

May 19, 2021

To Members of the Texas Senate,

We are historians against HB 3979 & SB 2202.

Students have a right to learn an accurate account of history, including the darkest parts of our history and the long efforts for freedom and social justice. A truthful accounting of history will allow students to learn the lessons of the past to help build a more equal and inclusive future.

This legislation is also detrimental for teachers and students in more than one way.

This bill places history and civics teachers in a professionally compromising position in the classroom. It is impossible to teach the history of the United States without discussing race, gender, religion, or injustice. That inaccurate account of history would not meet professional standards set by professional historical associations like the Organization of American Historians or the American Historical Association. That version of history would not meet the State Board of Education curriculum standards set by Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. Moreover, mandating how topics like slavery must be taught is an overreach of the legislature.

Removing lessons that teach students how ideas of race and gender shaped our laws and policies will academically disadvantage students in Texas. They will not be prepared to take Advanced Placement exams for college credit. They will not have the basic foundation in US history or the analytical skills required for students to succeed in colleges and universities. This bill might even prohibit students from taking Dual Enrollment courses taught by high school instructors that accurately teach the history of the United States. Moreover, students will be ill-equipped to have conversations in daily life about accurate history or controversial topics.

Supporters of these bills are using inflammatory language. Today teachers that follow guidelines outlined by professional organizations and the Texas State Board of Education are being dangerously misrepresented as “indoctrinating” students. These baseless accusations sow public distrust of our teachers and of public education more generally. It also makes the work of teachers of history, civics, Mexican American studies, and African American studies more difficult and they may even be targeted with harassment or worse.

Senators, we urge you to show your support for Texas teachers, ensure that our students will be academically prepared to succeed in higher education and in life, and vote no for HB 3979 and SB 2202.

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Christopher Carmona | UT Rio Grande Valley |
| 2. Trinidad Gonzales | Refusing to Forget |
| 3. Monica Muñoz Martinez | University of Texas at Austin |
| 4. Emilio Zamora | University of Texas at Austin |
| 5. Daina Ramey Berry | University of Texas at Austin |

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| 6. Joan Neuberger | University of Texas at Austin |
| 7. John Mckiernan-Gonzalez | Texas State University |
| 8. Dr. Santiago Piñón | Texas Christian University |
| 9. Cassandra Rincones | Lone Star College |
| 10. Felipe Hinojosa | Texas A&M University |
| 11. John Morán González | University of Texas at Austin |
| 12. Sonia Hernandez | Texas A&M University & concerned Texan voter |
| 13. Miguel A. Levario | Texas Tech University |
| 14. Aaron Wilson | South Texas College |
| 15. Lucero Saldaña | San Antonio College |
| 16. Jennifer Keys Adair | UT Austin |
| 17. Madeline Hsu | UT Austin |
| 18. David Colon | Texas Christian University |
| 19. Dr. Valerie A. Martinez | Our Lady of the Lake University |
| 20. Edward Avila | Independent Scholar |
| 21. Dr. Samantha Rodriguez | Houston Community College |
| 22. Santiago Torres Jr, | Graduate Assistant |
| 23. Orlando Lara | Co-Founder, Ethnic Studies Network of Texas |
| 24. Juan Carmona | Donna High School / South Texas College |
| 25. Mark R. Murray | Government Professor |
| 26. Laura Leal | University of Texas Rio Grande, Edinburg |
| 27. Shine Trabucco | University of Houston, PhD student |
| 28. Laura Leal | University of Texas Rio Grande, Edinburg |
| 29. Erina Duganne | Associate Professor, Texas State University |
| 30. Juan Cisneros Tejeda | Retired Professor of Mexican American Studies & Music at Palo Alto College in San Antonio |
| 31. Carlos Cantu | Independent Researcher |
| 32. William S. Bush | Texas A&M University-San Antonio |
| 33. Annie Liss | South Texas College |
| 34. Guadalupe S San Miguel | University of Houston |
| 35. Max Krochmal | Texas Christian University |
| 36. Gene Thomas Morales | Texas A&M University-San Antonio |
| 37. Carlyn Jorgensen | South Texas College |
| 38. Dr. Michelle Tovar | Holocaust Museum Houston |
| 39. Sylvia Flores | South Texas College |
| 40. Armando C. Alonzo | Texas A&M University |
| 41. Liliana Saldana | University of Texas San Antonio |
| 42. Kenyon Zimmer | University of Texas Arlington |
| 43. Dr. Jeanelle Hope | Texas Christian University |
| 44. Flora Farago | Stephen F. Austin State University |
| 45. Ramon Villarreal-Leal | University of Texas Rio Grande Valley - History Graduate |
| 46. Fidel Rodriguez | South Texas College |
| 47. Erica Buchberger | UTRGV |
| 48. Dr. Gabriel Huddleston | Texas Christian University |

