

TEXAS LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



Windy Johnson
Urban Counties

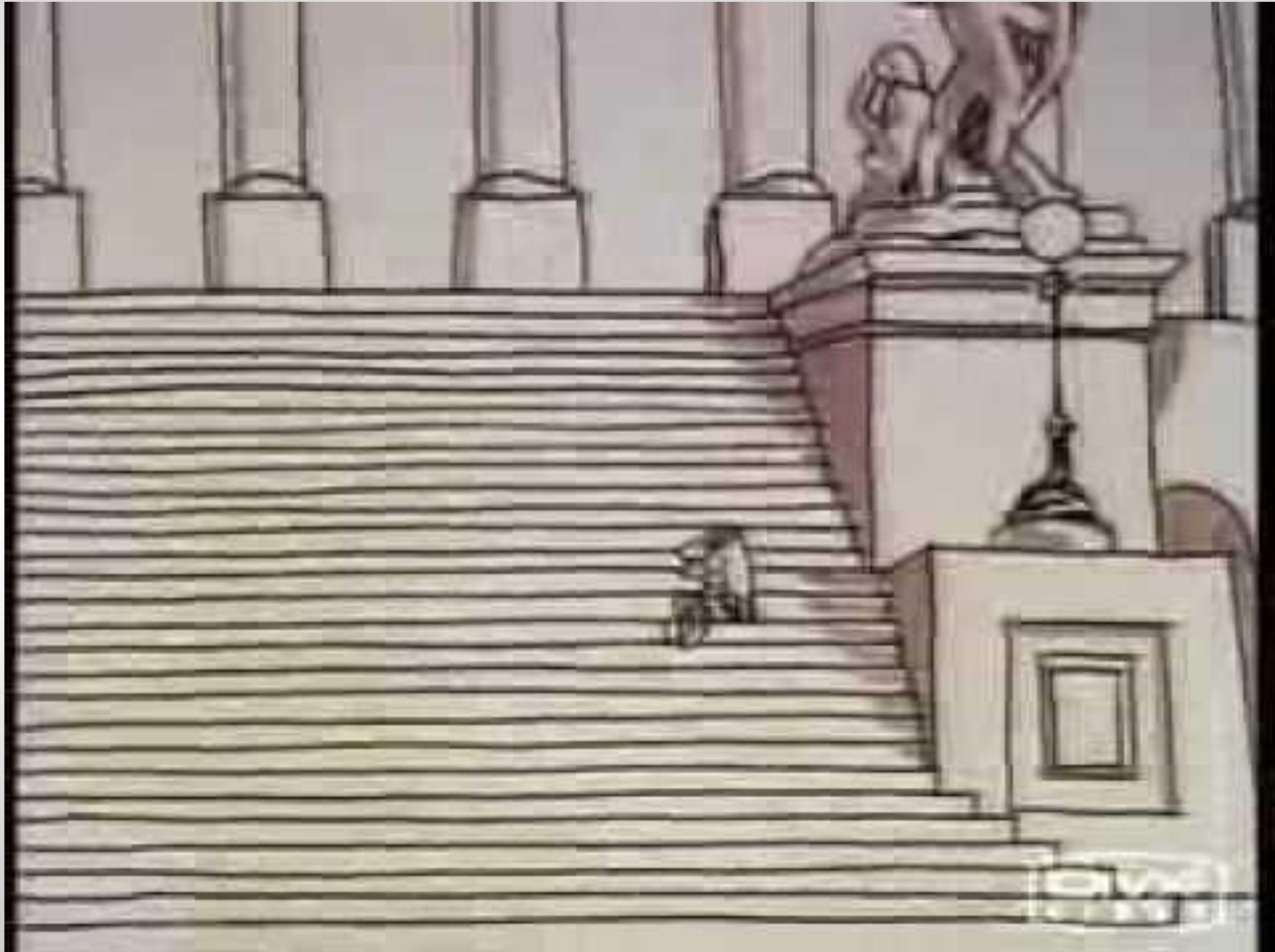




EVERYTHING IS BIGGER IN TEXAS

unless you count Alaska,
which I do.

