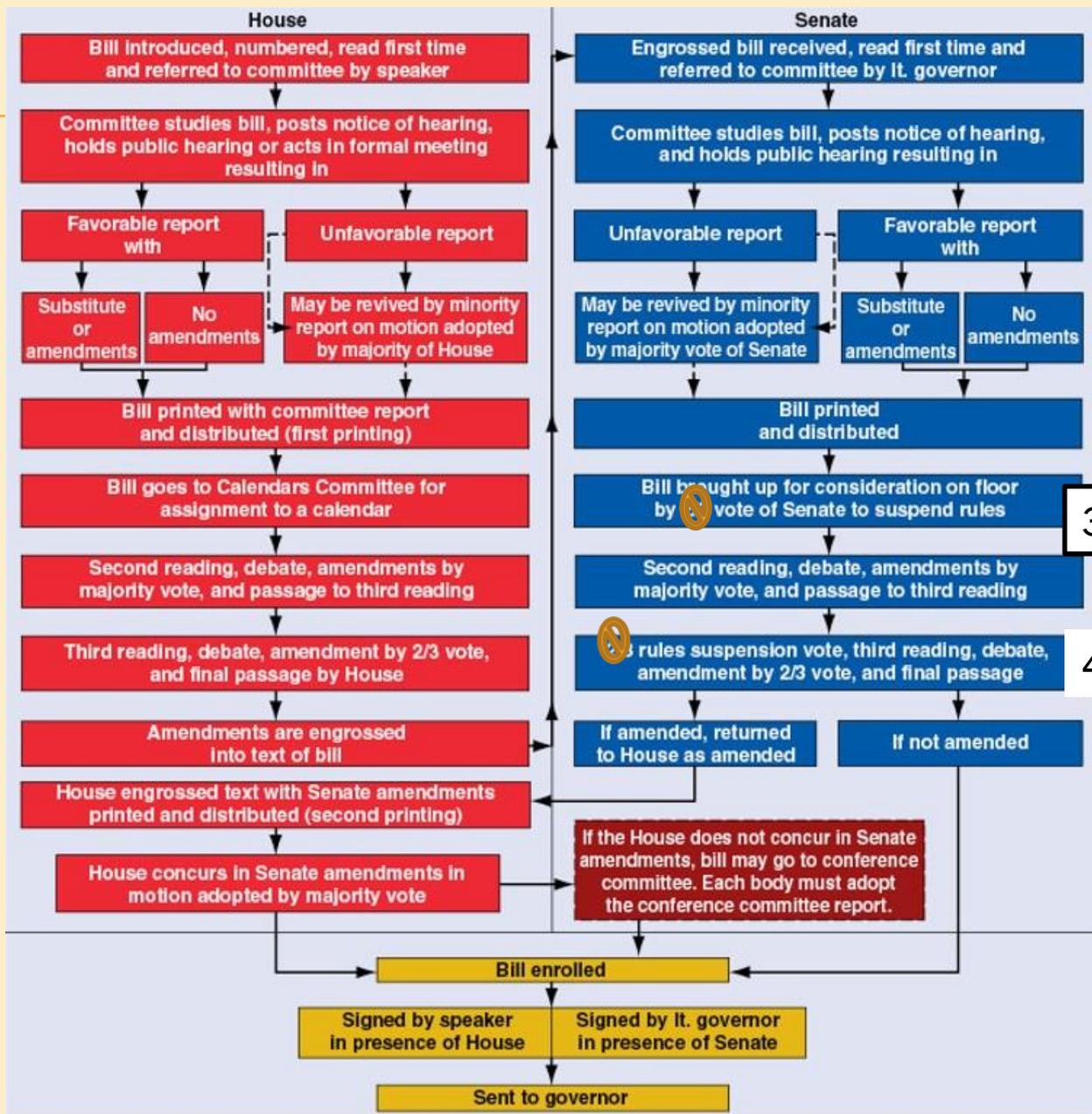




Effective Legislative Advocacy

EMPOWERING THE PEOPLE...