49. Dr. Jaclyn Miller	South Texas College
50. Jennifer R Mata	Texas Lutheran University
51. Regina Marie Mills	Texas A&M University
52. Jeremy Goheen	University of Texas at Austin
53. Kimberly Montoya	Teacher
54. Juan Manuel Galvan Rodriguez	Lone Star College
55. Melissa Morin	Teacher
56. Julie Sylva	Fort Worth ISD Teaching & Learning Division, Social
57. George Diaz	Historian, McAllen
58. Endia Lindo	Texas Christian University
59. Nina Barbieri	University of Houston Downtown
60. Rachael Hudspeth	University of Houston Downtown
61. Aimee Marianna Villarreal	Our Lady of the Lake University
62. Marisol Lebron	University of Texas at Austin
63. Rebecca Saiz	Lone Star College
64. Sandra Mendiola	University of North Texas
65. Jonathan L. Chism	University of Houston-Downtown
66. Reynaldo Castañeda	University of Houston, BA History
67. Katharine Jager, PhD	The University of Houston-Downtown
68. Walter Kamphoefner	Texas A&M University, College Station
69. Dr. Jeffrey Shepherd	The University of Texas at El Paso
70. Steven Hoelscher	The University of Texas at Austin
71. Patricia M Garcia	University of Texas at Austin
72. Jian Gao	University of Texas at Austin
73. Nicholas Patrick Cox, Ph.D.	Houston Community College System
74. Alberto A. Martinez	History Dept., The University of Texas at Austin
75. David Conrad	University of Texas at Austin
76. Mohit P Mehta	University of Texas at Austin
77. Jason Mellard	Texas State University
78. Rachel Gunter	community college history professor
79. Mark A. Goldberg	University of Houston
80. Toya Mary Okonkwo	TCU
81. Scottie Buehler	Institute for Historical Studies, UT Austin
82. Brenda Matthews	Texas Wesleyan University
83. Alistair Maeer, Ph.D.	Texas Wesleyan University
84. Jeffrey L. Meikle	Stiles Professor in American Studies, UT Austin
85. Lauren Gutterman	University of Texas at Austin
86. Shirley Thompson	The University of Texas at Austin
87. Cary Cordova	The University of Texas at Austin
88. Julia Mickenberg	University of Texas
89. Dr. Leah LaGrone Ochoa	TCU
90. Cynthia J Beeman	Ruthe Winegarten Foundation for Texas Women's History
91. John R. Lundberg	Tarrant County College
92. M. Scott Sosebee	Stephen F. Austin State University

93. Araceli Manriquez UTSA
94. Lindsey Passenger Wieck Assistant Professor
95. Lauren Turek Trinity University
96. Grace Slayter Texas A&M University-Commerce
97. Deborah Liles TSU
98. Todd Moye University of North Texas
99. Colleen Allen M.S. in History - Student
100. Caitlyn Jones University of Houston
101. Rebecca Saiz Lone Star College
102. Kathryn Guerra Teacher; Historian
103. Mari L Nicholson-Preuss, Ph.D. University of Houston-Downtown
104. Dr. Yolanda Reyes Guevara Northwest Vista College
105. Dr. Stephen Lopez San Jacinto College
106. Lucero Saldaña San Antonio College
107. Katherine Kuehler Walters Texas State Historical Association (my views, not the organization)
108. Omar Valerio-Jiménez University of Texas at San Antonio
109. Dr. Jesus J. Esparza Texas Southern University
110. Philis M. Barragán Goetz Texas A&M University-San Antonio
111. Bryan Stone Del Mar College, Corpus Christi
112. Amanda Bresie Greenhill School
113. Flannery Burke Saint Louis University
114. Joseph Ukockis University of New Mexico
115. Brianna Nofil College of William & Mary
116. Brian DeLay UC Berkeley
117. Natalia Molina University of Southern California
118. Karl Jacoby Columbia University
119. Christine Evans University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
120. Stephen Pitti Yale University
121. A. Naomi Paik University of Illinois, Chicago, born & raised Lubbock
122. Stephen D. Allen California State University, Bakersfield
123. Carolina Monsivais Historian
124. Dr. Wilson Valentín-Escobar University of Massachusetts Lowell
125. Rachel Ida Buff University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
126. Laura Briggs University of Massachusetts, Amherst
127. Angela Diaz Utah State University
128. Jennifer D Urban-Flores Harmony Science Academy
129. Torrie Hester Saint Louis University
130. Joe Austin University of Wisconsin -- Milwaukee
131. Maria Cristina Garcia Cornell University
132. Elizabeth O'Brien Johns Hopkins University
133. Tommy Song Instructor/TA at Columbia University