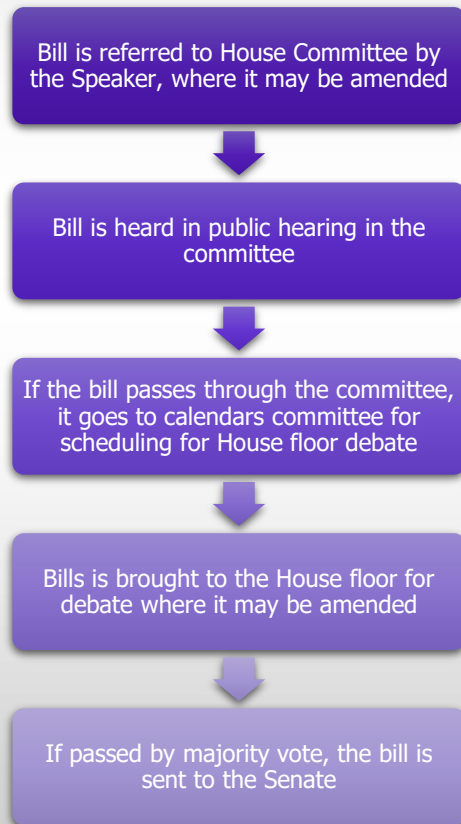
I'm Just a Bill



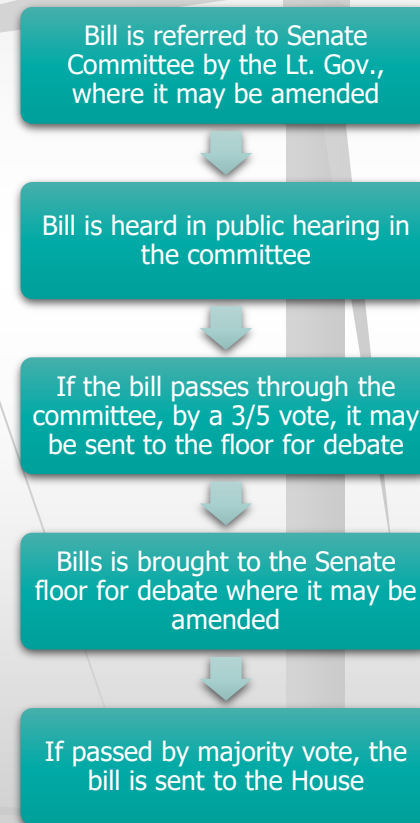
How a Bill Becomes a Law



Bill is introduced in the House



