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More than 50 Young Texas Women Convene at State Capitol to Advocate for Menstrual Equity, Participate in Leadership Bootcamp

Young Women Run 2023, hosted by <u>IGNITE</u>, the largest most diverse women's political leadership organization in the country, brought young Texans together with their state lawmakers

AUSTIN, Texas—Over 50 young women gathered at the state capitol for a day of political leadership training, advocacy, empowerment and community-building, culminating in a mass mobilization for legislation that would end the "tampon tax" in Texas.

On the heels of a midterm election with historic youth turnout, <u>Young Women Run 2023</u>, hosted by IGNITE, a non-partisan women's leadership organization, trained attendees to successfully step into the policymaking process and champion causes impacting their communities.

"There is nothing more important to our collective future than being engaged in the political process and protecting democracy," said <u>Sara Guillermo</u>, <u>CEO of IGNITE</u>. "These young women are already at the forefront of positive change in their communities and we're going to empower that commitment."

Adding their voices and leadership, **State Senator Sarah Eckhardt** and **State Representative Donna Howard** worked with participants focusing on <u>HB70</u>, a bill to eliminate the tampon tax in Texas and make period products more accessible. Participants learned details about the bill, where it stands in the legislative process, and how to successfully advocate for menstrual equity.

Long-term research suggests that voting in consecutive elections makes it dramatically more likely that a person will become a lifetime voter. The number of Gen Z women who voted in 2018, 2019 and in the most recent midterm elections suggests that this will be a generation more politically engaged than their predecessors, making trainings like this critical to developing an informed electorate.

If interested in speaking with someone from IGNITE, please contact Matt Davis at matthewcharlesdavis@gmail.com or (917) 526-9530.

IGNITE is a national organization building the largest, most diverse movement of young women who are ready and eager to become the next generation of political leaders.