Greetings!

Please read the overview below and call Members of the Calendar Committee and ask them to vote NO to HB 1561. It is most helpful to have people call who live in the Reps district. Please review the list below.

Calendars Committee Members are:

Reps Hunter, Lucio, Alonzo, Cook, Sarah Davis, Geren, Giddings, Harless, Huberty, Johnson, Ken King, Larson, Price, Riddle, Eddie Rodriguez.

Oppose H.B. 1561 (Schaefer)

House Bill 1561 will exempt all Texas churches, synagogues or other established places of religious worship from security licensure of their volunteer security guards. It would allow them to create a security force with no criminal background checks, no training and no liability insurance. It would create an enforcement nightmare for DPS. If they see guards in uniform and ask them for their guard license all they have to say is, "I work for a church."

If the bill passes it would mean that the Muslim Brotherhood can place non-U.S. citizen criminals in guard uniforms to guard their facilities. They could in fact create their own Sharia law enforcement force.

It would allow any religious group to allow sex offenders to serve as guards for their day care facilities.

Under current law Churches may allow members of their congregation to carry guns to protect their members. This bill is attempting to fix a problem that does not exist. The unintended consequences may be devastating. Please vote no on H.B. 1561