Legislation Navigation Guide

The Planner's Toolkit

March 2014

This document is intended to provide guidance and is designed for use by TDEM's Preparedness Section. It can also be used by planners responsible for developing and maintaining emergency planning documents including state and local emergency management plans and annexes. It is available by request to interested planning partners for use in their emergency management efforts.

This document is not intended to supersede any guidance developed by the Texas Department of Public Safety or the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

Table of Contents

Preface v
Using This Document 1
Overview and Purpose 2
Texas Lawmaking 3
  Legislation and Bill Types 4
  Bill Stages 5
Legal Research Tools 6
Conducting Online State Legal Research 8
  Current Statutes 8
  Texas Constitution 10
  Bill Status 11
  Enactment or Amendment 14
  Specific Terms or Phrases 16
  State Agency Rules 18
  Legislative Session Summaries 20
  Governor Documents 33
Conducting Online Federal Legal Research 36
  THOMAS Website 36
  Electronic Code of Federal Regulations Website 38
  National Archive's CFR Website 40
  Government Printing Office Website 43
Additional Online Resources 44
  Real-time and archived video feed 44
  Personalized tracking of legislative action 49
Significant State and Federal Legislation 51
  State of Texas 51
  Federal 56
  Nongovernment Resources 62
  2013 Texas Legislation 64
Maintenance and Change 67
Abbreviations and Definitions 68
  Abbreviations 68
  Definitions 68

Preface

Most documents produced by TDEM's planning team make reference to a state or federal statute. This guide is designed to help planners, writers, and editors navigate the legislative maze with ease.

The development of this document was supported by the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program.

Using This Document

This legislative navigation guide is a reference tool for emergency planners. This section explains how to use this guide to find current legal information.

This document is not designed to be read from cover to cover. Use this page as a navigation tool to quickly find the information you need.

Start here for basic information about relevant laws.	3
Find out how to conduct legal research online here.	8
Learn how to search the Texas constitution here.	10
Find out when a chapter, subchapter or section of a statute becomes law.	10
Learn how to find a topic in Texas' statutes and constitution.	16
Go here to find state agency rules.	18
Learn how to find summaries of recently passed bills here.	20
Go here to find executive orders and proclamations from Texas governors.	33
Learn how to conduct research on federal legislative websites.	36
Find out how to watch videos of the Texas legislature.	44
Find a list of mandates relevant to emergency management planning here.	51

For an explanation of the acronyms and terms in this document, please refer to the **State of Texas Acronyms and Terms (STAT)** book.

This document is one in a series of emergency management planning tools. All guides in the series combine to form a comprehensive *Planner's Toolkit*.

Overview and Purpose

This section explains why the legislative guide is important and for whom it is written.

Goal

Give emergency management planners a tool to help them research and learn more about federal and state legislation that affects emergency management planning.

Objectives

- Explain how lawmaking impacts emergency management planning.
- Highlight key online legal information resources.
- Provide step-by-step guidance for conducting legal research using these resources.
- Assist team members in referencing proper authorities.

Audience

- TDEM's Preparedness Section.
- Interested planning partners.

Planning Assumptions

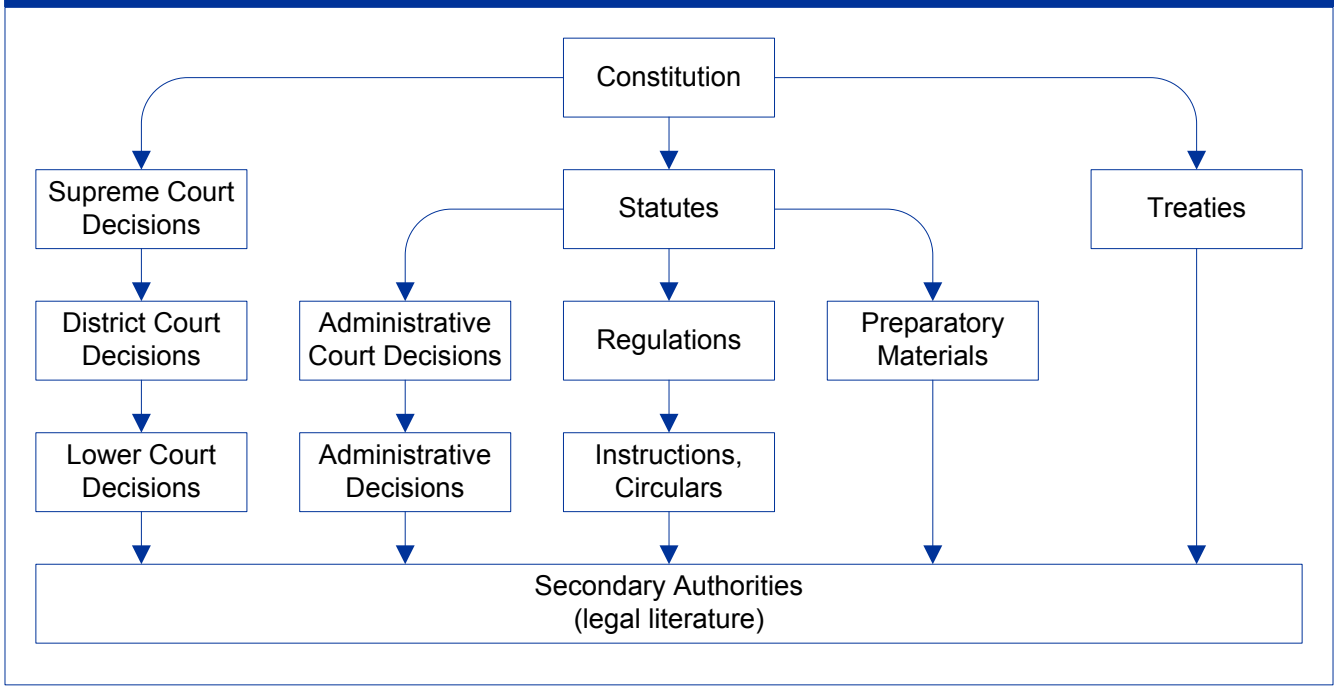
- Accurate plans must be based upon the latest versions of legal mandates.
- Online search tools make it easy for people to find accurate, up-to-date legal information.

Texas Lawmaking

In this section, key aspects of Texas law-making are explained.

