District 143



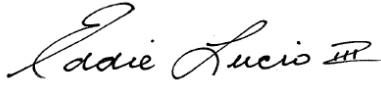
Representative Gina Hinojosa
District 49



Representative Jarvis Johnson
District 139



Representative Julie Johnson
District 115



Representative Eddie Lucio III
District 38



Representative Trey Martinez Fischer
District 116



Representative Ina Minjarez
District 124



Representative Christina Morales
District 145



Representative Poncho Nevárez
District 74



Representative Leo Pacheco
District 118



Representative Ana-Maria Ramos
District 102



Representative Ron Reynolds
District 27



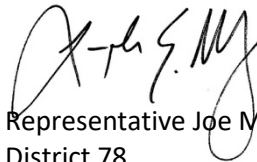
Representative Ray Lopez
District 125



Representative Armando "Mando" Martinez
District 39



Representative Terry Meza
District 105



Representative Joe Moody
District 78



Representative Victoria Neave
District 107



Representative Evelina "Lina" Ortega
District 77



Representative Mary Ann Perez
District 144



Representative Richard Peña Raymond
District 42



Representative Eddie Rodriguez
District 51



Representative Ramon Romero, Jr.
District 90



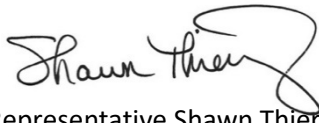
Representative Jon Rosenthal
District 135



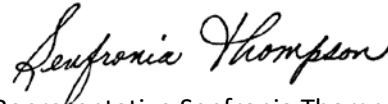
Representative Carl Sherman, Sr.
District 109



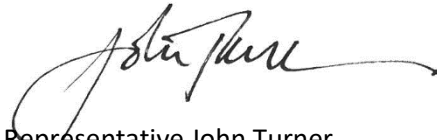
Representative James Talarico
District 52



Representative Shawn Thierry
District 146



Representative Senfronia Thompson
District 141



Representative John Turner
District 114




Representative Hubert Vo
District 149



Representative Armando Walle
District 140



Representative Gene Wu
District 137



Representative Erin Zwiener
District 45



HDC Legislation Filed: 86th Regular Session

Bill	Author	Overview of the Bill
HB 38	Rep. Canales	Require serial numbers for all newly manufactured and unmarked firearms
HB 86	Rep. Martinez	Creates an offense for reckless discharge of a firearm at no specific target
HB 95	Rep. Hinojosa	"Lie and Try" bill - would have created a state criminal offense for lying on a background check to try to purchase and gun.
HB 131	Rep. Moody	Relating to extreme risk protective orders and the prosecution of the criminal offense of unlawful transfer of a firearm;
HB 172	Rep. Bernal	Requires DPS to adopt rules on signs posting that a property can prohibit open carrying of a handgun
HB 195	Rep. Reynolds	Would have closed the gun show loophole by creating a criminal offense if a person knowingly sells a firearm to another person without complying with the Nation Instant Criminal Background Check System in the manner required by federal law.
HB 257	Rep. Blanco	Require schools to provide local law enforcement with a list of those authorized to have handguns on a campus
HB 316	Rep. Howard	Generate \$1,000,000 for a public safety awareness campaign for firearm safe storage; passed as rider to the budget
HB 349	Rep. Blanco	Makes it a 3rd degree felony for anyone that owns or sells bump stocks that make it easier to rapidly fire a semi-automatic weapon
HB 544	Rep. Nevárez	Makes it a Class A misdemeanor if a person, through various legal proceedings, is identified to have an intellectual disability
HB 545	Rep. Nevárez	Makes it an offense to sell, rent, or otherwise transfer a gun to a person receiving mental health services or a known intellectual disability
HB 842	Rep. Hernandez	Relating to a central database containing information about offenders who have committed certain violent offenses against children or offenses involving family or dating violence.
HB 854	Rep. Moody	Makes it a 3rd degree felony if an adult makes a firearm accessible to child and it results in injury or death
HB 1163	Rep. Anchia	Allows cities over 750,000 to hold election on open carrying of handguns in that city
HB 1164	Rep. Anchia	Prohibits having a gun at an arena, stadium, golf course, automobile racetrack, amphitheater, auditorium, theater, museum, zoo, botanical garden, civic center, or convention center, unless the handgun is designed to be used at said event
HB 1165	Rep. Anchia	Provides guidelines for businesses posting signs about prohibiting open carrying of handguns
HB 1166	Rep. Anchia	Relating to wrongful exclusion of handgun license holders from certain property owned by or leased to a governmental entity and to certain offenses relating to the carrying of handguns on that property.
HB 1167	Rep. Anchia	Expands offenses for those who carry weapons at amusement parks or locations associated with schools or other educational institutions



