



# PRO-LIFE SCORECARD

FOR THE  
2017 SESSIONS OF THE 85TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

**BRIAN BIRDWELL**  
TEXAS SENATE DISTRICT 22  
(R-GRANBURY)

✓ Voted Pro-Life    ✗ Voted Anti-Life

Total Pro-Life  
Score:

**100%**

■ Anti-Life  
■ Pro-Life



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

## Senate Bill 8: Pro-Life Omnibus Bill (regular session)

		Points Earned	Potential Points
Motion	Description of motion		
✓ Vote to introduce SB 8 on Second Reading	Vote on the Senate floor to open debate on SB 8. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Zaffirini	Authorizes the body parts of aborted babies to be used for research. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass SB 8 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Vote to introduce SB 8 on Third Reading	Senate floor vote to consider third and final passage of SB 8. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote on final passage of SB 8. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Concurring Vote on House Amendments	The Senate votes to concur with Pro-Life amendments added to SB 8 by the House. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

## Senate Bill 415: The Dismemberment Abortion Ban (regular session)

		Points Earned	Potential Points
Motion	Description of motion		
✓ Vote to introduce SB 415 on Second Reading	Vote on the Senate floor to open debate on SB 415. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1



✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Watson	Allows dismemberment abortions when a doctor alleged the inhumane procedure was safer. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass SB 415 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	3	3
✓ Vote to introduce SB 415 on Third Reading	Senate floor vote to consider third and final passage of SB 415. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote on final passage of SB 415. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	3	3

### Senate Bill 20: Pro-Life Health Insurance Reform (regular session)

Points Earned

Potential Points

Motion	Description of motion		
✓ Vote to introduce SB 20 on Second Reading	Vote on the Senate floor to open debate on SB 20. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass SB 20 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	3	3
✓ Vote to introduce SB 20 on Third Reading	Senate floor vote to consider third and final passage of SB 20. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote on final passage of SB 20. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	3	3

### Senate Bill 4: Prohibiting Government Funding of the Abortion Industry (special session)

Points Earned

Potential Points

Motion	Description of motion		
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Schwertner	Prohibits abortion providers and their affiliates from lobbying at the state or local level. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 2 by Schwertner	Clarifies that the definition of medical emergency is consistent with other state law. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 3 by Garcia	Exempts in-kind donations to the abortion industry from state and local government. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

✓ Floor Amendment 4 by Menendez	Allows cities and counties to fund the abortion industry. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 5 by Watson	Allows cities and counties to fund the abortion industry. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 6 by Watson	Authorizes local governments to hold elections on funding of the abortion industry. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 7 by Rodriguez	Allows government funding of the abortion industry if responding to a public health outbreak. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 8 by Garcia	Directs federal Medicaid funding to the abortion industry without involvement of the state legislature or the state Attorney General. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 9 by Menendez	Exempts Harris County and allows the county to fund the abortion industry. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 10 by Garcia	Allows state and local government to fund the abortion industry if public health services or education would otherwise be harmed. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 11 by Rodriguez	Allows state or local government to fund the abortion industry if there is a perceived threat to public health or education. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass SB 4 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote on final passage of SB 4. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

## Senate Bill 8: Pro-Life Health Insurance Reform (special session)

Points  
Earned

Potential  
Points

Motion	Description of motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Uresti	Forces taxpayers to fund insurance coverage for abortion of children conceived through rape and incest. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 2 by Rodriguez	Forces taxpayers to fund insurance coverage for abortions committed for women's mental health. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

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✓ Floor Amendment 3 by Rodriguez	Forces taxpayers to fund insurance coverage for abortion of preborn children with disabilities. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	3	3
✓ Floor Amendment 4 by Garcia	Forces taxpayers to fund insurance coverage for abortion of children conceived through rape and incest. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 5 by Menendez	Forces taxpayers to fund insurance coverage for abortion of children conceived through rape. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 6 by Zaffirini	Requires all insurance providers to offer health benefit plans covering elective abortion. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 7 by Uresti	Unnecessarily clarifies insurance plans may include contraception. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 8 by Rodriguez	Addresses coverage for natural miscarriages, which is already sufficiently addressed in SB 8. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 9 by Uresti	Addresses fertility treatment options in insurance plans. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 10 by Menendez	Requires premiums for elective abortion coverage to be calculated on a sliding scale based on perceived financial need for coverage. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass SB 8 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote on final passage of SB 8. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

## Senate Bill 10: Abortion Complications Reporting (special session)

Points  
Earned

Potential  
Points

Motion	Description of motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Vote to introduce SB 10 on Second Reading	Vote on the Senate floor to open debate on SB 10. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 3 by Watson	Adds burdensome additional reporting requirements for surgeons. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