134. Raymond Craib Cornell University
135. Beatrice McKenzie Beloit College
136. Michael D Innis-Jimenez University of Alabama
137. Paul Newcomb University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
138. Veronica Martinez-Matsuda Cornell University, ILR School
139. Mariela Nuñez-Janes Professor of Anthropology and Latino/a Mexican American Studies Affiliated Faculty
140. Mari Jo Buhle Brown University, emerita
141. KATRINA MOORE Associate Professor of History -Saint Louis University
142. Ana Raquel Minian Stanford University
143. Jamie Krempa Fort Worth ISD
144. Alyssa Rojero Social Studies Teacher
145. Alan Kraut American University
146. Michael Gonzales University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
147. Nina Silber Boston University
148. Benjamin Johnson Loyola University Chicago
149. María Josefina Saldaña-Portillo New York University, SCA Department
150. Evan Taparata Harvard University
151. Myah Palechek UW-Milwaukee
152. Derek Chang Cornell University
153. Jennifer D Sayed Educator
154. Amado Balderas Edinburg ECISD
155. Olivia Hoff University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
156. Rebecca Nell Hill Interdisciplinary Studies, Kennesaw State University
157. Christine Talbot University of Northern Colorado
158. Charlotte Brooks Baruch College, CUNY
159. Lois Rita Helmbold University of Nevada, Las Vegas (retired)
160. Brian W. Ogilvie Professor and Department Chair, Department of History, University of Massachusetts Amherst
161. Danielle Olden University of Utah
162. Stephen Vider Assistant Professor of History and Director of the Public History Initiative, Cornell University
163. Dr. Will Tchakirides Smithsonian Institution
164. Jennifer Koshatka Seman Metropolitan State University of Denver
165. Dr. Portia Hopkins faculty, admin, researcher
166. Amado Reyes Guzmán PhD candidate, The University of Arizona
167. Adam Arenson Manhattan College; formerly taught at University of Texas at El Paso
168. Emma Pask University of Chicago
169. JEAN O'BRIEN University of Minnesota
170. Dr. Michael Phillips Collin College
171. Doris Morgan Rueda University of Nevada Las Vegas
172. Brian Behnken Iowa State University
173. Derek Xavier Garcia PhD Student, Concordia University, Montréal

174.	Kathryn Schumaker	University of Oklahoma
175.	Jeff Ostler	University of Oregon, Department of History
176.	Charles Tocci	Loyola University Chicago
177.	Desirae McCoy	History Professor
178.	Alexi Guilbault	Indiana University
179.	Jonathan Bruce	UW-Milwaukee
180.	Michael Slager	Loyola University Chicago
181.	Sebastian P. Wuepper	Loyola University Chicago
182.	Diane Teter	Professor Emerita of Biology
183.	Maddalena Marinari	Gustavus Adolphus College
184.	Gustav Roman	Thomas Kelly College Preparatory
185.	Jeffrey W. Pickron	University of Wisconsin Oshkosh
186.	J. Albert Nungaray	Indigenous Historian
187.	Lindsay Marshall	University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign
188.	Barbara Winslow	Brooklyn College/CUNY
189.	Elliott Young	Lewis & Clark College
190.	Eduardo Contreras	Hunter College and The Graduate Center, CUNY
191.	ADRIA L. IMADA	University of California, Irvine, Professor of History
192.	Beatrix Hoffman	Northern Illinois University
193.	Eileen McKiernan González	Berea College
194.	Marjorie Sanchez Walker	California State University, Stanislaus
195.	Janelle Barron	Historian
196.	Michael D Aguirre	Harvard University
197.	Adam Goodman	University of Illinois Chicago
198.	Kerri Keller Clement	CU-Boulder
199.	David Kieran	Assistant Professor of History, Washington & Jefferson College
200.	Rama Mantena	University of Illinois at Chicago
201.	Susie Porter	University of Utah
202.	Julia Istomina	Yale University
203.	Erick Alonso Saucedo	Ethnic Studies HS Teacher
204.	Erick Alonso	Ethnic Studies Teacher
205.	Julissa Limon	Public Middle School
206.	Julian Lim	Arizona State University
207.	Eric Herschthal	University of Utah
208.	Jack Matthews	Independent Scholar/retired Professor
209.	David Robles	Educator
210.	Angela Thomas	Teacher
211.	Karen Moore	Retired Educator
212.	Amanda LeClair-Díaz	Graduate Student

213.	Joseph Niedziela	Fort Worth ISD
214.	Lily Green	Educator
215.	Hopeton Hay	citizen
216.	Christopher Scott	Student
217.	Matthew Joseph Arredondo	none
218.	Christian Canizales,	none
219.	Melisa Ramirez	Independent
220.	Juan Daniel Garcia	Educator
221.	Gerardo A. Velasquez	none
222.	Zach Zarate	None
223.	Irma Zamora	Educator
224.	Victoriano Cano	Pasadena ISD
225.	Lorena Patterson	Educator
226.	M Muñoz	Educator
227.	René Longoria	Educator
228.	Vincent Montoya	History Major
229.	Shivam patel	Texas resident