



## 2019-20 Legislative Banned Topic List & Quick Guidelines

In our efforts to make the program model the real Legislature as closely as possible, we consider a bill that is either signed by the Governor or vetoed with a subsequent override of the veto to have been "enacted into law" for the following Youth and Government program year. Therefore, just as the real Legislature would not consider a bill that would enact a preexisting law, we do not want our Legislature to consider any bills that would enact laws that we "enacted" in the previous year. This list of banned topics below is an extension of the rule in that a newly written Youth and Government bill cannot enact a law that already exists.

### HIGH SCHOOL BILLS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR AAYUSH DAVE IN 2019 ARE BANNED TOPICS FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL THIS YEAR:

Governor Action	Bill #	Bill	Author	Club/ District
Signed	HB 109	An act preserving monuments of the American Civil War and declaring an emergency.	Prado	Fox Tech HS, San Antonio
Signed	HS 013	An act requiring all public high schools to have students in grade 12 complete a mandatory personal Finance course and declaring it an emergency.	Evanhar	Centennial HS, Frisco
Signed	HH 009	An act amending the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, concerning how natural disasters are handled and declaring an emergency.	Childs	Boyd HS Dallas
Signed	FS 018	An act mandating that any company, public or private, that has operations in Texas that is sold or partly sold to a company based outside of the United States must retain all employees for a period of at least 1 year and declaring an emergency.	Dodanari	Imagine International Academy of North Texas, (IIANT) McKinney
Signed	HB 076	An act requiring all schools in Texas to hold an information session concerning sex trafficking safety during school for all 9 <sup>th</sup> graders and declaring and emergency.	Le	Lebanon Trail HS, Plano
Signed	HS 010	An act relating to placing more necessary prerequisites when purchasing long arms or hand guns and declaring an emergency.	Amirtharaj	Dawson HS, Pearland
Signed	HH 028	An act requiring all public high schools in Texas to provide GED education and testing even if they are not currently enrolled in school and declaring an emergency.	Kaur	IIANT, McKinney
Signed	FS 062	An act eliminating automatic admission requirements at all public universities and declaring an emergency.	Zhang	Independence HS, Frisco
Signed	HS 015	An act to increase government subsidies and tax incentives to make solar power more affordable and declaring an emergency.	Ghoshal	Liberty HS, Plano
Signed	FS 023	An act regarding vehicle inspections in the state of Texas and declaring an emergency.	Hoff	Richardson
Signed	FS 051	An act to make all state prisons have a vocational labor program and declaring an emergency.	Smith	Dripping Springs HS, Dripping Springs



# TEXAS YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT

## **BANNED TOPICS FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL THIS YEAR:**

Signed	FS 043	An act legalizing alkaline hydrolysis and declaring an emergency.	Rosenbalm	White Rock City
Signed	HS 023	An act to introduce free and mandatory annual mental health evaluations for students in public high schools and universities and declaring an emergency.	Joshi	Independence HS, Frisco

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL BILLS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR DAVIS WINN IN 2019 ARE BANNED TOPICS FOR ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THIS YEAR:**

Governor Action	Bill #	Bill	Author	Club/ District
Signed	SB 22	An act requiring a permit to purchase firearms and declaring an emergency.	Greco	Dowell Middle School Dallas
Signed	DH 9	An act to grant mothers a 3 month maternity paid leave where they will be getting 50% of their salary in the state of Texas and declaring an emergency.	Bohary	Dowell Dallas
Signed	DC 60	An act requiring schools to arm staff and school officials, and declaring an emergency.	Rana	Austin Academy Garland
Signed	DC 10	An act giving teachers a minimum of a 5% pay raise and declaring an emergency.	Chundururu	Coppell Middle School West Coppell
Signed	DH 25	An act establishing all hospitals to stabilize a patient in shock with no cost, before the patient can be treated and declaring an emergency.	Garcia	Jack C. Faubion Middle School McKinney
Signed	SB 10	An act banning outsourcing from Texas headquartered companies and declaring an emergency.	Clark	Dowell McKinney
Signed	SB 46	An act to enforce a drug test on police officers immediately after they shoot or assault an unarmed citizen.	Shalaina	IIANT McKinney

## **THERE ARE NO ADDITIONAL BANNED TOPICS FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL:**



## GUIDELINES FOR BILL WRITERS

### For All Bill Writers:

1. All bill topics must abide by our core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.
2. We are honored to use the Capitol facilities in Austin, TX. Bills should honor this privilege by being well researched, relevant, and respectful.
3. Club advisors must clear bill topic prior to student writing the bill.
4. Students need to generate a new bill each year.
5. High School: All bills need to have ONE author per bill
6. Middle School: Bills written for House and Senate need to have ONE author per bill. If bills written for JYG Duran House, Duran Senate or Duran Council, a maximum of two authors are allowed. Exceptions must be cleared by District Directors, State Director, and/or State Legislative Section Leaders.
7. Bill topic must not be on the Banned List.
8. Students must use the bill template provided on website <https://ymcatexasyq.org/program-sections/legislative/>
9. **Students must save and submit proposal with the following file name to help us identify your bill: Last Name\_First Name\_School Name\_YGDistrict (should look like this Smith\_John\_Austin\_High\_Austin)**
10. Students must abide by all deadlines provided by District Directors and State Director.
11. Review Legislative Basics on the Legislative Section page at <https://ymcatexasyq.org/program-sections/legislative/>
12. Research! Practice!

### TIPS

Youth and Government bills need to present ideas that can be debated effectively.

Great debate can only happen when specific conditions are met. We have broken it all down for you. Here are qualities we think good bills share:

- **Debatability:** people are going to want to argue about your bill from both sides of the issue. If you cannot think of an argument against your bill, you should probably pick a different topic!
- **Importance to Texas:** the idea here is that a bill that affects a lot of people or a wide variety of people is better than a bill that only affects a few people or a narrow range of people. If a topic has been in newspapers, on the Internet, or on TV, then it may be a good bill topic.
- **Feasibility:** your bill idea could actually work the way you want it to in the real world. It's realistic.
- **Researchability:** you are going to be able to find facts, statistics, and news articles supporting your idea.

The KEY to a good bill is that it presents an idea that you care very much about. The more passionate you feel about your bill, the more you will want to put in the work that will make it successful.



## **HELPFUL LINKS**

<https://comptroller.texas.gov/transparency/>

<http://www.hro.house.state.tx.us/>

<http://www.senate.state.tx.us/>

<http://www.legis.state.tx.us/Committees/MeetingsSenate.aspx>

<http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org>

<http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/>

<http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/legis/TexasLawTimeLine.cfm>

<http://www.sll.state.tx.us/>

<http://www.tlc.state.tx.us/>

<https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/arclegis.html>

<http://www.lbb.state.tx.us/>