

Alamo, Austin, and Lone Star chapters of
the Sierra Club
Aquifer Guardians in Urban Areas
Bexar Audubon Society
Bexar Green Party
Boerne Together
Cibolo Nature Center
Citizens Allied for Smart Expansion
Citizens for the Protection of Cibolo Creek
Environment Texas
First Universalist Unitarian Church of
San Antonio
Friends of Canyon Lake
Friends of Dry Comal Creek
Friends of Government Canyon
Fuerza Unida
Green Party of Austin
Headwaters at Incarnate Word
Hays Community Action Network
Helotes Heritage Association
Helotes Nature Center
Hill Country Planning Association
Green Society of UTSA
Guadalupe River Road Alliance
Guardians of Lick Creek
Kendall County Well Owners Association
Kinney County Ground Zero
Leon Springs Business Association
Medina County Environmental Action
Association
Native Plant Society of Texas – SA
Northwest Interstate Coalition of
Neighborhoods
Preserve Castroville
Preserve Lake Dunlop Association
San Antonio Audubon Society
San Antonio Conservation Society
San Geronimo Nature Center
San Geronimo Valley Alliance
San Marcos Greenbelt Alliance
San Marcos River Foundation
Save Barton Creek Association
Save Our Springs Alliance
Scenic Loop/Boerne Stage Alliance
Securing a Future Environment
SEED Coalition
Solar San Antonio
Sisters of the Divine Providence
Travis County Green Party
West Texas Springs Alliance
Water Aid – Texas State University
Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation
Wimberley Valley Watershed Association

May 2, 2017

House Appropriations Committee

Chair: Rep. John Zerwas

Vice Chair: Rep. Oscar Longoria

Rep. Trent Ashby, Rep. Greg Bonnen, Rep. Giovanni Capriglione

Rep. Scott Cospers, Rep. Sarah Davis, Rep. Jay Dean,

Rep. Dawnna Dukes, Rep. Helen Giddings, Rep. Larry Gonzales,

Rep. Mary E. González, Rep. Donna Howard, Rep. Linda Koop,

Rep. Rick Miller, Rep. Sergio Muñoz, Jr., Rep. Mary Ann Perez,

Rep. Dade Phelan, Rep. John Raney, Rep. Kevin Roberts,

Rep. Justin Rodriguez, Rep. Toni Rose, Rep. J. D. Sheffield,

Rep. Ron Simmons, Rep. Gary VanDeaver, Rep. Armando Walle,

Rep. Gene Wu

CC: Nelda Hunter

Dear Chairman Zerwas and Members of the House Appropriations
Committee,

I submit this letter in support of H.B. 78 on behalf of the fifty-two
member organizations of the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance
(GEAA) and the 25,000 Texans represented by GEAA and our
member groups. We strongly supported passage of HB 158 in the
84th Legislature and are dismayed to find an error in the language
of SB 1366 undermined the permanence of the Sporting Goods
Sales Tax funding. You have the opportunity to pass H.B. 78 to
restore the funding for state parks that the Legislature intended
and the state applauded. A strong argument can be made that
the Legislature also has the obligation to pass HB 78, to honor its
promise to ensure that your constituents have safe, inviting parks
for their families.

As Texas adds hundreds of new citizens daily, our State Parks will
be more than ever in need of adequate funding to ensure that they
are welcoming to Texans new and old, and that they remain a
vibrant part of the Texas economy as tourist destinations.

The State of Texas should take every opportunity to effectively
manage and enhance our State Parks. We believe, and hope you
agree, that H.B. 78 is the right step in this direction and is worthy
of your approval.

Sincerely,

Annalisa Peace

**Annalisa Peace
Executive Director**