Bill is introduced in the Senate

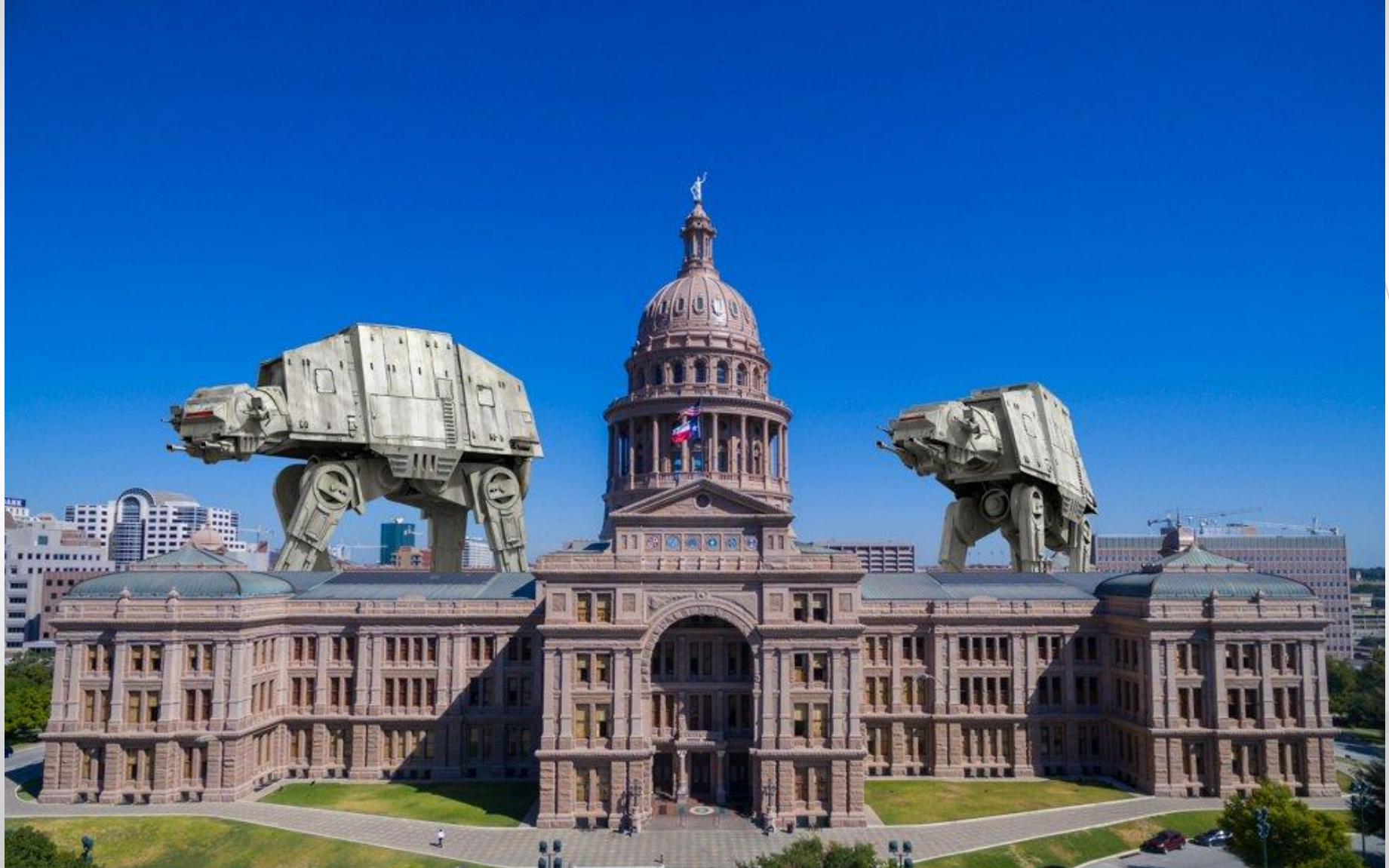




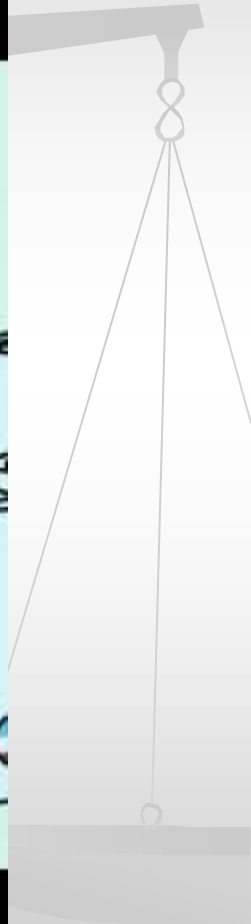
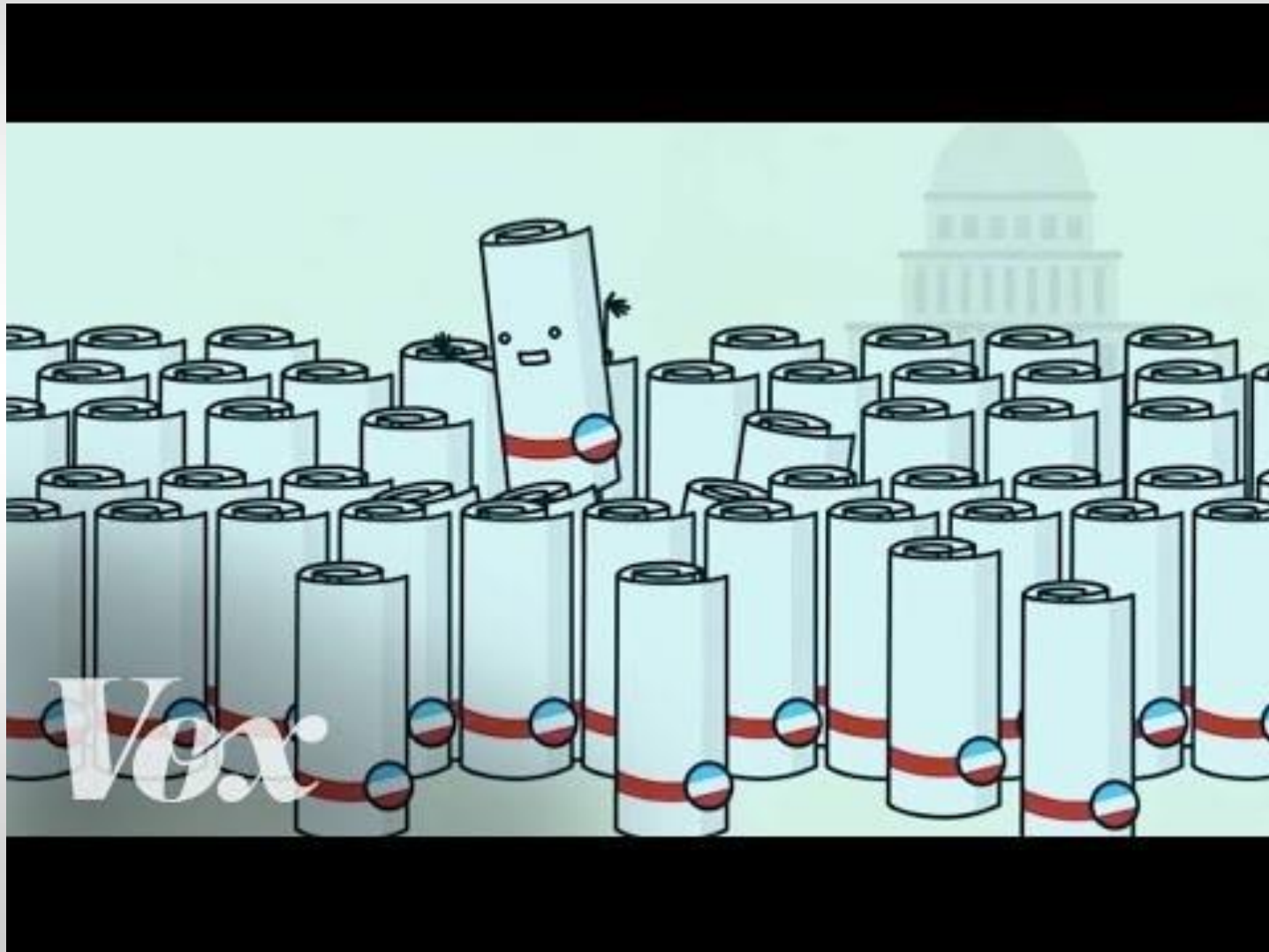
Sounds SO easy!



