



MI FAMILIA EN ACCIÓN

OUR MISSION

Mi Familia en Acción's mission is to build Latino power, through activation of the community and year-round investment in local infrastructure, to advance our priorities.

OUR GOALS

Mi Familia en Acción is a national civic engagement organization that unites Latino, immigrant, and allied communities to promote social and economic justice through citizenship workshops, voter registration, and voter participation. Mi Familia en Acción has operations in Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Nevada, North Carolina and Texas. We concentrate on the following issues:



IMMIGRATION



VOTER REGISTRATION



VOTER EDUCATION



HEALTHCARE



VOTING RIGHTS



ENVIRONMENT



REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS



WORKERS RIGHTS



EDUCATION

MEET OUR TEXAS STATE DIRECTOR:



DAYANA IZA

Dayana Iza started as a Youth Organizer at Mi Familia Vota. Dayana has been an active member of her community for 10+ years. She finds her passion within assisting the under-represented and contributing to the engagement of the Latinx community. She firmly believes that the biggest investment we have is our youth, and thoroughly enjoys working closely with them.

Dayana has taken part in the Climate Reality Houston chapter and took part in a climate change training led by ex Vice President Al Gore. She is also currently an advocate for Young Invincibles Houston in which she advocates to amplify the voices of young adults in the political process and expand economic opportunity for this generation. Dayana has taken part in various fellowships that have helped her enhance her abilities and work.



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Mi Familia en Acción

89TH TX LEGISLATIVE SESSION



OUR 89TH TX LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Education:

- Equitably fund public schools and oppose diverting funds to private schools through vouchers
- Protect LGBTQIA+ students from discrimination

Healthcare/Reproductive Justice:

- Expand Medicaid coverage to millions of uninsured Texans
- Reinstate access to safe abortions and reproductive rights

Immigration:

- End Operation Lone Star
- Ensure undocumented students' access to public education
- Increase access to driver's licenses for undocumented Texans

Environmental Justice:

- Ensure the proper weatherization of the Texas Power Grid
- Address the impact of climate change on Texas and increase support for renewable energy utilization and jobs
- Ensure appropriate regulations and consequences of pollution and contamination in neighborhoods and the environment

Gun Safety:

- Enact common-sense gun legislation, including the red flag and universal background checks, and increase the legal age to buy firearms from 18 to 21

Voting Rights:

- Expand access to the ballot by simplifying voter registration, while continuing the countywide polling place program to ensure convenient and accessible voting locations for all eligible voters.



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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

All Texans deserve clean air, safe water, and a healthy environment. We must ensure reliable, sustainable energy for every community and prioritize environmental justice, especially for low-income and communities of color. By investing in clean energy, stronger infrastructure, and protective policies, we can build a more equitable and resilient future for all Texans.

- Two important state agencies are TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) and PUC (Public Utilities Commission) are made up of appointed officials who regulate pollution penalties and energy usage.
- Harrisburg/Manchester, a neighborhood in east Houston, is made up of 90% Hispanic residents. 21 industrial and toxic waste facilities are located within 3 miles of the neighborhood.
- The W.A. Parish Power Generating Station in Fort Bend County ranks as one of the dirtiest coal plants in the U.S., contributing to approximately 178 premature deaths annually. This facility is located less than 10 minutes from Reading Junior High and George Ranch High School.
- Oppose the expansion of concrete crushers and cement plants in Fort Bend County and advocate for TCEQ-regulated air monitoring to protect local residents and ensure environmental safety.
- Houston is becoming increasingly vulnerable to extreme weather events, such as Hurricane Beryl. Strengthening regulations and oversight for utility companies like CenterPoint and ERCOT is crucial to ensure reliable power supply and minimize disruptions during natural disasters.

BILLS WE ARE ADVOCATING FOR:

- **SB 75:** Sen. Bob Hall, et al. - Relating to the resilience of the electric grid and certain municipalities.
- **HB 859:** Rep. Ron Reynolds - Relating to the establishment of the Texas Environmental Justice Advisory.
- **HB 844:** Rep. Senfronia Thompson - Relating to the authority of a municipality or county to request a hearing from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality related to the construction of a concrete plant.



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EDUCATION

Texas public schools serve over 5 million students in more than 1,200 districts, with 52% Latino students. The state faces challenges like high teacher turnover, declining enrollment in some areas, and the controversial Houston ISD takeover. Proposed school voucher bills could divert funds from public schools to private institutions, worsening budget constraints and increasing disparities in educational quality. Lawmakers must prioritize stable funding and policies to ensure equitable access to quality education for all Texans.

