





## NAVIGATING THE PAXTON OPINION: WEBINAR FOLLOW-UP DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES



### What to do if DFPS contacts you:

- If CPS reaches out to you, try to delay the initial conversation as much as possible while still being cooperative. Even if an intake specialist shows up at your door, you don't have to let them in and can schedule for a later date. This will give you time to get legal representation and make sure they're in the initial call.
- Immediately contact ACLU/Lambda Legal for legal help and Equality Texas.
- Do not hand over your safe folder or sign any documents authorizing the release of private information. Do not talk about healthcare your child is receiving.
- Make sure your child knows that they do not have to speak to anyone from CPS, even if they're at school.

### Advocacy actions you can take:

- Share this one-pager to your networks explaining what this opinion means. 
- Equality Texas has an email action to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS). Send a message to the Commissioner that gender-affirming care is life-saving and does not constitute "child abuse". You can access that action here. 
- You can also call DFPS and make your voice heard at 512-438-4800.
- You can go on all social media platforms and send encouraging words to trans-inclusive families and transgender kids in Texas. Kind words can go a long way right now.
- Follow **Equality Texas, the Transgender Education Network of Texas, the ACLU of Texas, Lambda Legal, Texas Freedom Network, and the Human Rights Campaign** on all social media platforms to stay informed on updates.

### Legal resources for families:

A list of pro-bono attorneys has been compiled for families in need. If you are in need of legal representation please use the Lambda Legal help desk linked here  and also contact the ACLU of Texas linked here.  Please send an email to us at Equality Texas to let us know about your situation so we can provide additional support if possible. Email [info@equalitytexas.org](mailto:info@equalitytexas.org).

- *Disclaimer: No part of this document or content of the 'Navigating the Paxton Opinion' webinar constitute legal advice. Please refer to the legal resources section if you need legal counsel.*