

# DRAFT

City of Boerne's opposition and support of proposed bills:

1. Boerne is opposed to SB 2/HB 2 as it establishes an arbitrary cap and puts at risk a city's ability to recover revenue to adequately offset rising costs to meet service level demands of the citizens of Boerne.
2. Boerne is opposed to HB 347 (companion bills SB 408/SB 745/SB 1432) due to the limitations it would place on the City's ability to expand city limits, acquire additional tax base, and regulate development, thereby hindering the City's ability to serve its citizens and grow in an orderly fashion.
3. Boerne is opposed to HB 705/SB 648 because the additional sales and use tax provided would not offset the loss of ad valorem taxes that would result if SB 2/HB 2 as proposed.
4. Boerne is opposed to HB 3535/SB 1152 because it would allow a private company to use the City's right-of-way without paying the City a fair fee for its use. The City will lose revenue paid for this use by private companies if this bill passes and those costs would have to be shifted to the tax payers of the City of Boerne.
5. Boerne is opposed to SB 29/HB 2014/ HB 281 that proposes to limit a City's ability to lobby the legislature using tax dollars. The City Council of each City is elected by tax payers who entrust them with determining how to BEST spend their tax dollars. If tax payers don't like or agree with how their City Council is spending their tax dollars, the checks and balances take place on election day. It should be a local decision not a statewide decision on how Cities can spend tax dollars through their annual budgets.
6. Boerne is opposed to SB 1384 because it would allow another city to form in Boerne's ETJ without Boerne's consent. Boerne should be allowed to regulate and have authority over its ETJ in all respects to protect the public health safety and welfare of its citizens. Allowing other cities to encroach on and develop in Boerne's ETJ would have a detrimental impact on the citizens of Boerne because of the potential for conflicting rules and regulations relating to development which may be contrary to the desires of the citizens of Boerne.
7. Boerne is opposed to HB 2496 because it would effectively allow a landowner to decline their property being designated as a Historic Landmark. If this is allowed, then the City would not be able to preserve its historic landmarks which would result in the loss of important cultural features regarding Boerne's rich heritage.
8. Boerne is opposed to HB 3723/SB 1613/ SB 1090 requiring November elections only, 2/3 voter approval versus a simple majority, or 25% of the registered voters to vote in an election to approve the proposal. Elimination of the May election option will limit the City's ability to access favorable bond rates that are in the best interest of the taxpayers. The City cannot control voter turnout and thus can be adversely affected due to circumstances beyond the City's control.

9. Boerne Supports HB 1472 & SB 1888/HB 3773/HB 3378 regarding regulations of Short-Term Rentals and collection of Hotel Occupancy Taxes.
10. The City of Boerne conditionally supports SB 1170/HB 1806, the “SAWS Bill”. The bill would allow SAWS to sell Edwards Aquifer water at wholesale to a retail public utility (as defined in chapter 13 of the Water Code) or river authority for use in a county adjacent to the Authority. The city has concerns that unchecked access to this water supply limits its ability to manage growth in its ETJ. New subdivisions with access to SAWS water supplies could be developed at much higher density levels that would put significant cost pressures on the city without offsetting revenue from taxes or utility payments. The City of Boerne wishes to enter into an agreement with SAWS to limit access to water which would allow density of greater than the equivalent of 3 residential units per acre in Kendall County.