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✓ Floor Amendment 4 by Uresti	Inappropriately classifies some abortion complications as pregnancy complications. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 5 by Menendez	Delays abortion complication reporting by nearly 4 weeks. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 7 by Rodriguez	Conceals the name of an abortionist causing complications from the report. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 8 by Menendez	Removes most of the abortion complication reporting information required by this bill. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 9 by Rodriguez	Exempts abortionists from abortion complication reporting. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 10 by Rodriguez	Protects abortionists from disciplinary review. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 11 by Rodriguez	Prevents information in complication reports from being made available to the public. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass SB 10 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote on final passage of SB 10. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

### Senate Bill 11: Reform to Do-Not-Resuscitate Orders for Hospitalized Patients (special session)

Points Earned

Potential Points

Motion	Description of motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Vote to introduce SB 11 on Second Reading	Vote on the Senate floor to open debate on SB 11. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Uresti	Exempts assisted living facilities from the requirements of patient consent before a DNR Order. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 2 by Uresti	Removes the requirement for a witness when a patient is stating a directive for his/her own DNR. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

✓ Floor Amendment 3 by Uresti	Authorizes the ethics committees at health care facilities to approve DNR Orders issued contrary to the wishes of a patient. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass SB 11 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote on final passage of SB 11. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Concurring Vote on House Amendments	Senate floor vote to concur with Pro-Life amendments added to SB 11 by the House. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

**Senate Bill 73: Data Reporting for Minors Seeking Abortions and Record of Abortions due to Fetal Abnormality (special session)**

Points Earned

Potential Points

Motion	Description of motion		
✓ Vote to introduce SB 73 on Second Reading	Vote on the Senate floor to open debate on SB 73. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass SB 73 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote on final passage of SB 73. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

**House Bill 13: Reporting on Abortion Complications (special session)**

Points Earned

Potential Points

Motion	Description of motion		
✓ Vote to introduce HB 13 on Second Reading	Vote on the Senate floor to open debate on HB 13. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Menendez	Removes most of the complication reporting information required by this bill. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass HB 13 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to consider third and final passage of HB 13. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

## House Bill 214: Pro-Life Health Insurance Reform (special session)

Points  
Earned

Potential  
Points

Motion	Description of motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Vote to introduce HB 214 on Second Reading	Vote on the Senate floor to open debate on HB 214. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Rodriguez	Forces taxpayers to fund insurance coverage for abortion of preborn children with disabilities. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	3	3
✓ Floor Amendment 2 by Garcia	Forces taxpayers to fund insurance coverage for abortion of children conceived through rape or incest. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 3 by Menendez	Forces taxpayers to fund insurance coverage for abortion of children conceived through rape. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 4 by Rodriguez	Addresses coverage for natural miscarriages, which is already sufficiently addressed in HB 214. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 5 by Rodriguez	Allows insurance companies to offer Texans “abortion discounts” on their insurance plans. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 6 by Menendez	Requires premiums for elective abortion coverage to be calculated on a sliding scale based on perceived financial need for coverage. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass HB 214 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to consider third and final passage of HB 214. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

## HB 215: Data Reporting for Minors Seeking Abortions and Record of Abortions due to Fetal Abnormality (special session)

Points  
Earned

Potential  
Points

Motion	Description of motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Vote to introduce HB 215 on Second Reading	Vote on the Senate floor to open debate on HB 215. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 1 by Garcia	Removes reporting requirements that show if minors obtained permission to undergo an abortion through by judicial bypass or through parental consent. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 2 by Garcia	Adds unnecessary reporting requirements in instances of judicial bypass. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 3 by Rodriguez	Limits what abortion data is released. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Second Reading Vote	Senate floor vote to pass HB 215 to third reading, the final step in passage. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Third Reading Vote	Senate floor vote on final passage of HB 215. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1

### Additional votes

Points  
Earned

Potential  
Points

Motion	Description of motion	Points Earned	Potential Points
✓ Floor Amendment 1 to HB 2962 by Hughes	Requires reporting on abortions obtained by minors and mandates consistent reporting standards when abortions are committed in the third trimester due to fetal abnormality. (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Floor Amendment 3 to HB 3124 by L. Taylor	Amends House Bill 3124 by adding Pro-Life Health Insurance Reform bill (killed by the House). (Supported by Texas Right to Life.)	1	1
✓ Publicly opposing or attempting to weaken a Pro-Life measure	Scorecard penalties for anti-Life amendments and anti-Life speeches on the House floor. (Opposed by Texas Right to Life.)	0	-10

Total Points Earned	94
Potential Points	94
<b>Total Score</b>	<b>100%</b>

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