

# The Network of Texas IAF Organizations

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**For Immediate Release  
May 9, 2023**

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## **Lubbock and Valley Legislators Block Assault Rifle Age Limit Bill, HB 2744, from reaching the floor of Texas House**

Rep. Burrows needs to call an emergency meeting of the Calendars Committee to include HB 2744 on the list of bills that will be considered on Thursday, the last day for a House Bill to be considered for first reading.

### **For families of Uvalde victims and everyday Texans, outrage follows joy after successful committee vote.**

HB 2744, the bill that would raise the age to buy semi-automatic guns to 21, is actively being blocked from going to a vote on the House floor, after having been voted out of committee by a bi-partisan 8-5 vote.

From the research that we have done, Rep. Ryan Guillen actively delayed the bill from heading to the Calendar Committee today by stalling the Committee report. Now, Rep. Dustin Burrows is refusing to call a special meeting of the Calendars Committee to make sure the bill is calendared for Thursday, the deadline.

“They know how to get a bill passed, and they’re choosing not to make it happen,” said Sonia Rodriguez, a leader with COPS/Metro, San Antonio.

“It is unconscionable for this Legislature, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and Rep. Guillen to put the families of victims and families across Texas through this trauma again, to dangle hope in front of them, and then not to act,” said Bishop John Ogletree, of TMO in Houston. “How many more children have to die before we act? This is only one small step.”

Yesterday, when the bill was voted out of committee, Uvalde families and their allies rejoiced, along with the 76% of Texans and 60% of Republicans who support raising the legal age for purchasing an assault rifle. It is unacceptable for Rep. Guillen and Rep. Burrows to block the democratic process.

As a statewide network and constituents from both Rep. Burrows and Rep. Guillen’s district, the Texas Network of IAF Organizations are demanding that everything is done to make sure that this bill is heard on the floor by this Thursday, May 11, 2023.

*\*The Network of Texas IAF Organizations are non-partisans; institutionally based community organizations whose purpose is to train leaders to organize families around issues which affect their quality of life. The network includes Communities Organized for Public Service and The Metro Alliance and ICAN in San Antonio, The Border Organization, Valley Interfaith in the Rio Grande Valley; TMO in Houston; EPISO and Border Interfaith In El Paso; Austin Interfaith; ACT in Fort Worth; Dallas Area Interfaith; AMOS - Arlington, The West Texas Organizing Strategy; and Beaumont, Port Arthur and Orange.*

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