Bill	Author	Overview of the Bill
HB 1168	Rep. Anchia	Prohibited handguns on airport tarmacs; bill was vetoed by Gov. Abbott.
HB 1169	Rep. Anchia	Regarding offenses for unregulated sales of firearms at gun shows
HB 1170	Rep. Anchia	Prohibits state retirement systems from investing in companies that manufacture firearm or firearm ammunition
HB 1171	Rep. Anchia	Relating to certain criminal offenses concerning the unlawful transfer or purchase of certain weapons to a person known to not be able to legally have a firearm
HB 1172	Rep. Anchia	Prohibits using a 3D printer for the manufacture of firearms
HB 1173	Rep. Anchia	Allows institutions of higher education to adopt policies prohibiting guns on campus
HB 1207	Rep. Rodriguez	Requires that an individual report the loss or theft of any firearm they own to a peace officer or law enforcement agency within 5 days. If it is discovered during the course of an investigation that an individual failed to report the loss or theft of a firearm they own, the individual may be charged with a Class C misdemeanor and lose their eligibility for a License to Carry (LTC) for 5 years.
HB 1208	Rep. Rodriguez	Relating to the storage of firearms surrendered by a person subject to a magistrate's order for emergency protection or protective order as a result of family violence, sexual assault or abuse, stalking, or trafficking of persons.
HB 1236	Rep. Goodwin	Would have allowed public college to opt out of "campus carry" and prohibit the possession of guns on campuses just live private colleges are allowed to do.
HB 1375	Rep. Meza	Requires DPS to creates rules and regulations regarding the private transfer of firearms
HB 1376	Rep. Meza	Requires DPS to creates rules and regulations regarding the private transfer of firearms
HB 1445	Rep. Rosenthal	Makes it a Class C misdemeanor for carrying a gun while intoxicated
HB 1713	Rep. Ramos	Requires a person to surrender firearms if convicted of certain types of family violence
HB 1945	Rep. Ramos	Prohibits bringing guns to a licensed child care facility on a campus
HB 2046	Rep. Ramos	Require TEA to establish and administer a grant pilot program to award grants to school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to fund mental health initiatives designed to address the prevention and impact of gun violence
HB 2115	Rep. Rosenthal	Exempts firearm safety equipment from sales taxes
HB 2280	Rep. Goodwin	Requires DPS to adopt rules on signs posting that a property can prohibit open carrying of a handgun
HB 2655	Rep. Rosenthal	Creates an active shooter emergency protocol for public school districts and requires active shooter response training for school district peace officers and school resource officers.
HB 2949	Rep. Guillen	Relating to a license to carry a handgun for a person who is at increased risk of becoming a victim of violence



Bill	Author	Overview of the Bill
HB 3054	Rep. Gervin-Hawkins	Designated June as Firearm Safety Awareness Month
HB 3191	Rep. Moody	A person who is the subject of a family violence protective order or arrested for or charged with an offense involving family violence to surrender firearms owned by the person.
HB 3506	Rep. Talarico	Says that a license to carry a handgun in another state does not automatically transfer to Texas
HB 3507	Rep. Talarico	Requiring a national instant criminal background check in connection with firearm loans at a sport shooting range
HB 3508	Rep. Talarico	Provides DPS discretion in denying the issuance or renewal of a license to carry a handgun
HB 3812	Rep. Collier	Adds family violence misdemeanor as an item to flag in federal firearm background check database
HB 4017	Rep. Calanni	Prohibits identified members of criminal street gangs from obtaining a license to carry a handgun
HB 4021	Rep. Dominguez	Prohibits carrying a gun within 100 feet of any government court or court office; currently only on the premises.
HB 4341	Rep. Collier	Makes it a state jail felony if making a firearm available to a child results in an injury or death
HB 4496	Rep. Hinojosa	Relating to the attempt of trying to get a firearm when already prohibited.

Note: The House and Senate passed HB 1168 by Representative Anchia but the bill was ultimately vetoed.