Governments function through the structure provided by a constitution. From the Constitution, three branches work to fulfill mandates resulting in differing types of legal rules or guidelines: judicial decisions, statutes and treaties. Statutes and treaties involve the legislative and executive branches working together. The following table demonstrates how these various legal sources relate to one another:

Legal Hierarchy and Research Sources



Only some laws address how government approaches the phases of emergency management. Fewer still need to be recognized in emergency management plans and procedures.

State of Texas emergency management planners must be concerned with both the federal and state levels of lawmaking when developing or revising emergency management plans. Luckily the processes and sources of these are similar. This discussion focuses on the processes existing at the state level with emphasis on the process of legislating.

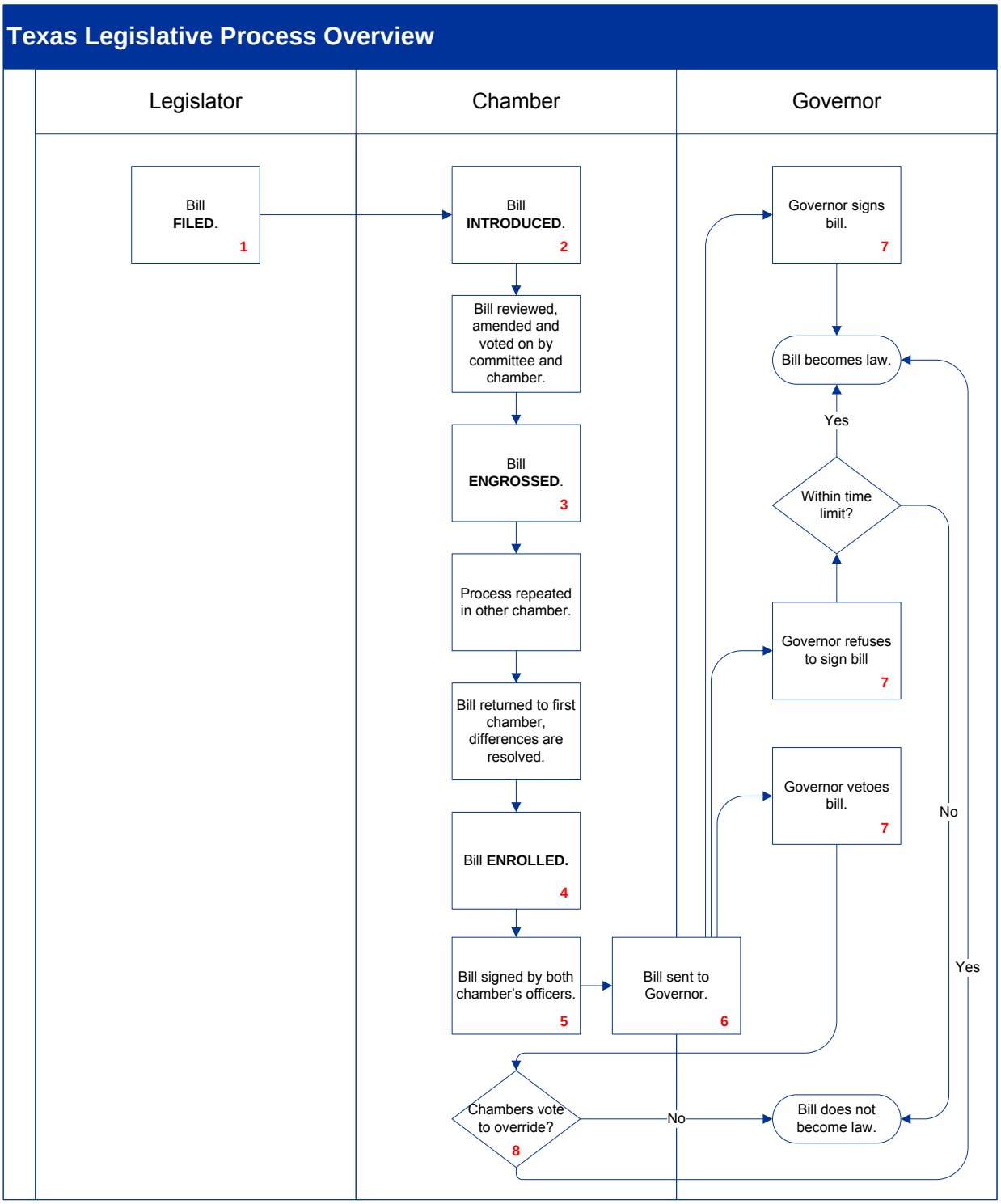
Legislation and Bill Types

In Texas, several types of legal action may be considered during a legislative session. The following chart provides an overview of bill types, how they originate, what purpose each serves, and who can provide final approval.

Type	Origin	Purpose	Final Approver
Bill	House or Senate	Create new law; revise existing law.	Governor or 2/3 House and Senate vote.
Committee Report	A House or Senate committee	Recommend actions for the House or Senate to take on bills in report.	Depends on bill type.
Concurrent Resolution	House or Senate	To congratulate or memorialize; may also be administrative.	House and Senate.
Resolution	House or Senate	Provide formal opinion or decision, rather than a proposed law; may be offered for approval by one or both chambers.	House, Senate or both.
Joint Resolution	House or Senate	Propose an amendment to the TX Constitution, ratify amendments to the U.S. Constitution or request a convention to propose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution.	For TX Constitutional amendments, 2/3 vote of membership in each chamber for adoption; Texas voters' approval.
Simple Resolution	House or Senate	Adopt or change chamber rules of procedure or offer congratulations or condolences.	Not applicable.

Bill Stages

As shown in the chart below, a bill can go through as many as eight stages before it becomes a law.



Legal Research Tools

In this section, online legal researching tools used by team members are identified and previewed.

SFPU planner legal research is usually limited to capturing changes in approach that result from changes in legal foundation since the last revision of an emergency management plan.