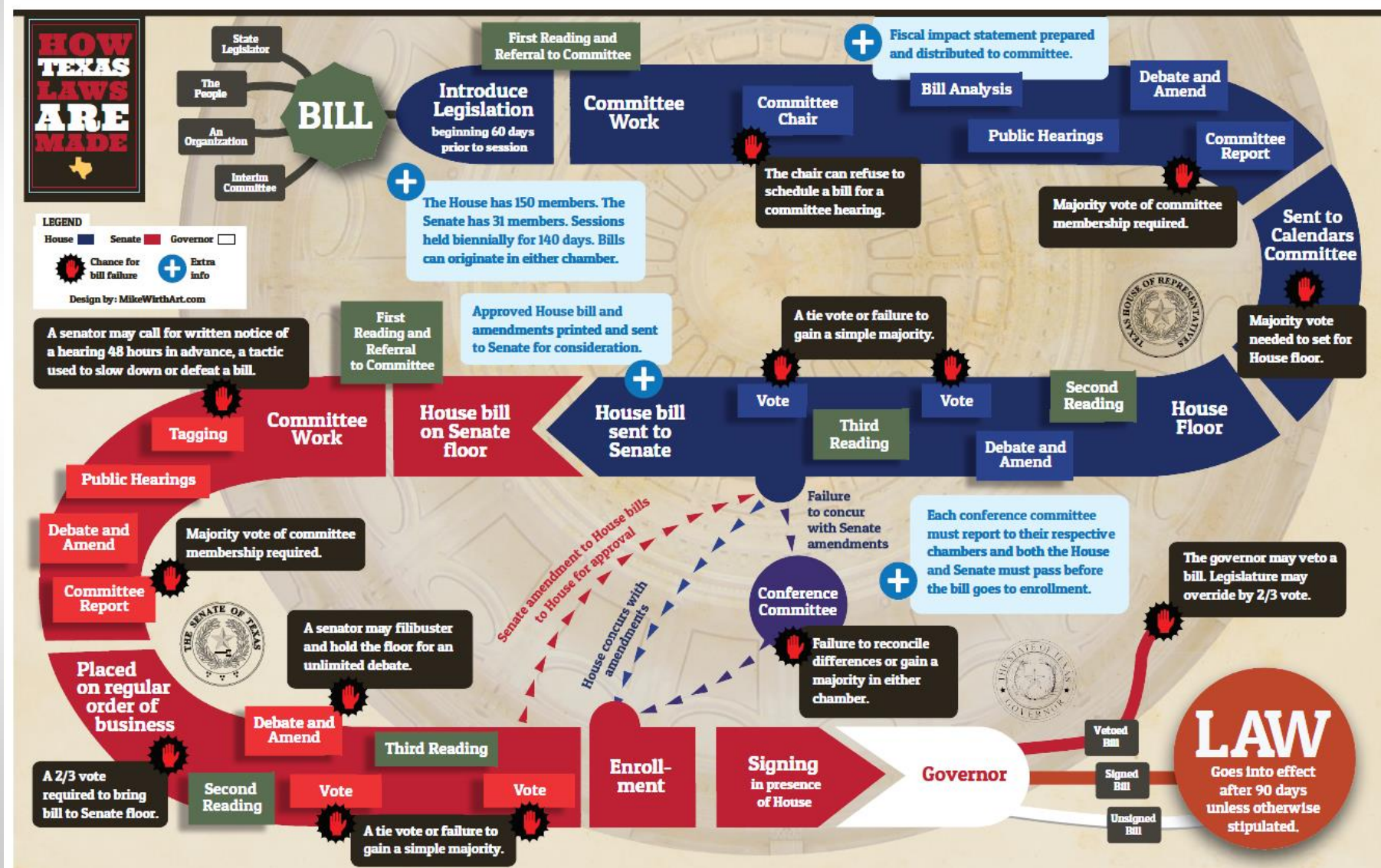
140 days every 2 years...



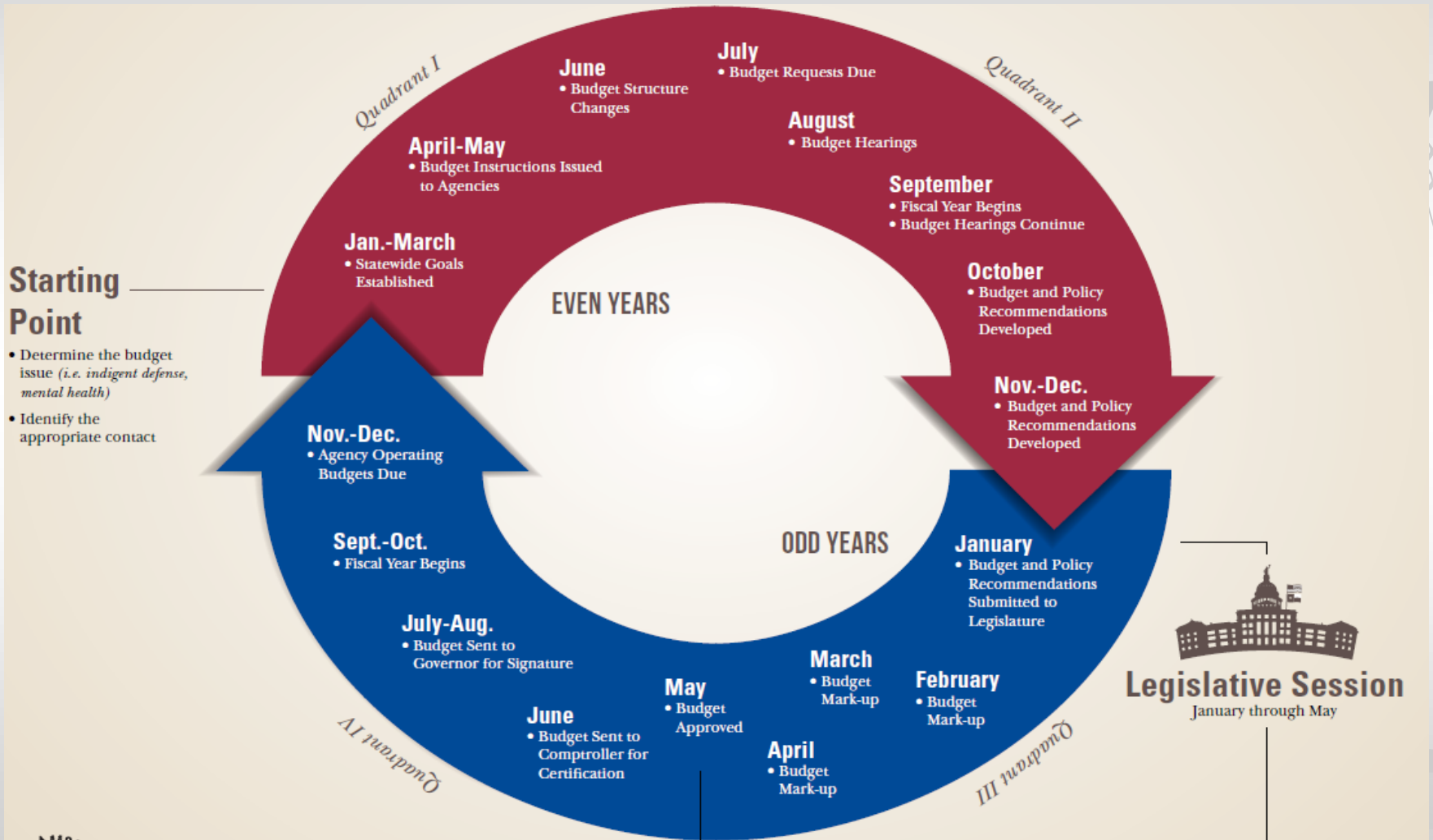
What Actually Happens?