3/5

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Role of Committees

-
- ✘ The size of the legislature and the volume of work in each session make lengthy deliberation on all proposed measures by the entire membership a difficult task. So the basic business in both chambers is conducted according to the committee system.

-
- ✘ Although nearly all bills are referred to a committee, ***a large number of bills are never reported out of committee.*** Thus, committee action is a crucial step in the process by which a bill becomes law.

-
- ✘ Committees are appointed by the Speaker in the House and by the Lieutenant Governor in the Senate at the beginning of the regular session.



Meetings for Date

View committee meetings for a specific date. Use this option to view meeting minutes and witness lists from past meetings. This selection also allows viewing of hearing notices from previous legislative sessions.

- [House](#)
- [Senate](#)
- [Joint](#)

Meetings By Committee

View hearing notices, meeting minutes, and witness lists for a specific committee.

- [House](#)
- [Senate](#)
- [Joint](#)

Upcoming Meetings

View committee meetings scheduled for upcoming dates.

- [House](#)
- [Senate](#)
- [Joint](#)

Committee Membership

View the membership for a selected committee.

- [House](#)
- [Senate](#)
- [Joint](#)

Committee Assignments by Member

View the committee and conference committee assignments for a selected member.

- [House](#)
- [Senate](#)

Conference Committee Membership by Bill

View the [members](#) of a conference committee for a selected bill.

-
- ✘ When a bill is introduced or received from the opposite chamber for consideration, it is read for the first time by its caption only and is referred by the speaker or lieutenant governor to an appropriate committee.

IN THE HOUSE...

- ✘ In the house rules, each committee is assigned jurisdiction over a specific subject matter, and the speaker generally refers legislation to house committees based on those subject matter jurisdictions.

IN THE HOUSE...

- × Agriculture & Livestock
- × Appropriations
- × Appropriations - S/C on Article II
- × Appropriations - S/C on Article III
- × Appropriations - S/C on Articles I, IV & V
- × Appropriations - S/C on Articles VI, VII & VIII
- × Appropriations - S/C on Budget Transparency & Reform
- × Business & Industry
- × Calendars
- × Corrections
- × County Affairs
- × Criminal Jurisprudence
- × Culture, Recreation & Tourism
- × Defense & Veterans' Affairs
- × Economic & Small Business Development
- × Economic & Small Business Development-S/C on Small Business
- × Elections
- × Energy Resources
- × Environmental Regulation
- × General Investigating & Ethics
- × Government Transparency & Operation
- × Higher Education
- × Higher Education-S/C on Post-Secondary & Workforce Readiness
- × Homeland Security & Public Safety
- × House Administration
- × Human Services
- × Insurance
- × International Trade & Intergovernmental Affairs
- × Investments & Financial Services
- × Investments & Financial Services-S/C on Bond Indebtedness
- × Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence
- × Juvenile Justice & Family Issues
- × Land & Resource Management
- × Licensing & Administrative Procedures
- × Local & Consent Calendars
- × Natural Resources
- × Natural Resources-S/C on Special Water Districts
- × Pensions
- × Public Education
- × Public Education-S/C on Educator Quality
- × Public Health
- × Redistricting
- × Rules & Resolutions
- × Special Purpose Districts
- × State & Federal Power & Responsibility, Select
- × State Affairs
- × Texas Ports, Innovation & Infrastructure, Select
- × Transportation
- × Transportation-S/C on Long-term Infrastructure Planning
- × Urban Affairs
- × Ways & Means

IN THE HOUSE...

- ✘ For committees in the House, membership of most committees is appointed by the speaker. Each representative sits on at least one committee, while most sit on 2 or 3 or even more.

IN THE SENATE...

- ✘ The senate rules do not specify subject matter jurisdictions for senate committees, and the lieutenant governor may refer legislation to any senate committee or subcommittee. However, unofficial subject matter jurisdictions are usually followed.