Research tools addressed here are online and include:

Resource	Use	Location
Texas Legislature Online (TLO)	▪ Access current Texas statutes and Texas Constitution ▪ Track pending Texas legislation ▪ Search on topics	http://www.legis.state.tx.us/ and http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/
Legislative Reference Library of Texas (LRL)	▪ Access current and past Texas legislative session summaries ▪ Crosswalk legislation to affected code ▪ Search on topics	http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/index.cfm
Texas Register (TR) Texas Administrative Code (TAC)	▪ Track Texas agency rulemaking ▪ Research existing code ▪ Track rule and agency transfers ▪ Access to TAC (from TR) ▪ Search on topics	http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/about.shtml (TR) http://www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/index.shtml (TAC)
Texas Legislature Live Broadcasts	▪ See pending legislation discussed and acted upon ▪ See previous session activity in archives	http://www.house.state.tx.us/video-audio/ and http://www.senate.state.tx.us/bin/live.php
Sunset Advisory Commission	▪ Track potential rule or agency transfers before these enter legislature	http://www.sunset.state.tx.us/
Library of Congress THOMAS website	▪ Track pending federal legislation ▪ View congressional record and committee reports	http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php
Government Printing Office eCFR website	▪ Track federal agency rulemaking ▪ Research existing code	http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/ECFR?page=browse
National Archives CFR website	▪ Search on topics	http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/subjects.html
Government Printing Office	▪ Crosswalk how legislation impacts code	http://www.gpo.gov/
C-Span	▪ C-Span has 4 channels,	http://www.c-span.org/Live-

Resource	Use	Location
	some live feeds, not exclusively congressionally focused ▪ Track current session action	Video/C-SPAN2/, http://houselive.gov/ and http://www.senate.gov/floor/

Conducting Online State Legal Research

In this section the functionality of the Texas Legislature Online website is introduced to team members.

Using the Texas Legislature Online (TLO) website, a planner can explore the legislative landscape of a planning topic including:

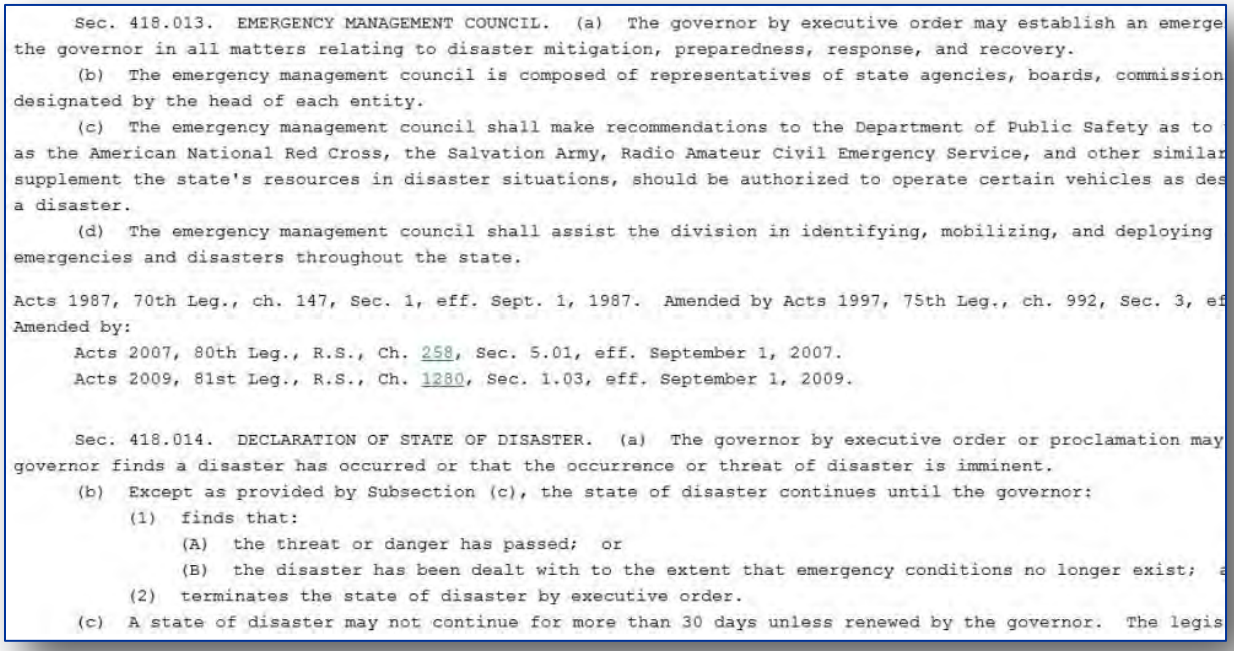
- Current statutes – laws passed by the legislature;
- Texas constitution;
- Bill status;
- Enactment or amendment;
- Specific terms or phrases;
- State agency rules; and
- Legislative session summaries.

Current Statutes

1. From the TLO homepage (http://www.legis.state.tx.us/), click the "Statutes" button under the "Additional Searches" section:

2. On the "Quick Search" page that opens, use the three dropdown menu options to pull up a specific chapter in a specific code. For example, Section 418.013:

3. Click "Go" to arrive at the legislation sought:



Sec. 418.013. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL. (a) The governor by executive order may establish an emerge
the governor in all matters relating to disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

(b) The emergency management council is composed of representatives of state agencies, boards, commission
designated by the head of each entity.

(c) The emergency management council shall make recommendations to the Department of Public Safety as to
as the American National Red Cross, the Salvation Army, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, and other similar
supplement the state's resources in disaster situations, should be authorized to operate certain vehicles as des
a disaster.

(d) The emergency management council shall assist the division in identifying, mobilizing, and deploying
emergencies and disasters throughout the state.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 147, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 992, Sec. 3, ef
Amended by:

Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 258, Sec. 5.01, eff. September 1, 2007.

Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 1280, Sec. 1.03, eff. September 1, 2009.

Sec. 418.014. DECLARATION OF STATE OF DISASTER. (a) The governor by executive order or proclamation may
governor finds a disaster has occurred or that the occurrence or threat of disaster is imminent.

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the state of disaster continues until the governor:

(1) finds that:

(A) the threat or danger has passed; or

(B) the disaster has been dealt with to the extent that emergency conditions no longer exist;