The Real Process of How a Bill Becomes Law

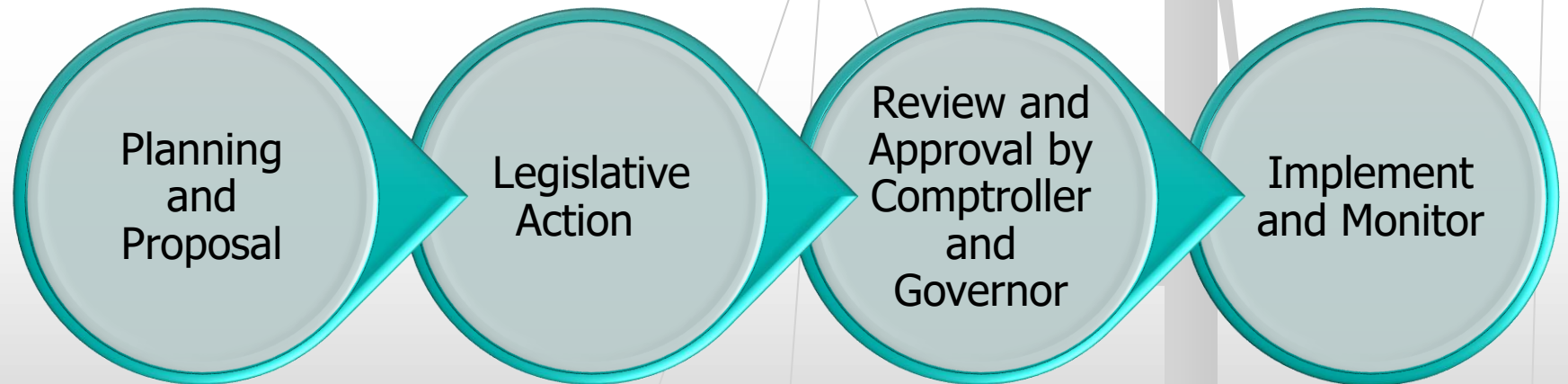


How to Pay for It?



THE BUDGET PROCESS: FOUR PHASES

The process can be divided into four major phases, each involving numerous discrete steps:



PLANNING AND PROPOSAL



The Governors Office and the Legislative Budget Board (LBB) develop an overall budget strategy.

Each agency prepares their strategic plan and submits it to the Governors Office and LBB.

Each agency prepares a Legislative Appropriation Request, including any exceptional items.

LBB prepares a draft of the general appropriations bill.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION



The appropriations bill is filed in both houses of the legislature.

Bill comes to the floor of the chamber for debate and ultimately approved.

Comptroller provides Budget Revenue Estimate (BRE).

The bill is referred to a conference committee to resolve differences.

