



PRO-LIFE SCORECARD

FOR THE

87TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE (2021)

BRIAN BIRDWELL
TEXAS SENATE DISTRICT 22
(R-GRANBURY)

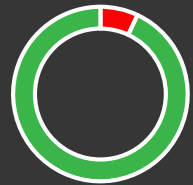
✓ Voted Pro-Life ✗ Voted Anti-Life

Total Pro-Life
Score:

93%

■ Anti-Life

■ Pro-Life



Key: EA = Excused Absence; UA = Unexcused Absence; PNV = Present, Not Voting; and Chair = Presiding at the Chair during the vote

The 87th Texas Legislature can aptly be described as a great victory for preborn children and a devastating loss for vulnerable patients. The Texas Heartbeat Act (Senate Bill 8) has saved thousands of lives and is the strongest Pro-Life bill to go into effect since *Roe v. Wade*. Other states are now replicating SB 8 in their own efforts to protect preborn children with heartbeats. Furthermore, the increased funding allocated to the life-affirming Alternatives to Abortion program is another victory meriting celebration, especially given the monumental success of the Texas Heartbeat Act.

Vulnerable patients reaped no such favorable treatment. Efforts to eliminate the anti-Life 10-Day Rule and stop hospitals from removing life-sustaining care against a patient's expressed medical decision died in both chambers (House Bill 2609 and Senate Bill 917). In the House, the House Committee on Calendars set HB 2609 too late for debate on the floor. In the Senate, Republicans killed SB 917 behind the scenes. Throughout the 87th Legislature, efforts to repeal the 10-Day Rule were met with apathy and even hostility from members. Likewise, bills to protect the consciences of medical professionals died in both chambers (House Bill 1424 and Senate Bill 1674). Many members showed no interest in this crucial policy area, even though the Biden Administration is growing more militant in their opposition to conscience rights.

The scorecards depict this mixed review of the 87th Legislature. Of particular note is the co-author requirement for certain bills: HB 2609, HB 1424, and SB 917. Texas Right to Life relentlessly lobbied members to support these particular bills by co-authoring or voting for them in committee. Failure to do this resulted in a lower score.

Despite unprecedented support from grassroots and the Republican Party of Texas and astonishing media coverage highlighting the heinous reality of the law, hospitals may still remove life-sustaining care against a patient's expressed medical decision because the Texas Legislature did not pass SB 917 to repeal the 10-Day Rule. Even with constant pressure from Texas Right to Life, activists, and voters to co-author this bill, Senator Birdwell did not. His final score reflects this failure.

Regular Session

Senate Bill 8 by Senator Bryan Hughes (R-Mineola): The Texas Heartbeat Act

Bans elective abortions on preborn children with a detectable heartbeat.

Senate Bill 8 passed both chambers and was signed by Governor Abbott.

Points
Earned

Potential
Points

Motion	Description of Motion		
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 8 on Second Reading	Vote to open debate on Senate Bill 8. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Sen. Bryan Hughes	Strengthen Pro-Life legal provisions in Senate Bill 8. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Vote to pass Senate Bill 8 to next step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	6	6
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 8 on Third Reading	Vote to open final debate on Senate Bill 8. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Vote for final passage of Senate Bill 8. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	6	6

Senate Bill 1173 by Senator Kelly Hancock (R-North Richland Hills): The Preborn NonDiscrimination Act

Bans the remaining late-term abortions in Texas and bans discriminatory abortions obtained because of the child's race, sex, or disability.

Senate Bill 1173 passed the Senate but died in the House.

Points
Earned

Potential
Points

Motion	Description of Motion		
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✓	Vote to introduce Senate Bill 1173 on Second Reading	Vote to open debate on Senate Bill 1173. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓	Second Reading Vote	Vote to pass Senate Bill 1173 to next step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	6	6
✓	Vote to introduce Senate Bill 1173 on Third Reading	Vote to open final debate on Senate Bill 1173. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓	Third Reading Vote	Vote for final passage of Senate Bill 1173. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	6	6

Senate Bill 394 by Senator Eddie Lucio (R-Brownsville)

Creates and strengthens protections against chemical abortion.

Senate Bill 394 passed the Senate but died in the House.

Points Earned	Potential Points
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Motion	Description of Motion	Points Earned	Potential Points	
✓	Vote to introduce Senate Bill 394 on Second Reading	Vote to open debate on Senate Bill 394. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓	Floor Amendment 1 by Sen. Eddie Lucio	Clarify that abortion-inducing drugs may not be provided to a patient by courier, delivery, or mail service. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓	Second Reading Vote	Vote to pass Senate Bill 394 to next step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓	Vote to introduce Senate Bill 394 on Third Reading	Vote to open final debate on Senate Bill 394. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓	Third Reading Vote	Vote for final passage of Senate Bill 394. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1

**Senate Bill 9 by Senator Angela Paxton (R-McKinney):
The Human Life Protection Act**

Bans elective abortions when the Supreme Court reverses *Roe v. Wade*.

Senate Bill 9 passed the Senate but died in the House.

