

# How to Track a Bill Using Texas Legislature Online (TLO)

Below is a very basic way for beginners to track a bill through TLO.

1. Set up an account with TLO <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/>
2. Once you are logged into TLO, click on the “My TLO” tab.
3. Click “Bill Lists”.



## Bill Lists

Create a list of bills that you would like to watch. Each time you

### Alerts

Enter bills on the alert list, be notified of committee and calend

### Saved Searches

Access your saved bill, text, and amendment searches.

4. Type in a name for your bill list.



5. Look up your bill in the “Search Legislation” box on the home page (below) or...



6. ... in the box on the top right side
7. Once on the page of the bill you want, on the right side, click “add to bill list”



8. Select the bill list you want it in, type in a comment to help you remember what the bill is about, then click ok.

Texas Legislature Online - Add Bill to Bill List - Google Chrome  
www.capitol.state.tx.us/Search/AddToBillList.aspx?LegSess=83R&Bill=SB939

Texas Legislature Online  
**Add Bill to Bill List**

Add SB939 to:

Existing Bill List: Child Protection Bills  
Bill Comment: write in a comment about bill

New Bill List:  
Bill List Description:  
Bill Comment:

OK Cancel

9. Next click "add to alert list"

Help FAQ Site Map Contact Logout  
House: Adjourned until Thu, Apr 4, 2013 9:00 am  
Senate: Recessed until Thu, Apr 4, 2013 8:30 am

Bill: 83R Go

[Add to Bill List](#) [Add to Alert List](#)

10. It may be best to keep it on “any category”; however, you can specify which alerts you want to receive. You can type in a comment if you like. Now you will get an email every time your bill progresses.



11. You can run a bill report on your bills when in “bill lists” page. Just click “run” on the list you choose.



Create a list of bills you wish to follow. Enter the list name and description and click **Create**.

Legislature: 83(R) - 2013

### Bill Lists

Bill List Name	Description	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Create
Child Protection Bills	CP bills other than TP or RT	Edit Run Delete
Foster Care	bills related to foster care	Edit Run Delete
Roundtable Bills	Bills on just RT's Agenda	Edit Run Delete
TexProtects Bills	Bills on TP's Agenda	Edit Run Delete

12. After you run the report, you can export it to a pdf for easy viewing.

The screenshot shows the Texas Legislature Online Bill List Results page. The page title is "Bill List Results" and it displays a list of bills. The bills listed are:

- HB 135**: Author: Raymond, Sponsor: [blank], Last Action: 02/06/2013 H Referred to Public Education, Caption Version: Introduced, Caption: Relating to reports of suspected child abuse or neglect and training regarding child abuse and neglect. House Committee: Public Education (In), Senate Committee: N/A, Companion: N/A, reports & training regarding CA/N
- HB 1205**: Author: Parker | et al., Sponsor: [blank], Last Action: 04/17/2013 H Placed on General State Calendar, Caption Version: House Committee Report, Caption: Relating to the offense of failure to report abuse or neglect of a child. House Committee: Human Services (Out), Senate Committee: N/A, Companion: SB 384 by Carona, Identical, 02/13/2013 S Referred to Criminal Justice, Failure to Report Penalty (SB384 companion)
- HB 1684**: Author: Raymond, Sponsor: [blank], Last Action: 03/04/2013 H Referred to Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence, Caption Version: Introduced, Caption: Relating to the dismissal or nonsuit of a suit to terminate the parent-child relationship filed by a governmental entity. House Committee: Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence (In), Senate Committee: N/A, Companion: SB 429 by Nelson, Identical, 04/04/2013 H Referred to Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence, CPS Dismissals (companion to SB 429)
- HB 1922**: Author: Thompson, Senfronia, Sponsor: [blank], Last Action: 04/04/2013 H Comm. report sent to Local & Consent Calendar, Caption Version: House Committee Report, Caption: Relating to certain information to which a social study evaluator is entitled in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship; providing a criminal penalty. House Committee: Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence (Out)

A red circle highlights the "Export Results to PDF" link in the top right corner of the page.