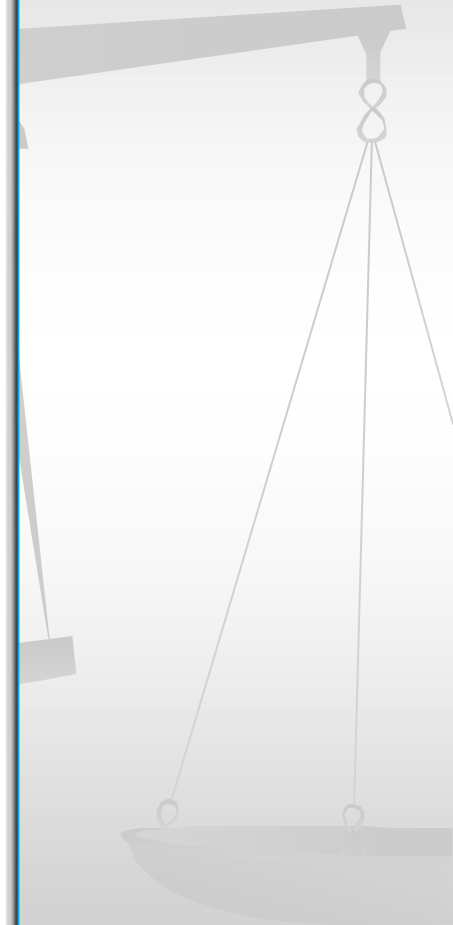
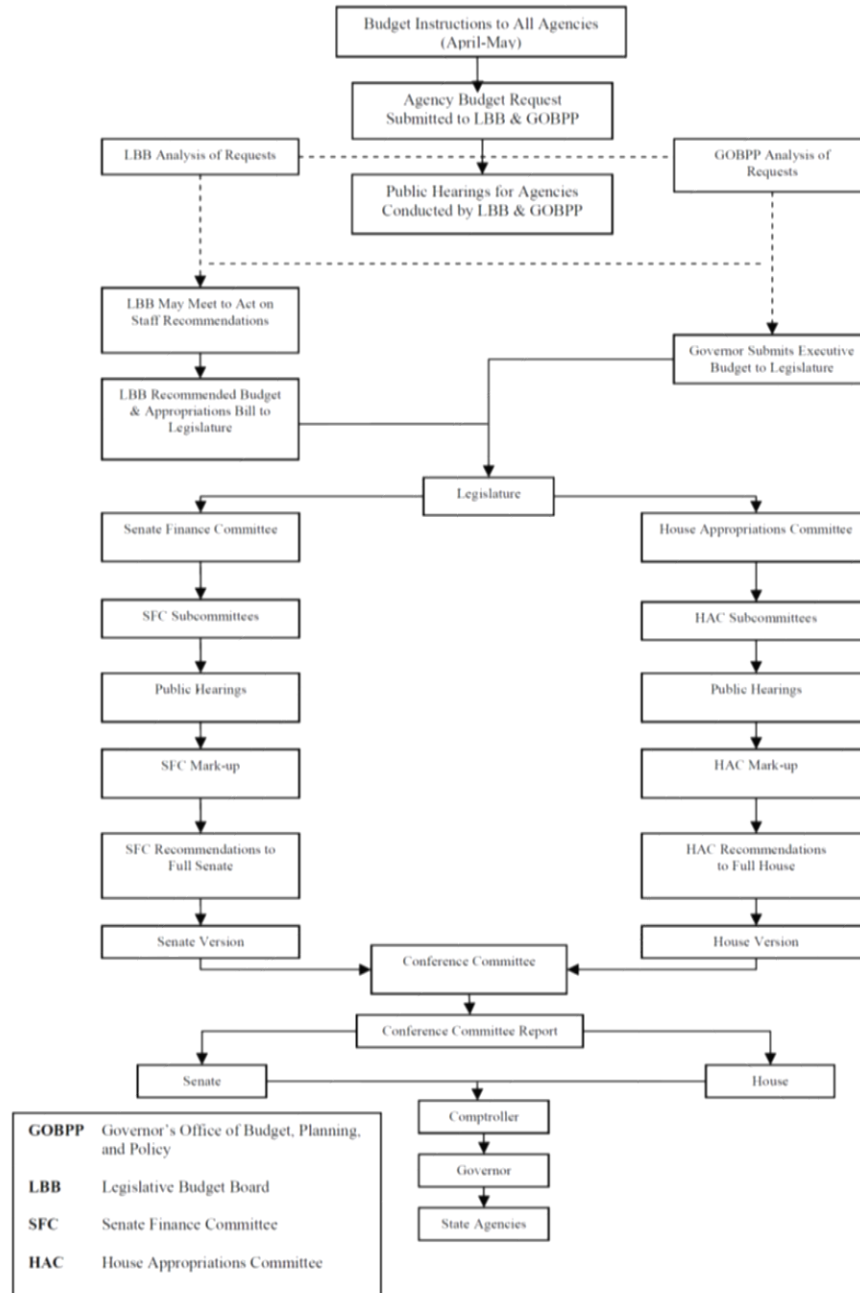
Committee hearings are held and the bills are "marked up".

Both chambers must approve with a up or down vote.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

- 
- Comptroller certifies
 - Sent to the Governor
 - LBB Monitors

Texas Biennial Budget Cycle



Deadlines!

85th Legislature, Regular Session Deadlines for Action Under House and Senate Rules

MAY 2017

This deadlines calendar is intended to be a practical summary guide to the end-of-session deadlines. It is not intended as an interpretation of the rules of the House or Senate.