IN THE SENATE...

- ✘ Administration
- ✘ Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs
- ✘ Business & Commerce
- ✘ Committee of the Whole Senate
- ✘ Criminal Justice
- ✘ Education
- ✘ Finance
- ✘ Health & Human Services
- ✘ Higher Education
- ✘ Intergovernmental Relations
- ✘ Natural Resources & Economic Development
- ✘ Nominations
- ✘ State Affairs
- ✘ Transportation
- ✘ Veteran Affairs & Border Security

IN THE SENATE...

- ✘ For Senate committees, membership is determined entirely by appointments by the lieutenant governor, and senators generally sit on 4 or 5 committees.

-
- ✘ All committee business on a bill is required to be conducted in open meetings. No official action or vote may be taken except in a meeting that is open to the public.

SAMPLE NOTICE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

COMMITTEE: Homeland Security & Public Safety

TIME & DATE: 8:00 AM, Tuesday, March 21, 2017

PLACE: E2.014

CHAIR: Rep. Phil King

The Committee will convene to hear invited testimony on:

- Cybersecurity
- Gun Laws in Texas

Public testimony will be limited to three (3) minutes

The Committee will also hear public testimony on:

HB 134 Dutton
Relating to a peace officer training advisory committee.

HB 300 King, Phil | et al.
Relating to the removal of a fee for the issuance of an original,
duplicate, modified, or renewed license to carry a handgun.

IN THE HOUSE...

- ✘ The House rules permit a House committee or subcommittee to meet:
- ✘ (1) in a public hearing where testimony is heard and where official action may be taken on bills, resolutions, or other matters;
- ✘ (2) in a formal meeting where the members may discuss and take official action without hearing public testimony; or
- ✘ (3) in a work session for discussion of matters before the committee without taking formal action.

IN THE HOUSE...

- ✘ A house committee or subcommittee holding a public hearing during a legislative session must post notice of the hearing at least five calendar days before the hearing during a regular session and at least 24 hours before the hearing during a special session ***unless the house posting rules have been suspended by a vote of the members on the house floor.***

IN THE HOUSE...

- ✘ If a House committee or subcommittee is convening for a formal meeting or a work session, written notice must be posted and transmitted to each member of the committee two hours in advance of the meeting, or an announcement must be filed with the journal clerk and read in the House while the House is in session.



Bill: HB 300

Legislative Session: 85(R)

Council Document: 85R 103 AD

Last Action: 03/21/2017 H Scheduled for public hearing on . . .

Caption Version: Introduced

Caption Text: Relating to the removal of a fee for the issuance of an original, duplicate, modified, or renewed license to carry a handgun.

Author: King, Phil | Zerwas | Kacal | Cook | Burns

Coauthor: Holland | Lambert | Laubenberg | Simmons | White | Wray

Cosponsor:

Subjects: Criminal Procedure--General (I0208)
Fees & Other Nontax Revenue--Local (I0361)
Military & Veterans (I0535)
Weapons (I0887)
PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF (V0251)

House Committee: [Homeland Security & Public Safety](#)

Status: In committee

Actions: (descending date order)

	Description	Comment	Date ▼	Time	Journal Page
H	Scheduled for public hearing on . . .		03/21/2017		
H	Referred to Homeland Security & Public Safety		03/13/2017	03:28 PM	620
H	Read first time		03/13/2017		620
H	Filed		03/09/2017		

IN THE SENATE...

- ✘ The Senate rules do not provide for different types of meetings but do require that a public hearing allowing public testimony be held on a bill before it can be reported from committee. Testimony may be heard and official action may be taken at any meeting of a Senate committee or subcommittee.
- ✘ A Senate committee or subcommittee must post notice of a meeting at least 24 hours before the meeting.

-
- ✘ After considering a bill, a committee may choose to take no action or may issue a report on the bill to the House or Senate. The committee may recommend passage of the bill without amendments, recommend amendments to the bill, or substitute a new bill for the original document.