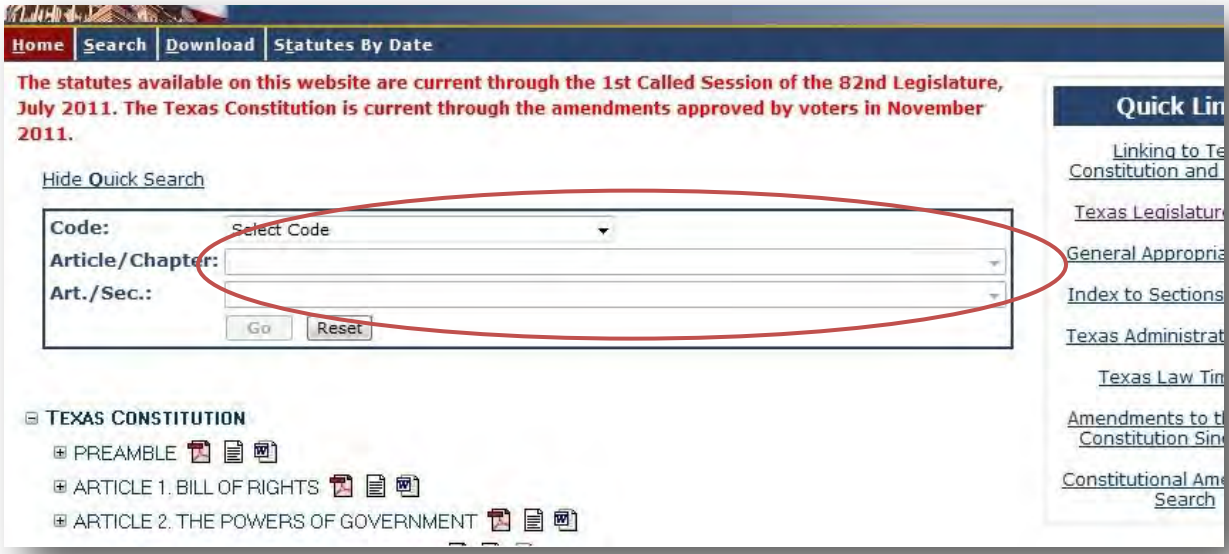
(2) terminates the state of disaster by executive order.

(c) A state of disaster may not continue for more than 30 days unless renewed by the governor. The legis

Texas Constitution

1. To search for something in the Texas Constitution start at the "Quick Search" page (http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/) and click the "Constitution" button under the "Additional Searches" section:

2. Use the pull-down lists of Article/Chapter and Art./Sec. to navigate way to wanted text. Functionality is identical to the Current Statutes discussion above:



Bill Status

If the Texas State Legislature is in session, it is possible to find the text of a current bill and its status.

1. From the main Texas Legislature Online page http://www.legis.state.tx.us/ select the current legislative session – use pull-down list and select the latest session with "(R)" in its title:

2. If the bill number is known, click on the "Bill Number" button and enter the number in the text box below (e.g., HB 204 or SB 409). HB or SB must be included in front of the number for the search to work:

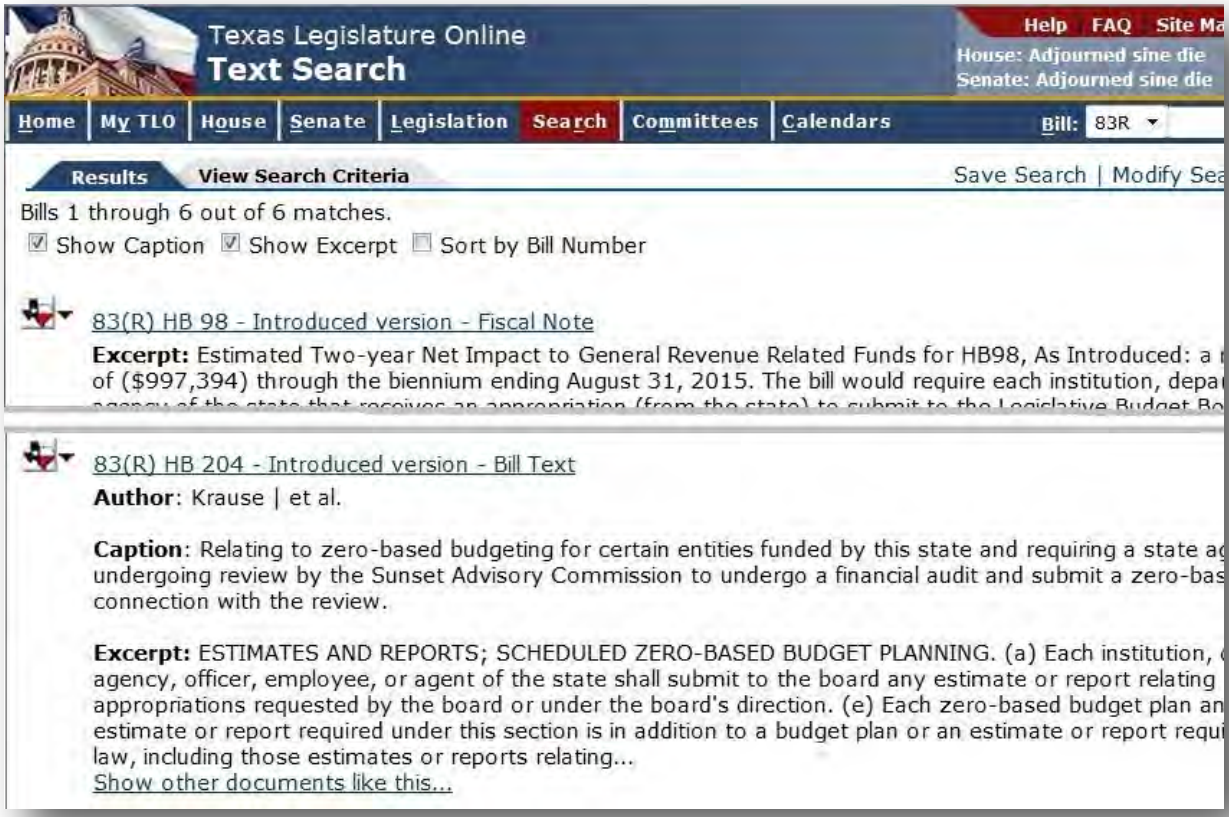
3. A search this specific yields a summary history of the legislative actions, as below:

4. Once the history summary page is active, tabs along the top indicate additional information is available on the bill.

Tab Name	Description
Text	Leads to links that provide views of the bill's text.
Actions	Leads to a table on legislative actions, dates and links to the legislative journal page that details the action.
Bill Stages	Presents "Actions" information graphically along with the stages the bill has yet to pass.
Authors	Includes the information that can be seen on the history summary page – primary and joint authors, plus the names of coauthors.
Captions	Repeats the caption text visible on the history summary page.

5. If the bill number isn't known, click on the "Word / Phrase" button and enter the search term you need (such as "zero-based budgeting") and click "Go":

6. This level of search will lead to a list of relevant legislation:



Enactment or Amendment

To find out when a chapter, subchapter, or section became law or was updated, follow the next few steps – the steps that lead to this starting point are found under "Current Statutes," steps 1 – 3.

1. Look at the end of the first section of a code chapter to find the chapter's enacting information. This image shows that Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code was enacted in 1987 during the 70th Legislature and can be found in that legislative session's law book in Chapter 147, Section 1, which went into effect on September 1, 1987:

GOVERNMENT CODE

TITLE 4. EXECUTIVE BRANCH

SUBTITLE B. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION

CHAPTER 418. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 418.001. SHORT TITLE. This chapter may be cited as the Texas Disaster Act of 1975.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 147, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.

