



# TEXAS RIGHT TO LIFE PRO-LIFE SCORECARD

FOR THE 88TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE (2023)

**DADE PHELAN**  
**TEXAS HOUSE DISTRICT 21**  
**(R-BEAUMONT)**

✓ Voted Pro-Life    ✗ Voted Anti-Life

**Total Pro-Life  
Score:  
N/A**

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

The Regular Session of the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature marked the first opportunity for Texas lawmakers to pass Pro-Life bills after the historic overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. However, the Texas Legislature neglected preborn children, yet improved protections for vulnerable patients.

No bills passed to stop illegal abortions or fully enforce our Pro-Life laws. The Legislature underfunded pregnancy centers and adoption agencies but provided new help for pregnant and parenting college students. This session's most notable victory was a reform to protect patients facing the anti-Life 10-Day Rule in the Texas Advance Directives Act. While there is still more work to do on this critical Pro-Life issue, this legislation is the most significant improvement in over two decades for patients' rights and medical freedom in Texas.

Traditionally, the Speaker of the Texas House does not vote on most bills, nor does he or she author legislation. These votes and actions compose the scorecards, which are an objective analysis of how a legislator served the Pro-Life movement in a given Legislature. Thus, as with previous speakers, Speaker Dade Phelan does not receive a score for the 88th Legislature.