



# JAMES TALARICO

TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**For Immediate Release:**

May 24, 2023

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## **Statement from Rep. James Talarico on Failure of Bill to Require Ten Commandments in Texas Schools**

AUSTIN, TX – The Texas House failed to pass Senate Bill 1515 before tonight’s midnight deadline to advance Senate Bills, effectively killing the effort to force schools to display the Ten Commandments in every Texas public school classroom.

State Representative James Talarico offered the following statement in response:

“Senate Bill 1515 is not only unconstitutional and un-American — it is also deeply un-Christian. A religion that has to force people to put up a poster to prove its legitimacy is a dead religion.

The Ten Commandments are important to me personally and to my faith. But this bill is idolatrous, it is exclusionary, and it is arrogant. It is deeply offensive to me as a Christian.

For 40 years, the Religious Right has used “faith” to push hateful, exclusionary legislation—like a state-level ban on gay marriage, the most extreme abortion ban in the nation with no exceptions for victims of rape or incest, and even bills to restrict access to basic contraception.

Now, this same movement is trying to force Christian Nationalism onto the children of this state—without their consent or the consent of their parents.

I’m proud of Texas Democrats for sticking together and stopping this dangerous bill. This is an important win for religious liberty and the separation of church and state. But this fight isn’t over yet.”

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