2. To find the enactment of a code's subchapter, look for the information provided after the first section of that subchapter. This image (from Chapter 418) shows that Subchapter C of Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code was enacted in 1987 during the 70th Legislature and can be found in that legislative session's law book in Chapter 147, Section 1. The subchapter went into effect on September 1, 1987. It also shows that it was amended in 2009 during the 81st Regular Session of the Legislature, and can be found in that legislative session's law book in Chapter 1146, Section 2A.02. It went into effect on September 1, 2009:

SUBCHAPTER C. TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Sec. 418.041. ORGANIZATION. (a) The Texas Division of Emergency Management is a division of the departm

(b) The division is managed by a chief appointed by the public safety director of the department, with th approval of the governor. The chief serves at the pleasure of the public safety director. The chief must posse professional training and knowledge consisting of not less than five years of managerial or strategic planning experience in matters relating to public safety, security, emergency services, and emergency response.

(c) At least once every two months, the following shall meet to coordinate efforts, prevent overlap of activities, and ensure that the state's approach to emergency management and homeland security is unified:

(1) a representative of the department;

(2) a representative of the division;

(3) a representative of the governor's office of homeland security;

(4) the presiding officer of the Homeland Security Council; and

(5) a state agency representative from the emergency management council, selected by the chair of the emergency management council.

(d) The division shall employ other coordinating and planning officers and other professional, technical, secretarial, and clerical personnel necessary to the performance of its functions.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 147, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.

Amended by:

Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 1146, Sec. 2A.02, eff. September 1, 2009.

3. Look at the end of each section in a code chapter to find its enacting and, if applicable, amending information. This image shows that Section 418.044 of the Texas Government Code was enacted in 1987 during the 70th Legislature and can be found in that legislative session's law book in Chapter 147, Section 1. The section went into effect on September 1, 1987. It also shows that it was amended in 1997 during the 75th Legislature, and can be found in that legislative session's law book in Chapter 992, Section 6. It went into effect on September 1, 1997.

Sec. 418.044. ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL PLANS. (a) The division shall take an integral part in the development and revision of local and interjurisdictional emergency management plans. For that purpose, the divisio shall employ or otherwise secure the services of professional and technical personnel capable of providing expert assistance to political subdivisions and emergency management agencies. Those personnel shall consult with the subdivisions and agencies on a regularly scheduled basis and shall make field reviews of the areas, circumstances, a conditions to which particular local and interjurisdictional emergency management plans apply and may suggest revisi

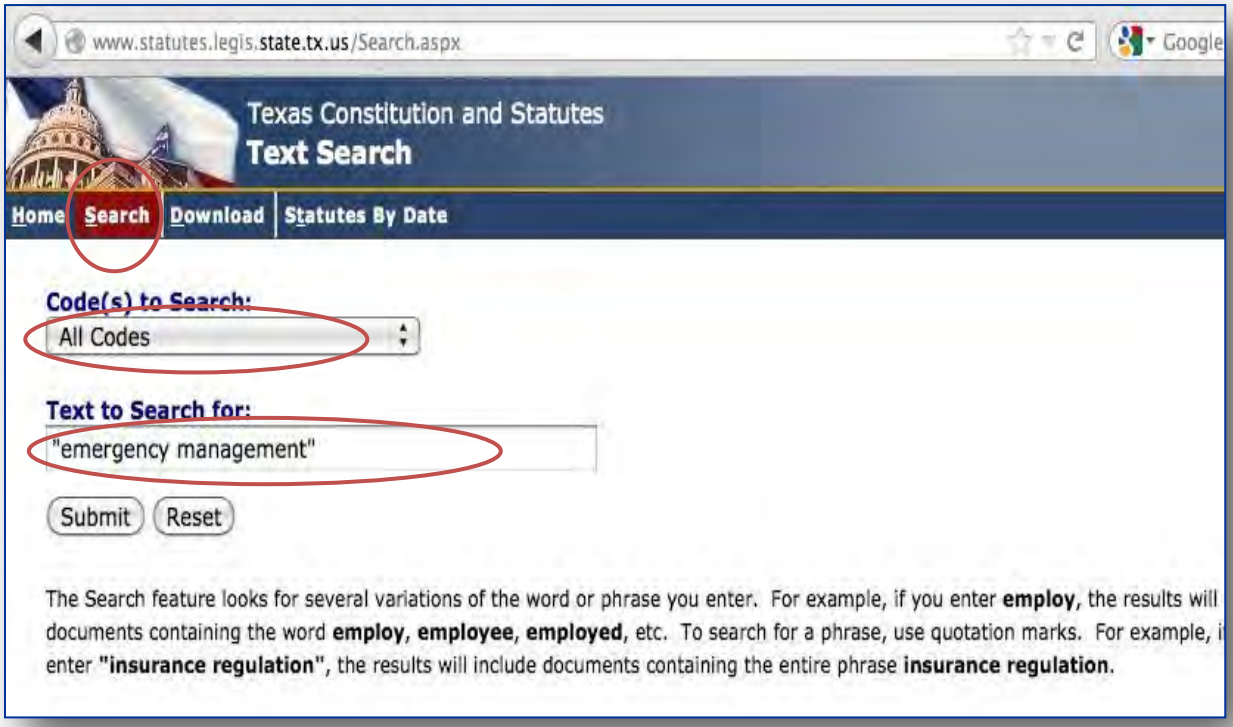
(b) The division shall encourage local and interjurisdictional agencies to seek advice from local government, business, labor, industry, agriculture, civic organizations, volunteer organizations, and community leaders.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 147, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 992, Sec. 6, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Specific Terms or Phrases

