

Texas

Religious Exemptions That Undermine Equality



Constitutional & Nondiscrimination Protections

- ▲ State Establishment Clause
- ▲ State Free Exercise Clause
- ▲ Strong Taxpayer Standing

NONDISCRIMINATION LAWS

- ▲ Employment
- ▲ Housing
- △ Public Accommodations
- △ Education
- ▼ Religious Exemptions
- ▼ Religious Tests for Office

Special Privileges for Religion

LIMITATIONS ON CLERGY PRIVILEGE

- ▲ Mandatory Reporting
- ▲ Exception for Child Abuse
- △ Secular Celebrants

RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS TO ENFORCEMENT

- ▼ Foster Care & Adoption
- ▼ Public Health Protections
- ▼ Broad Liability Shield

TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP

- ▼ Limited Filing Requirements
- ▼ Parsonage Exemption
- ▼ Property Tax Exemption
- ▼ Sales Tax Exemption
- ▼ State Religious Freedom Restoration Act
- ▼ Anti-Blasphemy Law

KEY

- ▲ State has this law or policy that enhances religious equality
- △ State does not have this law or policy that enhances religious equality
- ▼ State has this law or policy that harms religious equality
- ▽ State does not have this law or policy that harms religious equality

The 2024 State of the Secular States report is a project of American Atheists. To learn more about our critical state-level advocacy, research, and public policy work, please visit states.atheists.org

Health Care & Wellness

- △ Medical Aid-In-Dying Law
- △ Health Care Transparency Law

SANCTUARY LAWS

- △ Reproductive Care Confidentiality Protections
- △ Trans Care Confidentiality Protections
- △ Reproductive Care Provider Protections
- △ Trans Care Provider Protections

ACCESS TO ABORTION

- △ Constitutional or Statutory Protections
- ▼ Statutory Abortion Ban
- ▼ Private Enforcement Provisions

DENIAL OF CARE LAWS

- ▼ Refusals Related to Abortion
- ▼ Refusals Related to Contraception
- ▼ Refusals Related to Sterilization
- ▼ Religion-Based Health Care Law
- ▼ Child Negligence Exemptions for Faith Healing
- ▼ Nonmedical Exemption to Vaccination

Education & Youth

- △ Protection From Child Marriage
- △ Protection From Conversion Therapy

SEX EDUCATION

- △ Comprehensive Sex Education
- ▼ Abstinence Only Programs

HOMESCHOOLING LAWS

- △ Instructor Qualifications
- △ Testing & Evaluation
- △ Child Abuse Prevention
- ▼ Exemptions

SCHOOL CENSORSHIP LAWS

- ▼ Divisive Topics Restricted
- ▼ LGBTQ Topics Restricted
- ▼ Religious Opt-Outs
- ▼ Undermines Children’s Rights

ANTI-TRANS YOUTH LAWS

- ▼ Medical Ban
- ▼ Athlete Ban
- ▼ Anti-Science / Anti-Evolution Law
- ▼ Bible Class Law
- ▼ Religious Displays in Schools
- ▼ School Vouchers & Tax Credits
- ▼ School Prayer Law
- ▼ Compelled Pledge Law
- ▼ Released Time Laws
- ▼ School Credit for Religious Education
- ▼ Campus License to Discriminate Law
- ▼ Religious Daycare Exemption