Bill: SB 16 **Legislative Session:** 85(R) **Council Document:** 85R 103 ADM-D

Last Action: 03/21/2017 S Reported favorably as substituted

Caption Version: Introduced

Caption Text: Relating to the removal of a fee for the issuance of an original, duplicate, modified, or renewed license to carry a handgun.

Author: Nichols | Huffman

Coauthor: Bettencourt | Birdwell | Buckingham | Burton | Creighton | Estes | Hall | Hancock | Huffines | Hughes | Kolkhorst | Perry | Schwertner | Seliger

Cosponsor:

Subjects: Criminal Procedure--General (I0208)
Fees & Other Nontax Revenue--Local (I0361)
Military & Veterans (I0535)
Weapons (I0887)
PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF (V0251)

Senate Committee: [State Affairs](#)

Status: Out of committee

Vote: Ayes=9 Nays=0 Present Not Voting=0 Absent=0

Actions: (descending date order)

Description	Comment	Date ▼	Time	Journal Page
S Reported favorably as substituted		03/21/2017		
S Testimony taken in committee		03/20/2017		
S Considered in public hearing		03/20/2017		
S Scheduled for public hearing on . . .		03/20/2017		
S Co-author authorized		03/07/2017		436

Bill: [HB 421](#)
Legislative Session: 85(R) **Council Document:** 85R 1112 LHC-D [Add to Bill List](#) | [Add to Alert List](#)

Last Action: *03/07/2017 H Left pending in committee*

Caption Version: Introduced

Caption Text: Relating to the exemption from application of the Private Security Act of certain persons who provide security services on a volunteer basis at a place of religious worship.

Author: Rinaldi | Kuempel | Villalba | Phelan | King, Phil

Coauthor: Anderson, Charles "Doc" | Anderson, Rodney | Biedermann | Burkett | Burns | Burrows | Cain | Dean | Faircloth | Flynn | Frank | Hefner | Keough | Landgraf | Lang | Metcalf | Meyer | Parker | Paul | Sanford | Schaefer | Schofield | Shaheen | Stickland | Stucky | Swanson | Tinderholt | White | Zedler

Subjects: Religion (10646)
Weapons (10887)
VOLUNTEERS (S1314)

House Committee: [Homeland Security & Public Safety](#)
Status: In committee

Actions: (descending date order)

Description	Comment	Date	Time	Journal Page
H Left pending in committee		03/07/2017		
H Testimony taken/registration(s) recorded in committee		03/07/2017		
H Considered in public hearing		03/07/2017		
H Scheduled for public hearing on . . .		03/07/2017		
H Referred to Homeland Security & Public Safety		02/16/2017	11:33 AM	341
H Read first time		02/16/2017		341
H Filed		11/21/2016		

Committee Reports

-
- ✘ The committee report includes:
 - * a record of the committee's recommendations & vote regarding House or Senate action on the bill (including recommendation regarding placement on a calendar)
 - * text of the bill as reported by the committee, which may be the introduced text or a substitute;
 - * any proposed amendments;
 - * a bill analysis;
 - * a fiscal note or other impact statement;
 - * other attachments as necessary.

IN THE HOUSE...

- ✘ In the House, all committee reports are filed with the committee coordinator.
- ✘ Each bill, except the general appropriations bill, is delivered to each member electronically.
 - + If a member informs the Chief Clerk in writing that the member also wants paper copies of bills, the chief clerk delivers a paper copy of the bill in the newspaper mailbox of the member as soon as practicable after the electronic copy of the bill is made available for viewing.

IN THE HOUSE...

- ✘ The chief clerk then delivers a certified copy of the committee report to the appropriate calendars committee (the Committee on Calendars or the Committee on Local and Consent Calendars) for placement of the bill on a calendar for consideration by the full house.
- ✘ *Calendars committees are given wide discretion in scheduling bills for floor consideration.*

IN THE SENATE...

