

RESOLUTION 2013-4

Ordinance No. 2024-04

THE CITY OF DAWSON WILL FOLLOW THE STATE OF TEXAS RULES AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE CURFEW FOR MINORS.

State Law Now Limits Curfews for Minors

As of September 1, 2023, Texas passed House Bill 1819, which prohibits cities and counties from adopting or enforcing any curfew ordinance that regulates the movements or actions of persons under 18 years of age. This means:

- Local juvenile curfew ordinances (like Dawson's older ordinance) **can no longer be legally enforced** for general minor curfew purposes. tml.org+1
- Cities that previously had such ordinances have been repealing them or stopping enforcement.
- Any attempt to amend a local curfew must comply with this prohibition — general curfews for minors are now **state-preempted**, unless under emergency authority (e.g., under the Texas Disaster Act for emergencies). tml.org

Practical Effect: A typical *minor curfew ordinance* (like restricting when under-18s can be in public) cannot be reinstated or amended to impose new restrictions under current Texas law. Any changes must avoid creating enforceable curfew restrictions on minors outside of emergency powers.

DATED: *January 13, 2024*



Stephen Sanders, Mayor



Amber Mixon, City Secretary