**What can I find out about a bill on TLO?**

1. **History:** in the history tab, you can find out the Last Action, Author, Co-Author, which committees it's in and a list of actions

The screenshot shows the Texas Legislature Online History page for Bill SB 426. The page title is "History" and it displays detailed information about the bill. The information shown is:

- Bill:** SB 426
- Legislative Session:** 83(R)
- Council Document:** 83R 2740 ADM-D
- Last Action:** 04/10/2013 H Referred to Human Services
- Caption Version:** Engrossed
- Caption Text:** Relating to a home visiting program for at-risk families.
- Author:** Nelson
- Coauthor:** Deuell | West
- Subjects:** Family--Child Protection (10351), Human Services--Child Services (10895), Human Services--General (10920), Women (10925), HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION (V0177)
- Senate Committee:** Health & Human Services
- Status:** Out of committee
- Vote:** Ayes=8 Nays=0 Present Not Voting=0 Absent=1
- House Committee:** Human Services
- Status:** In committee

The page also includes a table of actions (descending date order) for Bill SB 426:

Description	Comment	Date	Time	Journal Page
H Referred to Human Services		04/10/2013		1479
H Read first time		04/10/2013		1479
H Received from the Senate		03/14/2013		750
S Reported engrossed		03/13/2013		519
S Record vote		03/13/2013		470
S Passed		03/13/2013		470
S Read 3rd time		03/13/2013		470
S Record vote		03/13/2013		470
S Three day rule suspended		03/13/2013		470
S Vote recorded in Journal		03/13/2013		470
S Read 2nd time & passed to engrossment		03/13/2013		470

2. **Text:** here you will find bill versions, fiscal note, analysis, witness lists during committee hearings and summary of committee actions

3. **Actions:** all of the actions happening to that bill in descending order

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S Read 3rd time		03/13/2013			470
S Record vote		03/13/2013			470
S Three day rule suspended		03/13/2013			470
S Vote recorded in Journal		03/13/2013			470
S Read 2nd time & passed to engrossment		03/13/2013			470
S Laid before the Senate		03/13/2013			470
S Placed on local & uncontested calendar		03/13/2013			
S Co-author authorized		02/27/2013			323
S Committee report printed and distributed		02/26/2013	11:09 AM		
S Recommended for local & uncontested calendar		02/26/2013			
S Reported favorably w/o amendments		02/26/2013			310
S Testimony taken in committee		02/19/2013			
S Considered in public hearing		02/19/2013			
S Scheduled for public hearing on . . .		02/19/2013			
S Referred to Health & Human Services		02/13/2013			208
S Read first time		02/13/2013			208
S Filed		02/07/2013			
S Received by the Secretary of the Senate		02/07/2013			

4. **Companions:** lists the companion bill

Note: Companion documents are designated at the time of introduction. These are to be used as an aid only! Final determination of companion documents rests with the presiding officers of the house and senate.

**HB 1922**  
**Degree of Association:** Identical  
**Author:** Thompson, Senfronia  
**Last Action:** 04/04/2013 H Comm. report sent to Local & Consent Calendar  
 Relating to certain information to which a social study evaluator is entitled in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship; providing a criminal penalty.

5. Amendments - (no graphic) amendments to the bill
6. Authors – lists authors & co-authors and the dates they signed on

**Authors**

Bill: SB 426 Legislative Session: 83(R)

Author	Date Filed
Primary Author: Nelson	02/07/2013
Coauthors (2)	Date Signed On
Deuell	02/27/2013
West	02/27/2013

7. Sponsors – (no graphic) lists bill sponsors
8. Captions – bill captions

**Captions**

Bill: SB 426 Legislative Session: 83(R) Author: Nelson

**Introduced**  
Relating to a home visiting program for at-risk families.

**Senate Committee Report**  
Relating to a home visiting program for at-risk families.

**Engrossed**  
Relating to a home visiting program for at-risk families.

9. Bill Stages – easy way to know at a glance what stage the bill is in

**Bill Stages**

Bill: SB 426 Legislative Session: 83(R) Author: Nelson

Stage	Description	Date
Stage 1	Filed	2/7/2013
Stage 2	Out of Senate Committee	2/26/2013
Stage 3	Voted on by Senate	3/13/2013
Stage 4	Out of House Committee	
Stage 5	Voted on by House	
Stage 6	Governor Action	
Stage 7	Bill Becomes Law	

**Legend**

- Indicates bill passed stage
- Indicates bill has not reached stage
- Indicates bill failed to complete stage

**Helpful Links**

- Legislative process
- Introducing a bill
- Referral to a committee
- Committee reports
- Floor action
- Governor's action
- Effective date
- Legislative glossary
- Diagram - House
- Diagram - Senate

Stage 1 Bill filed by Nelson on 2/7/2013.  
 Stage 2 Bill reported out of Senate committee on Health & Human Services with vote of 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Present Not Voting, 1 Absent.  
 Stage 3 Bill passed the Senate.  
 Stage 4 Not reached.  
 Stage 5 Not reached.  
 Stage 6 Not reached.  
 Stage 7 Not reached.

If you have any questions regarding CA/N bills, please contact:

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