- ✘ The Senate rules also require committee reports to be printed. After being printed, a copy of the Senate committee report printing is placed in the bill book on each senator's desk in the Senate Chamber.
- ✘ (Except for the role of the Senate Committee on Administration in scheduling local and noncontroversial bills for consideration) **There is no equivalent to a calendars committee in the senate.** The senate's regular order of business lists all bills and resolutions that have been reported from a senate committee in the order in which they were reported.

Getting the Bill to the Floor: Calendars

IN THE HOUSE...

The chief clerk delivers a certified copy of the committee report to the appropriate calendars committee (the Committee on Calendars or the Committee on Local and Consent Calendars) for placement of the bill on a calendar for consideration by the full House.

Calendars committees are given wide discretion in scheduling bills for floor consideration.

-
- ✘ There are 4 calendars that deal with bills to be considered by the full House...

IN THE HOUSE...

- (1) the Daily House Calendar, which contains a list of new bills and resolutions scheduled by the Committee on Calendars for consideration by the house and which must be distributed to the members 36 hours before the house may consider those measures (24 hours during special sessions);

- (2) The Supplemental House Calendar (prepared by the Committee on Calendars), which must be distributed two hours before the house convenes and which may contain:
 - (a) measures passed to third reading on the previous legislative day;
 - (b) measures on the Daily House Calendar for a previous calendar day that were not reached for consideration;
 - (c) measures on the Daily House Calendar for the current day;
 - (d) postponed business from a previous calendar day; and
 - (e) notice to call from the table a measure laid on the table subject to call on a previous legislative day;

IN THE HOUSE...

- ✘ (3) the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar, which must be distributed to the members 48 hours before the listed measures may be considered and which contains a list of local or noncontroversial bills scheduled by the Committee on Local and Consent Calendars for consideration by the House; and
- ✘ (4) the Congratulatory and Memorial Calendar, which must be distributed 24 hours before those measures may be considered and which contains a list of congratulatory and memorial resolutions scheduled by the Committee on Rules and Resolutions for consideration by the House.

IN THE HOUSE...

- ✘ The Supplemental House Calendar, because it includes the measures listed on the Daily House Calendar, is the primary agenda followed by the House during its deliberations.
- ✘ The Local, Consent, & Resolutions Calendar and the Congratulatory & Memorial Calendar are special calendars that are prepared approximately once a week during the last half of a regular session.

IN THE SENATE...

- ✘ There is no real equivalent to a Calendars Committee in the Senate. The Senate's regular order of business lists all bills and resolutions that have been reported from a Senate committee in the order in which they were reported.

IN THE SENATE...

- ✘ The Senate's usual practice is to consider bills out of calendar order. The Senate rules provide that a bill may not be considered out of order without a suspension of the Senate's regular order of business by a vote of three-fifths of the members present.
- ✘ During a regular session, the Senate rules further require the publication of an Intent Calendar listing the bills for which authors and sponsors will make motions to suspend the regular order of business for consideration by the full Senate.

Bill: SB 20**Legislative Session:** 85(R)**Last Action:**

03/21/2017 S Placed on intent calendar

Caption Version:

Senate Committee Report

Caption Text:

Relating to health plan and health benefit plan coverage for abortions.

Author:

Taylor, Larry

Coauthor:

Bettencourt | Campbell | Creighton | Hall | Hancock | Kolkhorst | Nichols | Perry | Schwertner | Taylor, Van

Cosponsor:**Subjects:**Abortion (I0005)
Insurance--Health & Accident (I0422)**Senate Committee:**[Business & Commerce](#)**Status:**

Out of committee

Vote:

Ayes=7 Nays=1 Present Not Voting=0 Absent=1

Actions: (descending date order)

