

How To – Texas Legislature Online Contacting Members and Tracking Bills

How to Contact Your Legislators:

1. Using your web browser, go to www.capitol.state.tx.us
2. In the rightmost column, under the “Who Represents Me?” heading, choose your desired method of search.
3. Key the requested information; then click on Submit. The address method results in the most specific information.
4. Clicking on a Texas State Legislature member’s name will take one to the member’s website, where there is a wide variety of information, ranging from contact information to press releases to bills authored by the member.
5. Some websites even have a link to send emails to the member. All sites have links to other components of the total Texas State Legislature universe.

How to learn about bills in progress:

1. Using your web browser, go to www.capitol.state.tx.us.
2. In the middle of the home page, locate Search Legislation – click on the current session.
3. Then click on Bill List or Subject.
4. Type in the pertinent information into the search area, click go.
5. Information is linked to the tool bar that appears above the bill history information (bill text, author list, actions, amendments, captions, and bill stages).
6. If you search by a subject, will bring up a list of bills. The ‘relating to’ sentence tells a bit about each bill. Status is also indicated.
7. Clicking on the bill number takes you directly to the bill to read its language.

Setting up my TLO (My Texas Legislative Online) bill tracking:

1. Click on Track Legislation with Bill Lists.
2. Click on Account Options: New User?
3. Provide e-mail address and create a password. Submit.
4. 83rd Legislature category should appear, if not, select it.
5. Type in the bill name (HB#### or SB####) with a brief description.
6. Click on create.
7. If you pull down “Selected Bill List” tab from the tool bar, insert the appropriate information and it will provide you a bill list. Follow the instructions as directed.
8. If you want e-mail alerts or set up an RSS feed, click below My TLO on “Receive Bill & Meeting Alerts” and/or “Subscribe to RSS Feeds”.
9. Provide the requested information, click the appropriate category or feed.
10. Finished and it’s a free subscription!

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