Texas Digital Library

Community-based collaboration in service of Open Access, Open Data, Open Education, and digital preservation

★ **Supporting the Emotional Labor of a Legislative Mandate**
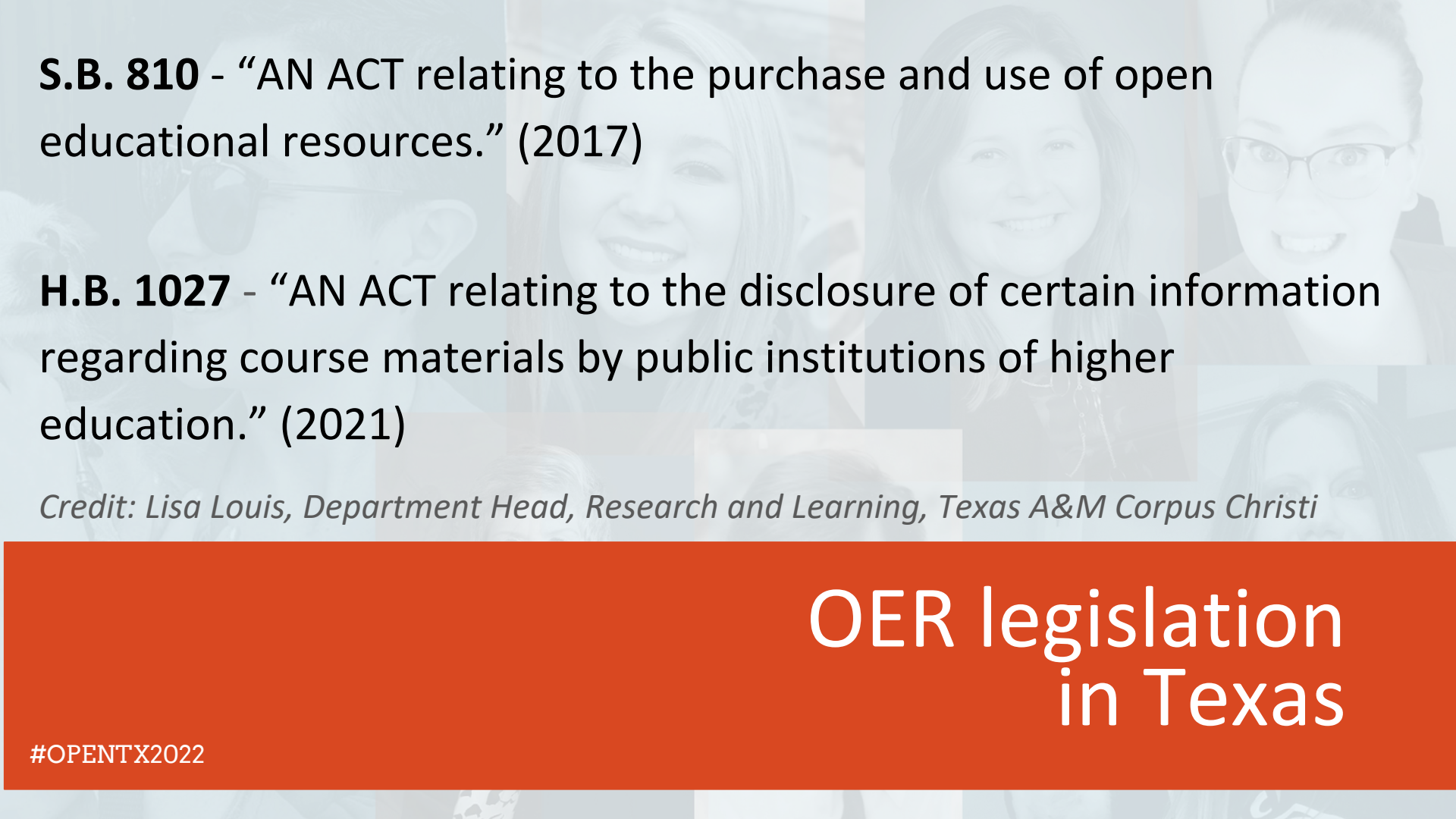
From SPARC's

[OER State Policy Playbook](#)

SPARC✳

You are here

OER POLICY PLAYS

01 CLEAR OER DEFINITION
A strong definition ensures "open" is not confused with related terms such as "free" or "digital."

02 OER STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION
OER policy is stronger when it is developed in consultation with stakeholders.