A red box indicates the last day for a chamber to take certain actions.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
118 th day 7	119 th day 8 Last day for House committees to report HBs/HJR's (See Note 1)	120 th day 9 By 10 p.m.—last House Daily Calendar with HBs/HJR's must be distributed (36-hour layout) (See Note 2)	121 st day 10 By 9 a.m.—last House Local & Consent Calendar with consent HBs must be distributed (48-hour layout) (See Note 2)	122 nd day 11 Last day for House to consider 2nd reading HBs/HJR's on Daily or Supplemental Calendar	123 rd day 12 Last day for House to consider consent HBs on 2nd & 3rd reading and ALL 3rd reading HBs/HJR's on Supplemental Calendar	124 th day 13
125 th day 14	126 th day 15	127 th day 16	128 th day 17 By 9 a.m.—last House Local & Consent Calendar with local HBs must be distributed (48-hour layout) (See Note 2)	129 th day 18	130 th day 19 Last day for House to consider local HBs on 2nd & 3rd reading <i>First day Senate can consider bills and resolutions the first day they are posted on the Notice of Intent</i>	131 st day 20 Last day for House committees to report SBs/SJR's (See Note 1)
132 nd day 21 By 10 p.m.—last House Daily Calendar with SBs/SJR's must be distributed (36-hour layout) (See Note 2)	133 rd day 22 By 9 a.m.—last House Local & Consent Calendar with SBs must be distributed (48-hour layout) (See Note 2)	134 th day 23 Last day for House to consider 2nd reading SBs/SJR's on Daily or Supplemental Calendar	135 th day 24 Last day for House to consider local and consent SBs on 2nd & 3rd reading and ALL 3rd reading SBs/SJR's on Supplemental Calendar <i>Last day for Senate to consider ALL bills & JR's on 2nd or 3rd reading</i> (See Note 3)	136 th day 25 Before midnight—Senate amendments must be distributed in the House (24-hour layout)	137 th day 26 Last day for House to act on Senate amendments <i>Before midnight—Senate copies of conference committee reports (CCRs) on tax, general appropriations, and reappointment bills must be printed and distributed (48-hour layout)</i> (See Note 4)	138 th day 27 Before midnight—House copies of ALL CCRs must be distributed (24-hour layout) <i>Before midnight—Senate copies of CCRs on bills other than tax, general appropriations, and reappointment bills must be printed and distributed (24-hour layout)</i>
139 th day 28 Last day for House to adopt CCRs or discharge House conferees and concur in Senate amendments <i>Last day for Senate to concur in House amendments or adopt CCRs</i>	140 th day 29 Corrections only in House and Senate Last day of session (Sine die)	<p>In reviewing this calendar, all members should consider, in addition to the stated deadline, the time needed for the preparation of any ancillary documents related to the bill, any printing time, and any applicable layout rule.</p> <p>Note 1: The House rules do not contain an express deadline for committees to report measures, but, technically, this is the last day for a House committee to report a measure in order for the measure to have any chance of being placed on a House calendar. <i>However</i>, this deadline <i>does not</i> take into consideration the time required to: (1) prepare the bill analysis; (2) obtain an updated fiscal note or impact statement; (3) prepare any other paperwork required for a committee report; or (4) prepare the committee report for distribution to the members of the House as required by the rules. <i>Realistically</i>, it normally takes a full day or more for a bill to reach the Calendars Committee after the bill has been reported from committee.</p> <p>Note 2: The House rules do not have an express deadline for distributing calendars on the 120th, 121st, 128th, 132nd, and 133rd days.</p> <p>Note 3: The Senate deadline for passing all bills and joint resolutions <i>does not</i> take into consideration the House deadline for passing Senate bills and joint resolutions. <i>Realistically</i>, to be eligible for consideration by the House under its end-of-session deadlines, Senate bills and joint resolutions must be passed by the Senate and received by the House <i>before</i> the 130th day.</p> <p>Note 4: Both Senate and House rules require a 48-hour layout for a resolution suspending limitations on a conference committee considering the general appropriations bill, if such a resolution is necessary. Neither rule has an express deadline for considering that resolution, which should occur before consideration of the general appropriations bill.</p>				

Chance of Passing is Slim

Bill statistics for the 85th Legislature, Regular Session

Status	HB	HCR	HJR	HR	SB	SCR	SJR	SR	Total HB & SB	Total
Filed	4333	138	111	2707	2298	64	58	963	6631	10672
Passed	700	68	3	2682	511	29	6	961	1211	4960
Vetoed	36	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	51	<u>51</u>

Bill statistics for the 85th Legislature, 1st Called Session

Status	HB	HCR	HJR	HR	SB	SCR	SJR	SR	Total HB & SB	Total
Filed	386	21	42	502	122	1	10	161	508	1245
Passed	6	2	0	493	6	0	0	161	12	668
Vetoed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Bill statistics for the 84th Legislature, Regular Session

Status	HB	HCR	HJR	HR	SB	SCR	SJR	SR	Total HB & SB	Total
Filed	4207	122	133	3632	2069	52	67	1074	6276	11356
Passed	819	68	2	3581	504	32	5	1072	1323	6083
Vetoed	34	1	0	0	9	0	0	0	43	<u>44</u>

How Can you Keep Up?

- When the legislature is in session, the [Texas Legislature Online \(TLO\)](#) home page will include the time that the house and senate are scheduled to convene each day. Methods to view and keep track of introduced legislation include:

[Legislative Reports](#) - View a list of bills that have been filed in the house or senate.

