



Hill Country Alliance Requests Proposals for Legislative Consulting in 2026-2027

SUMMARY OF NEED

Hill Country Alliance (HCA) is seeking proposals for Legislative Consulting Services. The goal of this contract is to provide expert consulting services to assist the organization in navigating legislative matters effectively at the Texas Legislature through the interim and the 70th regular session.

BACKGROUND

Founded in 2005, the Hill Country Alliance brings together a diverse coalition of partners throughout a 17-county region of Central Texas with the long-term objective of preserving the natural resources and unique character of the Texas Hill Country. A regional non-profit organization, HCA focuses on community engagement around stewardship of Hill Country land, water, night skies, and communities. Led by a highly involved, professionally and geographically diverse board, HCA bridges traditional boundaries (e.g. urban-rural divides) through education and outreach, capacity building, gentle advocacy, and partnerships to ensure a healthy and vibrant Hill Country for future generations.

SCOPE OF WORK

We believe building a public affairs and government relations program is a multi-year process. Pending performance and culture fit, the selected contractor will report to the Communities Program Manager and work with multiple members of staff from the commencement of the contract through the end of the regular session in May 2027. The contract will begin with a three-month probationary period and include a 30-day opt out clause for both parties. The contractor will be responsible for providing legislative consulting services which may include, but are not limited to:

Strategy

- Building a Legislative Engagement plan for the interim and regular session to support the organization's legislative priorities.
- Leading bill drafting where necessary.

Relationship Building

- Identifying key opportunities to engage with state lawmakers, through the further development of a network that can be leveraged to pursue the organization's goals.
- Identifying key stakeholders at state agencies, professional organizations, and others to collaborate and negotiate with to move priorities forward.
- Assist in positioning Hill Country Alliance in the legislative ecosystem as an authentic advocate on matters related to natural resource management in the Hill Country.

Advocacy

- Work to pass and achieve Hill Country Alliance's legislative agenda by lobbying members of the Legislature, their staff, and other state government officials.



- Track and attend committee and rulemaking hearings, coordinate and assist in the preparation of testimony (if needed), submissions, and in-person testimony.
- Attend and participate in interim hearings and meetings regarding issues related to Hill Country Alliance's mission and grantee priorities.

Tracking and Reporting

- Identify, track, and report on state legislation and legislative proposals that may have an impact on Hill Country Alliance and on issues related to the Hill Country Alliance's legislative agenda.
- Report the activities at a minimum through the following:
 - Weekly updates via video calls, Skype, or FaceTime on pending issues as they arise;
 - A weekly written status report during legislative session for Hill Country Alliance on key actions, movement, and legislation; and
 - A final written report and in-person presentation at the end of legislative session for Hill Country Alliance staff and board of directors.
- Track priorities and meetings of Hill Country Alliance staff.
- Organize state lobby registration, compliance, and reporting.

QUALIFICATIONS

- At least 5 years of experience working with Texas policymakers.
- Must be highly motivated, energetic, deadline-oriented, and able to handle multiple priorities.
- An eagerness to execute a hands-on approach to build credibility, relationships, and knowledge within the company.
- Strong organizational skills with the ability to support multiple projects in a rapidly evolving environment while meeting deadlines.
- Demonstrated ability to engage effectively with policymakers, regulators, and industry stakeholders.
- Experience managing events, advocacy and coalition efforts and related work.

PREFERRED

- Background in Texas water quality, land management, natural resource, or wastewater management policy.
- Policy expertise in local government codes, conservation, and land use regulations.

PROPOSAL ELEMENTS

Please include:

- An engagement plan for 2026 and 2027, including expected time required for both years
- Experience highlighting previous work, areas of expertise, and capacity to fully execute the functions outlined in the proposal.
- Price your work. Work will be paid on retainer rather than an hourly basis.



- A list of at least three clients for whom you have lobbied within the past five years and an example of successful efforts managed on their behalf.
 - Include the client name, contact name, email, and phone number

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Candidates should send proposals to grace@hillcountryalliance.org with the subject line: Legislative Consultant Proposal.

Proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Please submit by February 11th, 2026. Please direct any questions regarding the RFP to Grace Gilker at grace@hillcountryalliance.org or 214.693.1811

Hill Country Alliance is proud to be an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity employer and we welcome applications from those who contribute to our diversity. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, mental, or physical disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, familial status, veteran status, or genetic information. HCA is committed to providing access, equal opportunity, and reasonable accommodation for all individuals in employment practices, services, programs, and activities.

We are especially excited about increasing applications from people who understand the value of promoting diversity, equity and inclusion including people with disabilities, Black, Indigenous, people of color, and LGBTQ+.