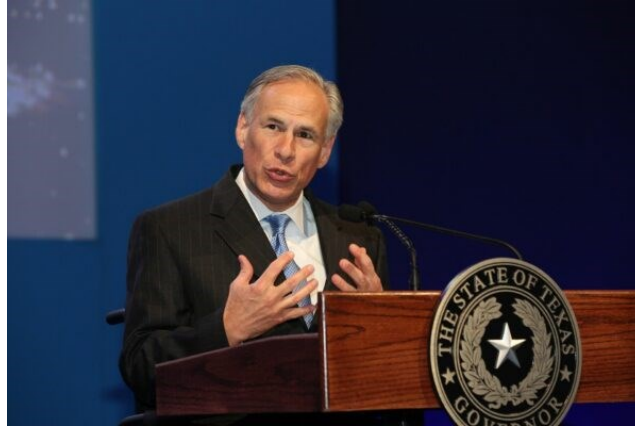


Texas Governor Sends Defiant Message to UN After Criticism

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Over the weekend, Texas Governor Greg Abbott (R) [dismissed](#) recent criticism of new state laws that target LGBTQ individuals, as well as claims that such measures violate federal and international human rights law.

Abbott responded to a letter sent to the United Nations last month, accusing the governor and other state officials of infringing on the rights of LGBTQ Texans through administrative and legislative actions. He told the hyper-liberal international nonprofit to “go pound sand.”

In 2021, Abbott also dismissed the organization’s advice, stating that Texas must reduce its reliance on oil and gas to ensure future prosperity until 2050, in response to U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres’ remarks.

During the state’s last legislative session, four LGBTQ activist organizations sent a letter of allegation to over a dozen independent experts, working groups, and special rapporteurs at the U.N., accusing Texas leaders of intentionally targeting the LGBTQ community.

The appeal to the U.N. by the groups is centered on seven bills signed into law by Abbott in 2023.

These measures include bans on sex changes for children and strict limitations on transgender athletes' ability to dominate girls' sports.

The letter, signed by The University of Texas at Austin School of Law's Human Rights Clinic, requests the U.N. to urge the repeal of the bills and advocate for enhanced nondiscrimination protections for LGBTQ individuals at both state and federal levels.