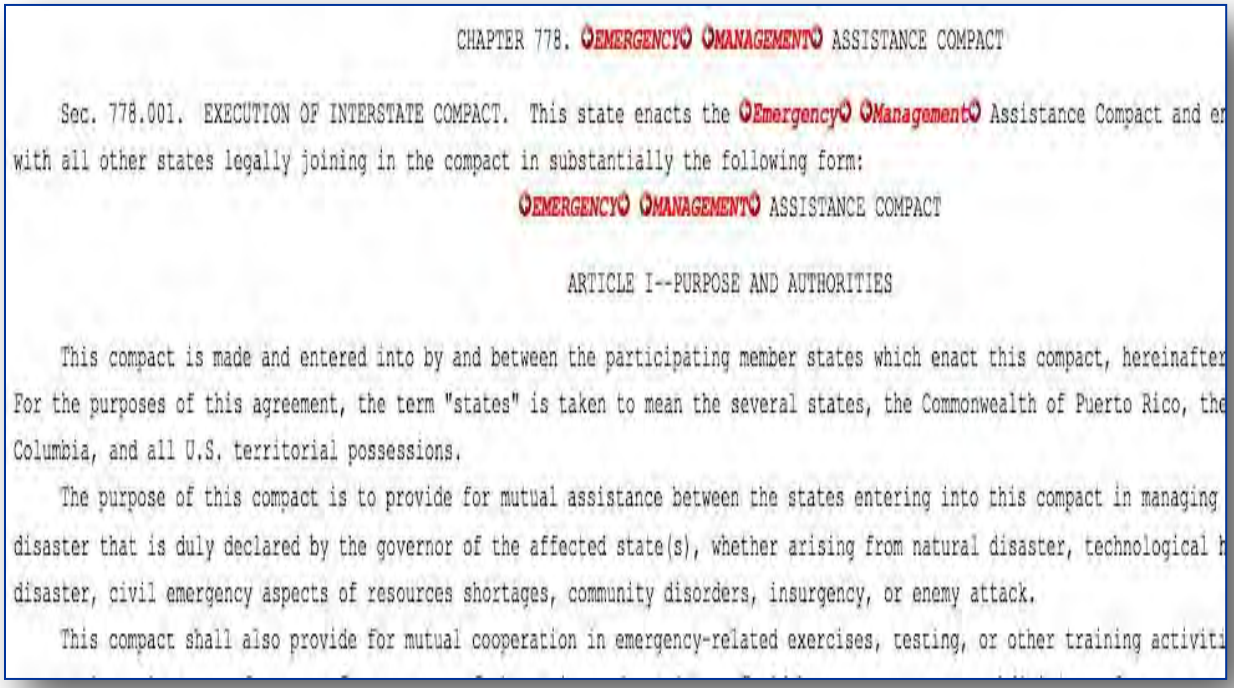
To search for every occurrence of a certain term or phrase in Texas statutes and the Texas Constitution, follow these steps.

1. From the main Texas Legislature Online page http://www.legis.state.tx.us/, click on "Statutes" under the "Additional Searches" section.
2. Arriving at the "Quick Search" page – below, click on "Search" in the tabs section under the page header. Select "All Codes" – actually the default setting. Type in the phrase – in quotes. Click "Submit":



3. As an example, the search for "emergency management" results in:

4. Clicking on any link will open that document. The term of interest – emergency management in this example will be highlighted in the document. If nothing is highlighted, use the CTRL+F function to search for your phrase:



CHAPTER 778. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT

Sec. 778.001. EXECUTION OF INTERSTATE COMPACT. This state enacts the Emergency Management Assistance Compact and en
with all other states legally joining in the compact in substantially the following form:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT

ARTICLE I--PURPOSE AND AUTHORITIES

This compact is made and entered into by and between the participating member states which enact this compact, hereinafter
For the purposes of this agreement, the term "states" is taken to mean the several states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the
Columbia, and all U.S. territorial possessions.

The purpose of this compact is to provide for mutual assistance between the states entering into this compact in managing
disaster that is duly declared by the governor of the affected state(s), whether arising from natural disaster, technological h
disaster, civil emergency aspects of resources shortages, community disorders, insurgency, or enemy attack.

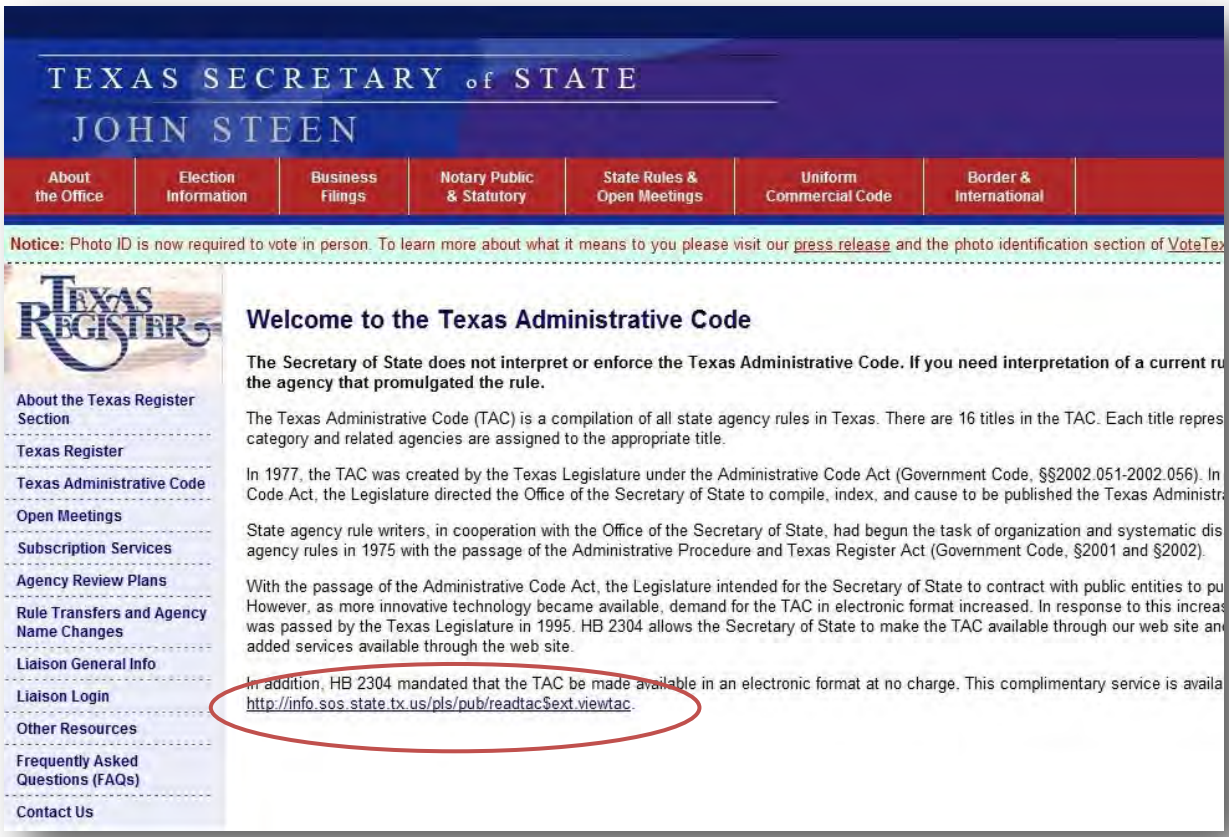
This compact shall also provide for mutual cooperation in emergency-related exercises, testing, or other training activiti

5. If you want to search the same term in the Texas Constitution, select "The Texas Constitution" from the "Codes(s) to Search" drop-down menu and follow steps 2 through 4.