Points Earned | Potential Points

Motion	Description of Motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 9 on Second Reading	Vote to open debate on Senate Bill 9. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Sen. Hughes	Clarifying amendment to Senate Bill 9. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Vote to pass Senate Bill 9 to next step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 9 on Third Reading	Vote to open final debate on Senate Bill 9. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Vote for final passage of Senate Bill 9. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1

**Senate Bill 1647 by Senator Charles Perry (R-Lubbock):
The Texas Abolition Strategy**

Bans the remaining late-term abortions discriminatory abortions obtained because of the child’s race, sex, or disability; then bans abortions on preborn children with detectable heartbeats; then, finally, bans the remaining elective abortions in Texas.

Senate Bill 1647 passed the Senate but died in the House.

Points Earned | Potential Points

Motion	Description of Motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 1647 on Second Reading	Vote to open debate on Senate Bill 1647. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1

✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Sen. Perry	Ensures mothers of children with disabilities are provided with information about life-affirming perinatal palliative services available to her. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 2 by Sen. Hughes	Update heartbeat language to match Senate Bill 8. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Vote to pass Senate Bill 1647 to next step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	6	6
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 1647 on Third Reading	Vote to open final debate on Senate Bill 1647. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Vote for final passage of Senate Bill 1647. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	6	6

**Senate Bill 802 by Senator Angela Paxton (R-McKinney):
The Every Mother Matters Act**

Bans the remaining late-term abortions in Texas and bans discriminatory abortions obtained because of the child’s race, sex, or disability.

Senate Bill 802 passed the Senate but died in the House.

Points Earned	Potential Points
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Motion	Description of Motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 802 on Second Reading	Vote to open debate on Senate Bill 802. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Sen. Paxton	Clarify that the pregnant mother's information would be private under Senate Bill 802. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 2 by Sen. Eckhardt	Clarify that the pregnant mother's information would be private under Senate Bill 802. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Vote to pass Senate Bill 802 to next step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1

✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 802 on Third Reading	Vote to open final debate on Senate Bill 802. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Sen. Taylor	Adds language to allow a care agent to report sexual assault to law enforcement. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Vote for final passage of Senate Bill 802. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1

Senate Bill 650 by Senator Donna Campbell (R-New Braunfels)

Prohibits state and local governments from contracting with entities that support the abortion industry.

Senate Bill 650 passed the Senate but died in the House.

Points Earned | Potential Points

Motion	Description of Motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 650 on Second Reading	Vote to open debate on Senate Bill 650. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Sen. Eckhardt	Allow taxpayer dollars to provide logistical support for other services from abortion providers. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 2 by Sen. Eckhardt	Allow elected governmental entities to pay logistical support for abortion. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 3 by Sen. Eckhardt	Remove Attorney General enforcement of Senate Bill 650. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Vote to pass Senate Bill 650 to next step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 650 on Third Reading	Vote to open final debate on Senate Bill 650. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Vote for final passage of Senate Bill 650. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1

**House Bill 1280 by Representative Giovanni Capriglione (R-Southlake):
The Human Life Protection Act**

Bans elective abortions when the Supreme Court reverses *Roe v. Wade*.

House Bill 1280 passed both chambers and was signed by Governor Abbott.

Points Earned | Potential Points

Motion	Description of Motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Vote to introduce House Bill 1280 on Second Reading	Vote to open debate on House Bill 1280. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Vote to pass House Bill 1280 to the next step of passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Vote to introduce House Bill 1280 on Third Reading	Vote to open final debate on House Bill 1280. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Vote for final passage of House Bill 1280. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1

Additional Points

Points Earned | Potential Points

Motion	Description of Motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
Committee Vote	Vote in the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services for Senate Bill 917. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	N/A	6
✗ Co-authored top Pro-Life priority Senate Bill 917 to repeal the anti-Life 10-Day Rule	While the pro-patient's rights Pro-Life priority did not receive a vote on the Senate floor, members were asked numerous times by activists, their voters, and Texas Right to Life to show their public support by coauthoring the bill at any time during the session. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	0	6
✓ Anti-Life speech	Penalties for anti-Life speeches on the House floor. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life)	0	-8

✓ Anti-Life legislation or amendments	Penalties for anti-Life amendments to Pro-Life bills on the House floor, or authorship of anti-Life bills. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life)	0	-8
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First Called Session

Senate Bill 4 by Senator Eddie Lucio Jr. (D-Brownsville)

Creates and strengthens protections against chemical abortion.

Senate Bill 4 passed the Senate but died in the House, which did not have a quorum.

Points Earned	Potential Points
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Motion	Description of Motion		
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 4 on Second Reading	Vote to open debate on Senate Bill 4. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Vote to pass Senate Bill 4 to the next step of passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 4 on Third Reading	Vote to open final debate on Senate Bill 4. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Vote for final passage of Senate Bill 4. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1

Second Called Session

Senate Bill 4 by Senator Eddie Lucio Jr. (D-Brownsville)

Creates and strengthens protections against chemical abortion.

Senate Bill 4 passed both chambers and was signed by Governor Abbott.

Points
Earned

Potential
Points

Motion	Description of Motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 4 on Second Reading	Vote to open debate on Senate Bill 4. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Vote to pass Senate Bill 4 to the next step of passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Vote to introduce Senate Bill 4 on Third Reading	Vote to open final debate on Senate Bill 4. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Vote for final passage of Senate Bill 4. (Supported by Texas Right to Life)	1	1

Total Points Earned	81
Potential Points	87
Total Score	93%