



# Texas United Methodist Women's Legislative Agenda 2019

There are more than 100,000 members of United Methodist Women in Texas. At their annual legislative conference, UMW members from all six of Texas' United Methodist Annual Conferences adopt a consensus legislative agenda reflecting their priority legislative concerns. United Methodist Women was established in 1869. United Methodist Women place particular emphasis on issues impacting the well-being of women, children and youth.

Texas United Methodist Women affirm the dedication of every member of the Texas Legislature. We thank you for your service to our state and we look forward to thanking you for your good work in the 86th legislative session. The following represent our consensus legislative priorities for 2019:

---

## **National UMW Priority Area: Economic Inequality**

---

### **Texas Legislative Priorities**

- Increase funding for public education and ensure that public dollars go to public education for public purposes.
- Fully fund full-day pre-kindergarten statewide.

---

## **National UMW Priority Area: Climate Justice**

---

### **Texas Legislative Priorities**

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Texas 25% by 2030 by advancing the use of renewable energy and all other available forms of technology.
- Direct state agencies to plan for costs attributable to climate change such as those associated with natural disasters.

---

## **National UMW Priority Area: Criminalization of Communities of Color**

---

### **Texas Legislative Priorities**

- Eliminate all forms of discriminatory law enforcement, including by repealing SB 4.
- Increase accountability, transparency, and state oversight of state spending on border security.

---

## **National UMW Priority Area: Maternal and Child Health**

---

### **Texas Legislative Priorities**

- Ensure comprehensive health insurance coverage for all Texans including by expanding Medicaid
- Pass measures that reduce maternal and infant mortality.
- Remove obstacles to continuity of care in the state's publicly funded health insurance programs such as overly burdensome enrollment and renewal requirements.

---

For more information about United Methodist Women in Texas or this legislative agenda, contact any of the following UMW Conference Social Action Coordinators:

Greta McKelvey [greta.mckelvey@ghausen.com](mailto:greta.mckelvey@ghausen.com)  
Carolyn Cobb [ccobb1@wildblue.net](mailto:ccobb1@wildblue.net)  
Marilyn Olivarez [greatmom4u@sbcglobal.net](mailto:greatmom4u@sbcglobal.net)  
Theresa Graham [thrgram@yahoo.com](mailto:thrgram@yahoo.com)  
Susan Torpy [swtorpy1990@gmail.com](mailto:swtorpy1990@gmail.com)

*North Texas Conference*  
*Northwest Texas Conference*  
*Rio Texas Conference*  
*Texas Conference*  
*Central Texas Conference*