BILLS WE ARE ADVOCATING FOR/AGAINST:

- **SB 2:** Sen. Brandon Creighton, et al. - **AGAINST**
 - Would create a school voucher system that allows parents to use state funds to pay for their child's education at a private school, including tuition, educational materials, and tutoring.
- **HB 371:** Rep. Ben Bumgarner - **AGAINST**
 - Would require students to provide proof of citizenship or legal status to enroll in public schools.
- **HB 1279:** Rep. Alan Schoolcraft - **AGAINST**
 - Would bar educators from acknowledging that privilege or, conversely, oppression exists in our society, based on a person's race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, or religion.
- **HB 976:** Rep. Steve Toth - **AGAINST**
 - Would reinforce parental rights in public education by prohibiting certain instruction related to sexual orientation or gender identity
- **HB 1770:** Rep. Vicki Goodwin - **FOR**
 - Would raise the per-student funding amount from \$6,160 to \$7,500 next year, adjusting annually with inflation.
- **HB 2249:** Rep Diego Bernal - **FOR**
 - Would establish the Texas Teacher Recruitment Scholarship Program and the Texas Teacher Retention Incentive Program.



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HEALTHCARE

Texas has the highest uninsured rate in the U.S., with nearly 17% of Texans lacking health insurance in 2022. Latinos are disproportionately affected, primarily due to the lack of Medicaid expansion and immigration status barriers. Texas also has one of the highest maternal mortality rates, particularly among Black women. Additionally, nearly 1 in 5 Texans struggle with mental health issues, but a significant portion lack access to care. Despite this, state leaders have rejected Medicaid expansion, leaving 1.24 million eligible Texans without coverage. Expanding Medicaid would provide critical healthcare, create jobs, and bring funding to the state. Investing in affordable healthcare will enhance the long-term well-being of all Texans.

BILLS WE ARE ADVOCATING FOR:

- **HB 740:** Rep. Armando Walle
 - Would enhance Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for certain postsecondary students
- **HB 161:** Rep. Donna Howard
 - Would allow students with menstrual disorders to have excused absences from school.
- **SB 52:** Sen. Judith Zaffirini and Sen. Molly Cook
 - Would allow excused absences from public school for a student's mental or behavioral health.
- **SB 255:** Sen. Alvarado, et al.
 - Would expand Medicaid to eligible Texans.
- **SB 256:** Sen. Alvarado, et al.
 - Would amend existing abortion laws by introducing exceptions and repealing certain prohibitions.
- **SB 179:** Sen. José Menéndez
 - Would raise awareness among mixed-status families about Medicaid and the Child Health Plan Program (CHIP) eligibility by requiring the Health and Human Services Commission to launch a public outreach and education campaign targeting these families.



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VOTING RIGHTS

Texas is one of the most challenging states in the country when it comes to voting, and state lawmakers are making it even harder. Texans deserve a state where the right to vote is protected and where the process is designed to encourage participation, not discourage it. Voter registration should be straightforward, accessible, and inclusive, ensuring that every eligible Texan can easily register to vote without unnecessary hurdles.

Likewise, casting a ballot should be a simple, secure, and accessible experience, free from bureaucratic barriers. Above all, historically marginalized communities, such as Black, Latino, and low-income populations should be empowered to fully engage in the democratic process without fear of disenfranchisement or discrimination. It's crucial that the state of Texas work toward creating an election system that reflects the values of fairness, equality, and true democratic representation for all Texans

BILLS WE ARE ADVOCATING FOR/AGAINST:

- **HB 1003:** Rep. Erin Zwiener - **FOR**
 - Would expand the list of acceptable forms of photo identification for voting in Texas by adding ID cards issued by public institutions of higher education located in Texas to the list of acceptable IDs.
- **SB 68:** Sen. Judith Zaffirini - **FOR**
 - Proposes an amendment to the Election Code to allow individuals who will be 18 years old on the date of the general election for state and county officers to vote in the preceding primary elections.
- **SB 76:** Sen. Bob Hall - **AGAINST**
 - Relating to elimination of the countywide polling place program.
- **HJR 49:** Rep. Briscoe Cain - **AGAINST**
 - Proposing a constitutional amendment to require a person to submit proof of citizenship to register to vote.



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IMMIGRATION

Texas has an estimated population of 1.7 immigrants in the state. With recent legislation and policies taking a stern stance against undocumented immigrants, Texas is one of the least immigrant-friendly states in the country. Despite a large immigrant population, Texas has enacted laws that enable strict enforcement and tough border measures. Texas has implemented policies such as Operation Lone Star which significantly increases border security and actively detain individuals of suspected illegal entry. This operation has little to no evidence of impact and is funded by taxpayer dollars. Texans All Texans deserves the opportunity to seek safety and build a better life, regardless of their background or origin. Immigrants are key to our Texas history, culture, and economy.

BILLS WE ARE ADVOCATING FOR/AGAINST:

- **HB 371:** Rep. Ben Bumgarner - **AGAINST**
 - Relating to the admission to public schools of children unlawfully present in the United States and the eligibility of those children for the benefits of the available school fund and Foundation School Program.
- **SB 416:** Sen. Mays Middleton - **AGAINST**
 - Relating to proof of United States citizenship for the issuance or renewal of a personal automobile insurance policy.
- **HB 1296:** Rep VO - **FOR**
 - Relating to the voter registration of naturalized citizens.
- **HB 1491:** Rep. Schatzline - **AGAINST**
 - Relating to agreements between counties and United States Customs Enforcement to enforce federal immigration law.



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