03 OER GRANT PROGRAM
Even a modest investment in OER grants can yield a substantial return on investment for students.

04 OER STUDY
For states newer to OER, a first step may be to gather information about the current landscape.

05 OER TASK FORCE OR COUNCIL
Convening in-state expertise can help develop policy ideas and implement plans.

06 OER FOR REMOTE LEARNING
OER can address key cost and access barriers in the time of COVID-19.

07 OER CHALLENGE OR CALL TO ACTION
Even without formal policy, an explicit endorsement can help prompt local action.

08 INSTITUTIONAL OER POLICIES
Policymakers can prompt institutions to develop their own OER policies.

09 OER COURSE MARKING
Transparency over which courses use OER helps students make informed decisions.

10 OER FOR DUAL-CREDIT AND CTE
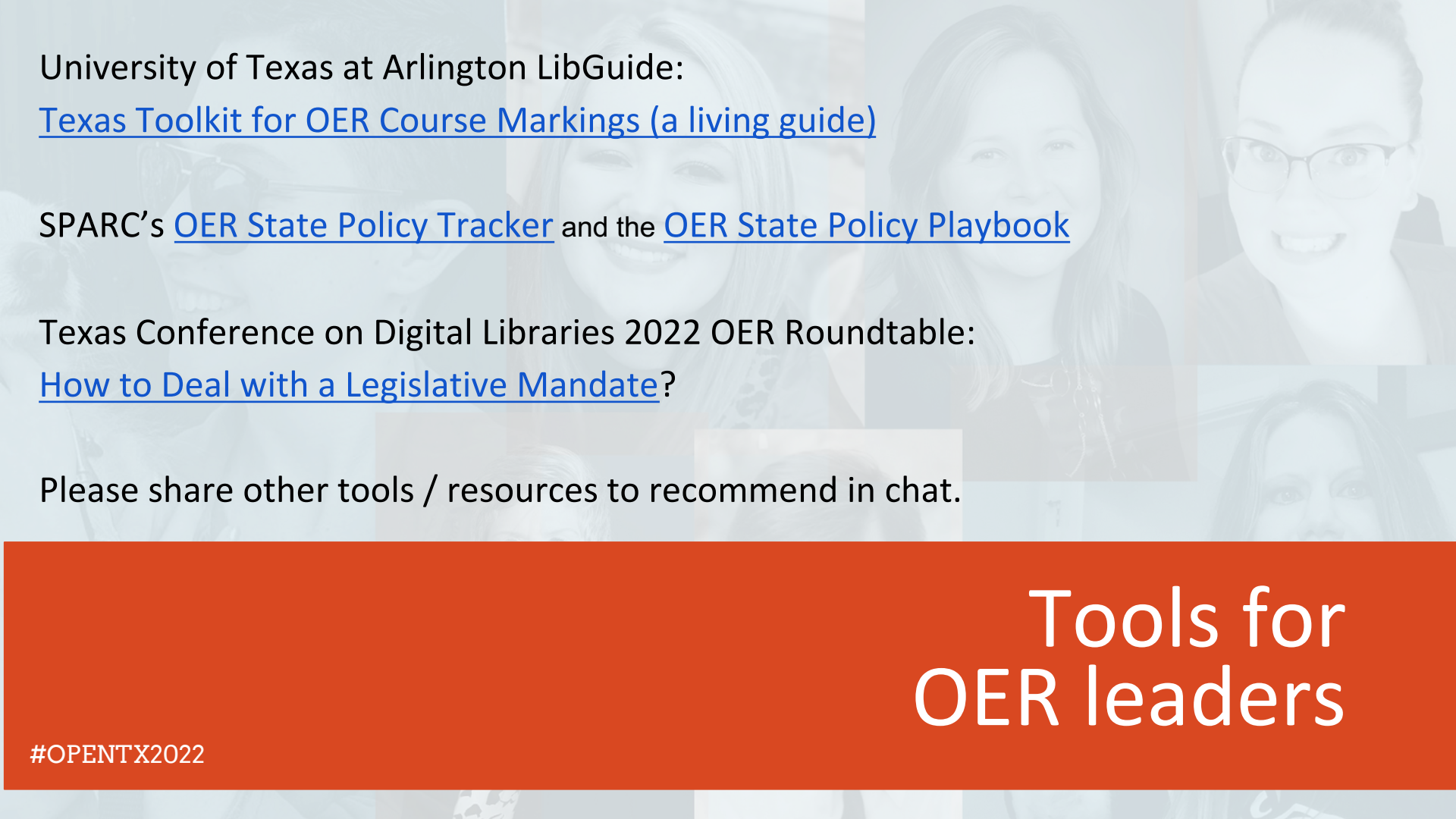OER is available in K-12 contexts too, with many opportunities for collaboration.

S.B. 810 - "AN ACT relating to the purchase and use of open educational resources." (2017)

H.B. 1027 - "AN ACT relating to the disclosure of certain information regarding course materials by public institutions of higher education." (2021)

Credit: Lisa Louis, Department Head, Research and Learning, Texas A&M Corpus Christi

OER legislation in Texas

#OPENTX2022

University of Texas at Arlington LibGuide:

Texas Toolkit for OER Course Markings (a living guide)

SPARC's OER State Policy Tracker and the OER State Policy Playbook

Texas Conference on Digital Libraries 2022 OER Roundtable:

How to Deal with a Legislative Mandate?

Please share other tools / resources to recommend in chat.

Tools for OER leaders

Awareness

Prompted action in a climate of lethargy

Immediately saved students (and/or their families) money

What are some other positive outcomes you've observed?

Positive impacts of state OER legislation

Rigidity of higher education structures & hierarchies (Jasmine Roberts-Crews)

Who is in charge and do they have the authority / recognition?

Are we doing enough for students?

What are some other challenges you've experienced?

Challenges implementing state OER legislation

Huge responsibility

Precarious foundation

Disconnection

Over-connection

What are some other emotional labors you've experienced?

Acknowledge & support emotional labor

Build on each other's work

Sing each other's praises

Find our common ground(s)

Talk about our challenges

Other ideas or actions?

Let's support each other.

OER community support

TDL's OEN Train-the-Trainer | UTSA March 2020

#OPENTX2022