

August 4, 2017

The Honorable Governor Abbott  
Governor of Texas  
State of Texas  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, Texas 78711

The Honorable Joe Straus  
Speaker of the House  
Texas House of Representatives  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

The Honorable Dan Patrick  
Lieutenant Governor of Texas  
Lt. Governor's Office  
P.O. Box 12068  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Abbott, Lieutenant Governor Patrick, and Speaker Straus:

During the 85th legislative session, San Antonio businesses stood together with the greater community in opposition to the discriminatory bathroom bills. As we enter a special session called by Governor Abbott, we write to reaffirm our opposition to discriminatory legislation such as SB 3, SB 91, HB 46 and HB 50.

As local business and community leaders, we oppose any law, statute, ordinance or rule that weakens our community's private and/or public sector's ability to attract talent and private investment or in any way limits San Antonio's identity as a welcoming destination to visit, live, and work. Policies that discriminate against individuals or groups based upon gender identity, sexual orientation, veteran status, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability are not in keeping with the long history of inclusion that has been San Antonio's promise, and they hamper Texas' ability to compete in the global marketplace.

San Antonio's economy has grown in part through the investments made in the bioscience, cybersecurity and manufacturing industries. As we compete for talent, it is imperative that our leaders not hamper our ability to attract a skilled workforce by passing discriminatory bills, or other related companions or amendments.

An economic impact study by *The Perryman Group* estimates the initial impact of the bathroom bill on business activity in the San Antonio region to be a loss of \$411.8 million annually and nearly 4,650 jobs. At maturity, the losses could be expected to rise to \$689.2 million and nearly 7,780 jobs.

In total, 54 organizations issued an ultimatum to various Convention and Visitors Bureaus and Economic Developers throughout the state: Should discriminatory legislation similar to SB 3, SB 91, HB 46 or HB 50 pass, they will cancel their current projects and redirect them to alternate locations. In total, this represents \$1.04 billion in economic impact through 2026.

We believe our economy is stronger when Texas is open for business to everyone. Therefore, we strongly urge you to oppose any discriminatory legislation.

Respectfully,

Danny Anderson  
President  
Trinity University

Hope Andrade  
Co-founder  
Andrade Van de Putte

Rick Archer  
Founding Principal  
Overland Partners, Inc.

Wes Baerga  
President & CEO  
VuePoint Creative

Michael Beldon  
Chairman  
Beldon Roofing Company

Tami Benson  
President  
Benson Design Associates

Lisa Bombin  
President  
Unico Communications, Inc

Julissa Carielo  
President & CEO  
Tejas Premiere Building  
Contractor, Inc.

Michelle Rojas Casillas  
Attorney & Owner  
Casillas Law Firm, PLLC

Dr. Alfonso Chiscano  
Vice President  
300 Centennial Commission

Arthur Coulombe  
General Manger  
JW Marriott Hill Country  
Resort and Spa

Joe Eazor  
Rackspace  
Chief Executive Officer

Vincent Forlenza  
Chairman & CEO  
Becton, Dickinson & Company

Louis J. Fox  
CEO  
Urban Advisory Services

Jim and Lisa Fullerton  
Co-Owners  
A Novel Idea

Paula Gold-Williams  
President & CEO  
CPS Energy

Leo Gomez  
President & CEO  
Brooks

Dr. Erika Gonzalez-Reyes  
President & CEO  
South Texas Allergy and  
Asthma Medical  
Professionals, PLLC and  
STAAMP Research, LLC

JJ Gorena II  
Owner & CEO  
The Trey Group, LLC and  
Trey Group Promotions

Jim Goudge  
Chairman  
Broadway Bank

Maryanne Guido  
CEO  
Guido & Companies Inc.

Katie Harvey  
CEO  
KGBTexas Communications

Denise Hernandez  
Vice President of  
Development  
True Flavors

Jorge Herrera  
Attorney at Law  
The Herrera Law Firm

Janet Holliday  
President  
The CE Group

Johnette Lee  
VP of Sales and Marketing  
San Antonio Lighthouse for  
the Blind and Vision Impaired

Raul Lomeli-Azoubel  
Chairman  
SABEResPODER, Inc.

Tomas Martinez  
Owner  
Luxury Home Magazine San  
Antonio and Austin

Lisa W. Morgan  
President & CEO  
TEAM Integrated  
Engineering, Inc.

Dennis Nixon  
CEO  
International Bank of  
Commerce

Mike Novak  
CEO  
Novak Group, LLC

Trip Pilgrim  
CEO  
Baptist Health System

Charles Poole  
Business Development  
Allbrite Constructors of  
Texas, Inc.

Jim Reed  
President  
San Antonio Medical Foundation

Bianca Rhodes  
President  
Knight Aerospace Medical  
Equipment

Steve Seidel  
Senior Counsel  
Jackson Walker LLP

Greg Seiler  
CEO  
Metropolitan Methodist

Jamie Smith  
Vice-Chairman  
Dykema Cox Smith

Maggie Thompson  
Executive Director  
San Antonio River Walk  
Association

Jimmy Toubin  
President  
Toubin Insurance Agency

Charles "Marty" Wender  
President  
Charles Martin Wender Real  
Estate & Investments

Graham Weston  
CEO  
Trout Capital, Ltd.

Tom Wright  
President & CEO  
GreenStar Products, Inc.

Bartell Zachry  
Chairman of the Board  
Zachry Interests

David Zachry  
CEO  
Zachry Corporation