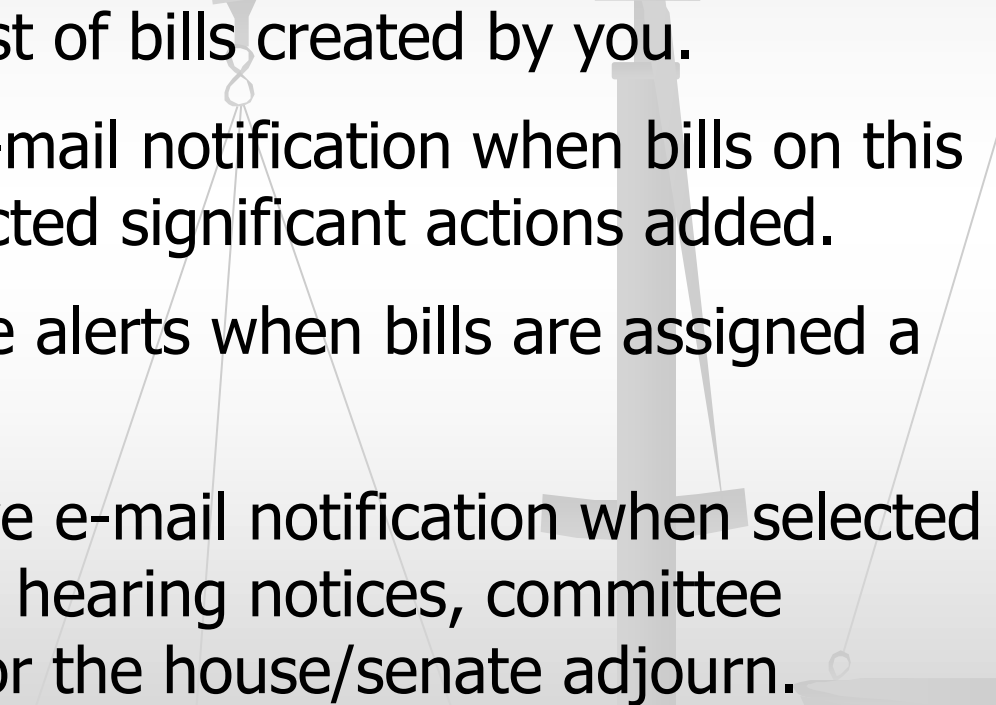
[Bill Status](#) - View the current status and legislative history for a bill.

[Text Search](#) - Find bills with specific content.

Subject Search - Find bills on a specific subject using the [bill search](#) or the [subject index](#)

How to Use Texas Legislature Online

The [MyTLO](#) section of the website offers personalized viewing of legislative content. It offers:

- **Bill List:** A custom list of bills created by you.
 - **Bill Alert:** Receive e-mail notification when bills on this custom list have selected significant actions added.
 - **Bill Subject:** Receive alerts when bills are assigned a specific subject.
 - **Other alerts:** Receive e-mail notification when selected calendars, committee hearing notices, committee minutes are posted, or the house/senate adjourn.
- 



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- Today's Filed Bills: [House](#) | [Senate](#) | [All](#)
- Today's Votes: [House](#) | [Senate](#)

Legislative Process

-  [How a Bill Becomes Law](#)
- [How to Follow A Bill](#)
- [Dates of Interest](#) | [Glossary](#)
- [End of Session Deadlines](#)

Who Represents Me?

Enter your address to find [who represents you](#) in the legislature.

Address:

 City:

TLO...

History | Text | Actions | Companions | Amendments | Authors | Sponsors | Captions | Bill Stages

Bill: HB 382 **Legislative Session:** 85(R) **Council Document:** 85R 3090 CJC-F [Add to Bill List](#) | [Add to Alert List](#)

Last Action: 02/16/2017 H Referred to Ways & Means: Feb 16 2017 11:33AM

Caption Version: Introduced

Caption Text: Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of real property leased to and used by certain schools.

Author: Murphy

Coauthor: Lang

Cosponsor:

Subjects: Education--Primary & Secondary--Charter Schools (I0245)
Education--Primary & Secondary--General (I0230)
Property Interests--Real Property (I0595)
Taxation--Property-Appraisals & Appraisal Districts (I0792)
Taxation--Property-Exemptions (I0793)

Enabling Information: Enabling legislation for [HJR 34](#).

House Committee: [Ways & Means](#)

Status: In committee

Actions: (descending date order)

Description	Comment	Date	Time	Journal Page
H Referred to Ways & Means		02/16/2017	11:33 AM	339

Tips to Lobby Legislature

Get to know your audience.

One issue at a time.

Start with a letter or phone call.

Know your issue and bring effective handouts.

Use personal anecdotes.

Offer solutions.

Build a relationship.

Act locally.

Timing.

All Bills Start as an Idea



“Egg-cellent” Legislation not to Egg-nore!

Senate Bill 1620,
bars cities and
towns from
banning six or
fewer backyard
chickens.

Died in the House



It is illegal to milk another person's cow.



Hog Hunting From Hot Air Balloons

- House Bill 3535, states that a qualified landowner or landowner's agent may contract to participate as a hunter or observer in using a hot air balloon to take depredating feral hogs or coyotes under the authority of a permit.
- It's now legal to shoot feral hogs and coyotes from a hot air balloon in Texas, as strange as that sounds.





Regulating Autonomous Vehicles in Texas

- Senate Bill 2205 permits the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) to govern the operation of automated motor vehicles, and prohibits political subdivisions (e.g., cities, towns, and districts) and state agencies from regulating the operation of such vehicles.
- The law allows driverless vehicles to be tested on Texas roads, and the measure lays the groundwork for these vehicles to someday be driven/produced in the state by allowing continued testing.



Ban on Texting & Driving

- House Bill 62, prohibits drivers on public roads from using a wireless communication device (i.e., a cell phone) to read, write, or send an electronic message while operating a motor vehicle.
- Texting and driving in Texas will be punishable by a fine of \$25-\$99, which raises to \$100-\$200 for any subsequent offenses. This new law will preempt all "texting and driving" ordinances previously passed by cities, but does not preempt city ordinances which go beyond texting while driving (i.e., hands-free ordinances).
- The law also states that if a car accident caused by texting and driving results in the death or serious bodily injury of another person, the offender can be charged with a Class A misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$4,000 and confinement in jail for a term not to exceed one year (in addition to any other charges/punishments).