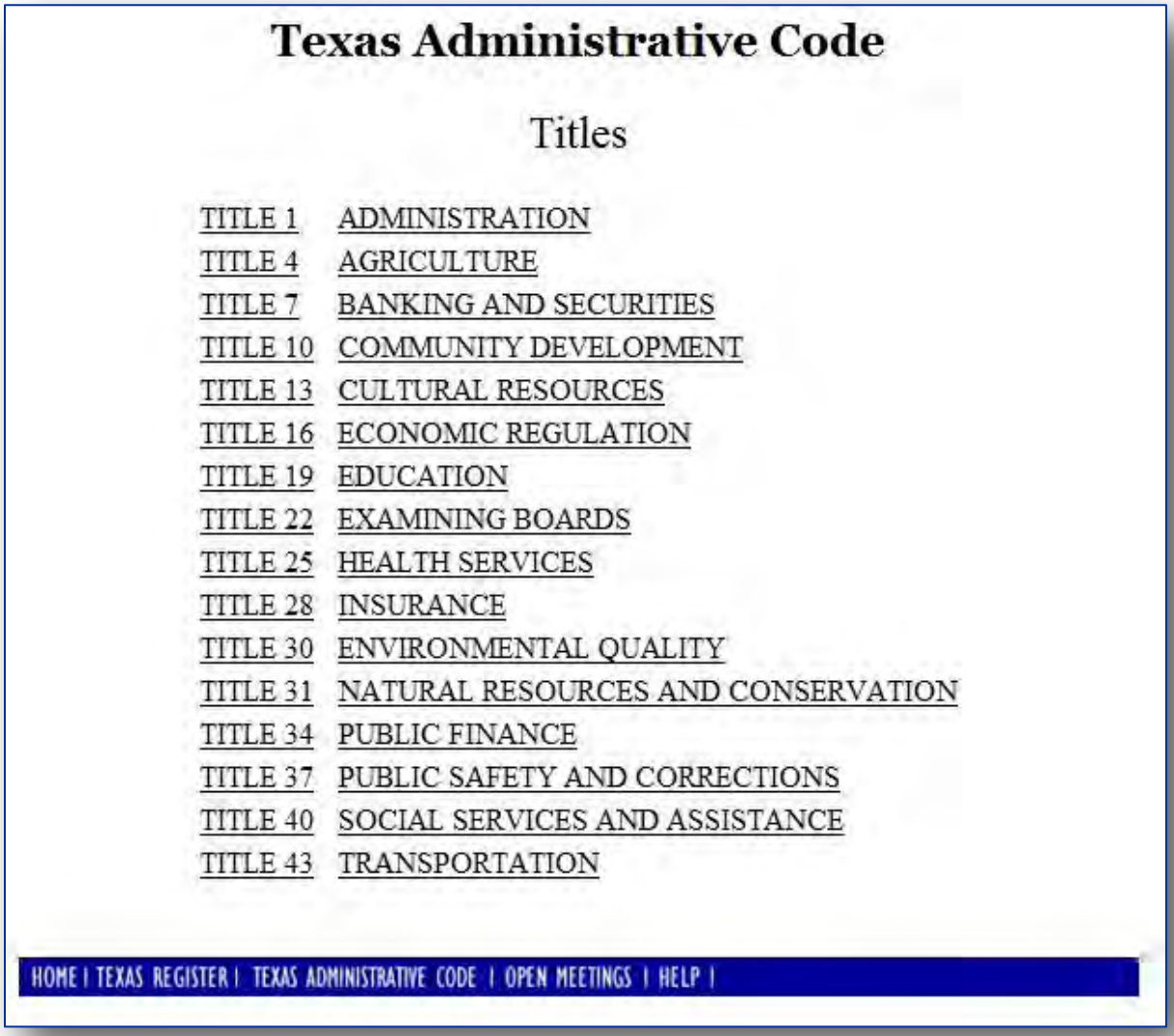
State Agency Rules

For a look at state agency rules, follow these steps:

1. From the main Texas Legislature Online page http://www.legis.state.tx.us/, under "Additional Searches," select "Administrative Code." This link will take you away from the Texas Legislature Online site to Secretary of State's website http://www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/index.shtml:



2. A link provided at the bottom of the Texas Administrative Code home page (http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac$ext.viewtac) brings up a menu of titles in this code. Click through the links of importance until the agency/ section/information desired is found. There is not an easier way to search through these as of this document's revision:



Texas Administrative Code

Titles

TITLE 1 ADMINISTRATION
TITLE 4 AGRICULTURE
TITLE 7 BANKING AND SECURITIES
TITLE 10 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
TITLE 13 CULTURAL RESOURCES
TITLE 16 ECONOMIC REGULATION
TITLE 19 EDUCATION
TITLE 22 EXAMINING BOARDS
TITLE 25 HEALTH SERVICES
TITLE 28 INSURANCE
TITLE 30 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
TITLE 31 NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION
TITLE 34 PUBLIC FINANCE
TITLE 37 PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS
TITLE 40 SOCIAL SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE
TITLE 43 TRANSPORTATION

HOME | TEXAS REGISTER | TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE | OPEN MEETINGS | HELP |

Legislative Session Summaries

When the legislature ends, a summary of the bills passed can be constructed.

1. From the Texas Legislature Online page http://www.legis.state.tx.us/, in the lower left corner of the page, under "Related Links," click on the Legislative Reference Library.

2. With the Legislative Reference Library page open, look for "Session summaries" in the pull-down list of "Sessions":

3. Click on "Session summaries," then select the session of interest:

4. For example, if the 82nd Legislature were selected, that part of the screen would look like:

5. Click on the Texas Legislative Council's "Summary of Enactments" link. If there were Special Called sessions, there will be links for them.

