

**In order or priority, as voted on by the TAASA membership.**

▀ **Preserve funding for sexual assault related services through the adult entertainment fee.** *Fully funding research, prevention, response and treatment is critical to the future elimination of sexual assault in Texas.*

▀ **Extend the length of time for which claims relating to sexual abuse can be filed in civil court.** *Currently, the statute of limitations in civil court for sexual assault or abuse is 5 years. This is out of line with criminal statutes of limitations which are unlimited for child victims of sexual assault and 10 years for adult victim.*

▀ **Allow sexual assault victims to terminate their lease without penalty.** *Currently, sexual assault victims must remain in the home where they were raped, pay early termination fees or suffer bad credit history for breaking a lease.*

▀ **Allow crime victims with the right to provide a victim statement prior to sentencing.** *This right is already available in Texas juvenile courts as well as forty-eight other states.*

▀ **Create a ‘sexual motivation’ finding to be used as a tracking mechanism.** *Some sexual predators go unidentified because they plea down to lesser offenses that are not registered. Tagging all convictions that are sexually motivated in nature will allow for early identification of sexual predators.*

▀ **Fulfill a federal mandate by creating a 48-hour time limit for HIV/AIDS testing of a defendant after indictment of a sex offense.** *Texas currently allows for HIV/AIDS testing under these circumstances, but without the 48-hour time limit. Creating the time limit will ensure the flow of federal grant dollars and provide rape survivors with critical health information.*

▀ **Allow sexual assault victims to obtain a forensic exam without first making a report.** *The embarrassment, guilt and shame felt by survivors of sexual assault often results in delayed reporting. In many instances, the report is made after the window for evidence collection is closed. Collecting evidence immediately after the crime ensures that evidence will be there when a rape survivor is ready and able to come forward. Passage of this item also ensures the flow of ~\$6 million/yr in federal grant funds.*