



Shannon Hoffman, MSW, LCDC

Policy Program Specialist

Hogg Foundation for Mental Health

shannon.hoffman@austin.utexas.edu

Quick Recap of the Texas Legislature

Budget

Filed Legislation

What's moving?

What can I do?





Please feel free to ask questions at any time!

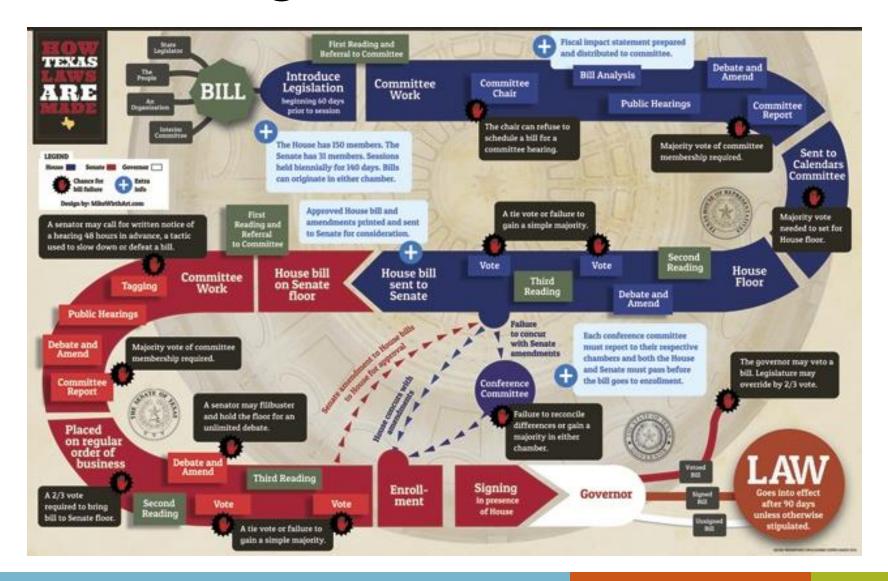


A little Texas Legislature 101

- > Texas Legislature
 - ➤ 140 days
 - > Leaders Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and Speaker of the House Dade Phelan
 - > Two chambers
 - ➤ House and Senate -- 150 representatives and 31 senators
 - ➤ On average, only about 20 25% bills and resolutions pass
 - ➤ Bills must pass both chambers
 - > Governor has the option to sign into law, let go into law without his signature, or veto (final day veto possible is the 20th day following final adjournment)
 - > Bills without immediate effective dates became law 91 days following final adjournment
 - > This session over 7,200 bills filed



Legislative Process





Budget – SB 1 (Nelson/Bonnen)

- Texas budget is the only bill that is required pass
- > Budget has passed the Senate and the House will be debating it next week.
- ➤ Senate version increase of about \$46 million over the biennium
- ➤ House version increase of about \$55 million over the biennium
 - ➤ Rider 30: \$23,634,844 in General Revenue in fiscal year 2022 to reduce the substance abuse treatment waitlist for pregnant women and women with dependent children waiting to receive services



Filed Legislation





HB 544 (MINJAREZ)

VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION
FOR RECOVERY HOUSING



SB 2063 (MENENDEZ)
STUDENT DISCIPLINE AND
SUBSTANCE USE



HB 707 (MOODY)
STUDY ON RECOVERY
HOUSING IN TEXAS



HB 705(MOODY/BLANCO)

MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT
FOR PEER SERVICES PROVIDED
BY RECOVERY COMMUNITY

ORGANIZATION



HB 1694 (RANEY/SCHWERTNER)
OVERDOSE GOOD SAMARITAN BILL



SB 1827 (HUFFMAN/ HOLLAND)
OPIOID ABATEMENT ACCOUNT



HB 1178 (CROCKETT)

DECRIMINALIZING DRUG
PARAPHERNALIA



Other bills of mention

- HB 493 (Wu) Relating to HIV and AIDS tests and to health benefit plan coverage of HIV and AIDS tests.
- HB 441 (Zwiener) Relating to the criminal and licensing consequences of certain marihuana possession and drug paraphernalia possession offenses.
- HB 169 (Thompson, S.) Relating to the criminal penalties for the possession of small amounts of Penalty Group 1 controlled substances and marihuana.



What's moving?



What can I do?



- Call committee members and ask them for a hearing or to support the bill getting a vote out of committee.
- Call the Calendars committee and ask for a bill to be placed on the Calendar.
- Contact your representative and ask them to support the legislation.
- Submit testimony in the House online portal.
- If you're able to, provide oral testimony at the Capitol.



REMINDERS

Importance of Experience – YOU are the expert!

Power of Constituency

Power of Combined Voices



Want more information on the session or the bills discussed? Visit https://capitol.texas.gov/



Questions?



- Who Represents Me?:
 https://wrm.capitol.texas.gov/home
- Texas Senate: https://senate.texas.gov/
- Texas House of Representatives:
 https://house.texas.gov/
- Texas Office of the Governor:
 https://gov.texas.gov/
- Texas Legislative Budget Board:
 https://www.lbb.state.tx.us/

- Department of State Health Services:
 https://dshs.texas.gov/
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission: https://hhs.texas.gov/
 - Texas Behavioral Health Advisory
 Committee: <a href="https://hhs.texas.gov/about-hhs/leadership/advisory-committees/behavioral-health-ad



www.hogg.utexas.edu







Into The Fold





Thank you!



shannon.hoffman@austin.utexas.edu

HOGG.UTEXAS.EDU