	Description	Comment	Date▼	Time	Journal Page
S	Placed on intent calendar		03/21/2017		
S	Co-author authorized		03/21/2017		
S	Co-author authorized		03/20/2017		573
S	Committee report printed and distributed		03/16/2017	02:23 PM	
S	Reported favorably as substituted		03/16/2017		548
S	Considered in public hearing		03/14/2017		
S	Left pending in committee		02/28/2017		
S	Testimony taken in committee		02/28/2017		
S	Considered in public hearing		02/28/2017		
S	Scheduled for public hearing on . . .		02/28/2017		
S	Co-author authorized		02/21/2017		308
S	Co-author authorized		02/13/2017		270
S	Co-author authorized		02/07/2017		235
S	Co-author authorized		02/01/2017		175
S	Co-author authorized		01/31/2017		151
S	Referred to Business & Commerce		01/24/2017		92
S	Read first time		01/24/2017		92

-
- ✘ Senate rules direct the secretary of the senate to prepare a list of all legislation for which notice has been given. The list, called the Intent Calendar, must be made available to each senator and to the press not later than 6:30 p.m. on the day the notice is filed.
 - ✘ Before the 130th calendar day of the regular session, the rules may not be suspended to consider a bill or resolution out of order until the second day the measure has been listed on the Intent Calendar.

-
- ✘ The senate rules do not require measures to be brought up for consideration in the order listed on the Intent Calendar, and the Senate routinely considers only a portion of those measures listed on the Intent Calendar for a given day.
 - ✘ A senator must give notice from day to day for a measure that was not brought up for consideration to remain on the Intent Calendar. Any provision of the Senate rule governing the Intent Calendar may be suspended by a vote of four-fifths of the members present.

Consideration of Local and Noncontroversial Bills

-
- ✘ The house and senate rules both provide for special calendars for the consideration of local and noncontroversial bills. The calendar used for consideration of these bills in the house is the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar, which is set by the Committee on Local and Consent Calendars.

-
- ✘ A standing committee may recommend, when reporting a bill or resolution, that the measure be sent to the Committee on Local and Consent Calendars for placement on an appropriate calendar. Such a recommendation requires the unanimous consent of all the committee members present when the measure is reported from committee.

-
- ✘ Measures that are eligible for consideration by the Committee on Local and Consent Calendars are bills that are local as defined by the house rules and bills and resolutions to which no opposition is anticipated. If the Committee on Local and Consent Calendars determines that a measure is not eligible for placement on the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar, the committee shall transfer the measure to the Committee on Calendars.

-
- ✘ Normally, Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendars are prepared for consideration by the house once a week during the last half of the regular session. These calendars usually are lengthy, but consideration of them is expedited because debate is limited and amendments to measures on these calendars may not be offered unless they have first been approved by the Committee on Local and Consent Calendars.

-
- ✘ A measure may be removed from the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar if debate exceeds 10 minutes or if five or more representatives object to the consideration of the measure.

IN THE SENATE...

- ✘ The calendar used for consideration of local and noncontroversial bills in the senate is the Local and Uncontested Calendar, which is set by the Senate Committee on Administration.
- ✘ A measure may not be considered for placement on the Local and Uncontested Calendar unless both the author or sponsor of the measure and the chair of the committee from which the measure was reported file a written request for placement on the Local and Uncontested Calendar with the Senate Committee on Administration.

-
- ✘ Measures ineligible for placement on the calendar include bills that are contested in committee, create new departments or subdivisions within state government, or contain an appropriation. Local and Uncontested Calendars normally are prepared for consideration by the senate once or twice a week during the last half of the regular session.

-
- ✘ Measures on the Local and Uncontested Calendar are considered without a suspension of the regular order of business, which generally is required for consideration of legislation in the senate. As in the house, consideration of Local and Uncontested Calendars in the senate is expedited because the measures on these calendars usually are not debated and floor amendments to measures on these calendars are prohibited.

-
- ✘ A measure may be removed from the Local and Uncontested Calendar if two or more senators object to the consideration of the measure.