6. Selecting the "Summary of Enactments" link will open a downloadable PDF document:

7. The document is divided by key topics allowing for an easy search of all the bills that will pass or have passed into law:

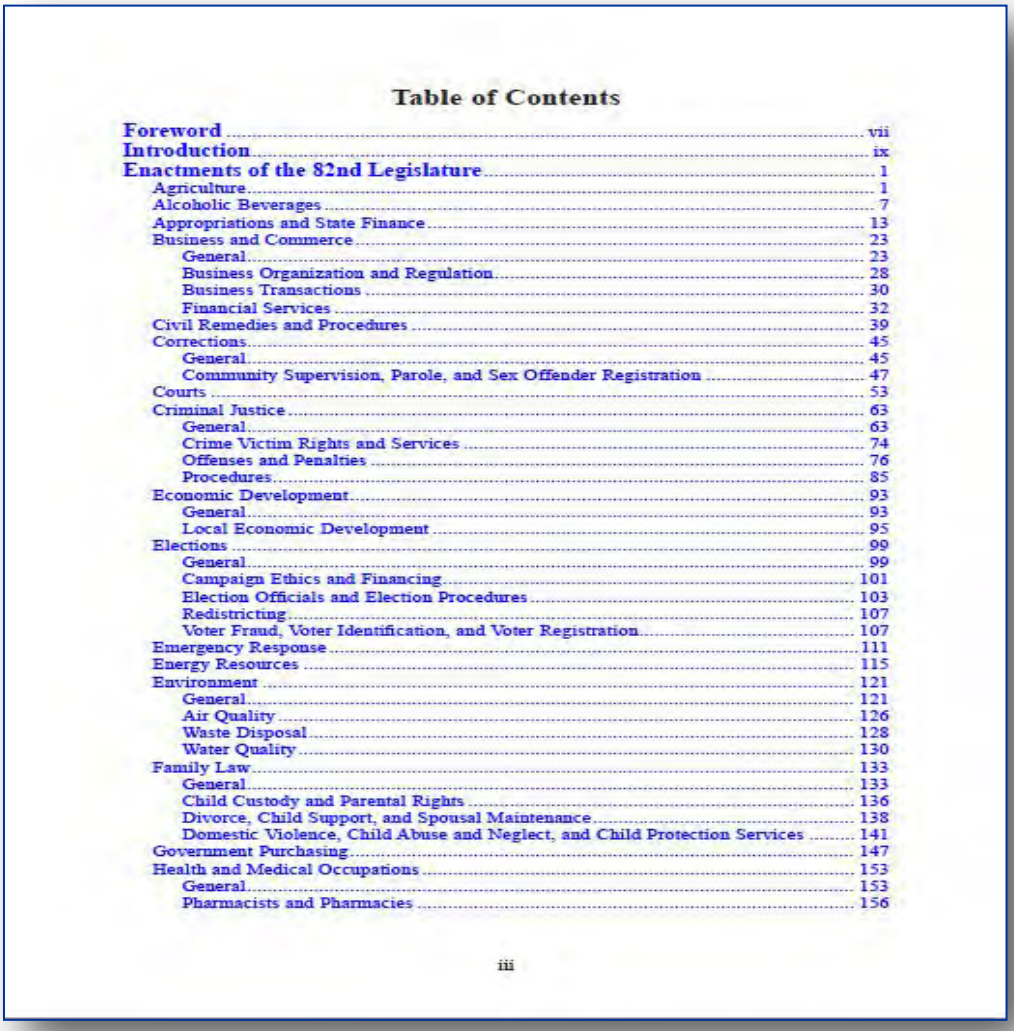


Table of Contents

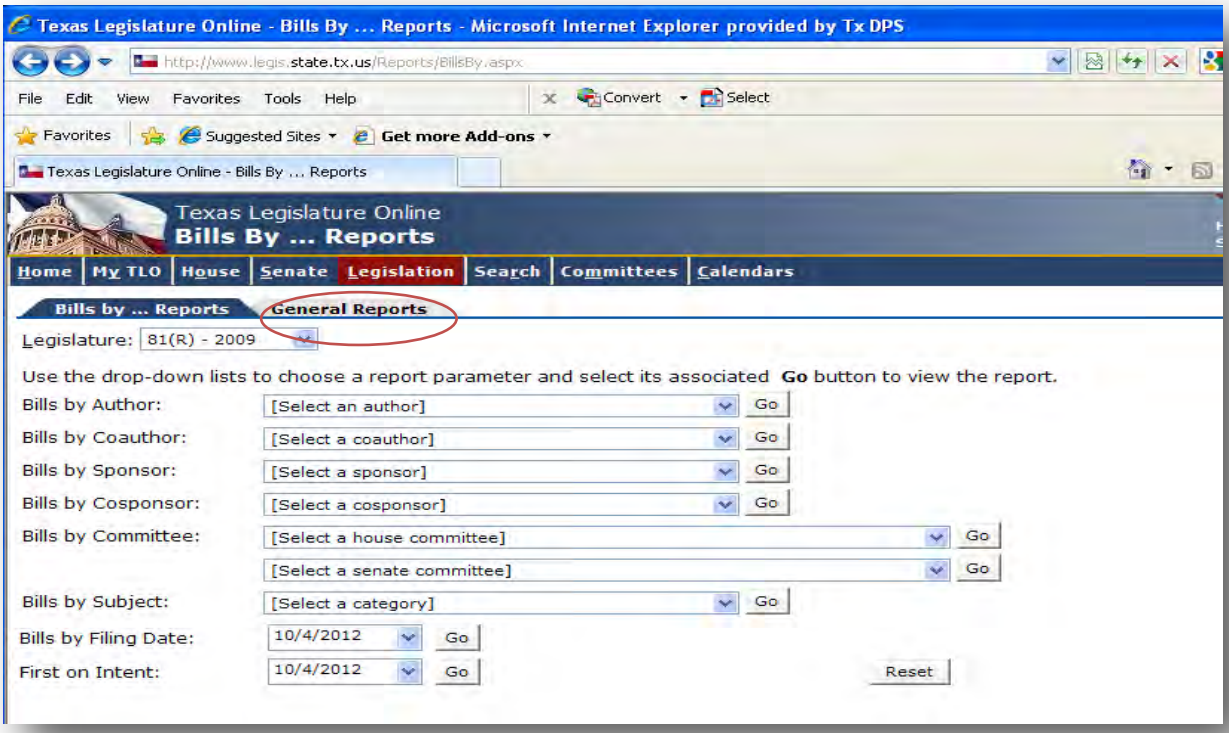
Foreword vii
Introduction ix
Enactments of the 82nd Legislature 1
Agriculture 1
Alcoholic Beverages 7
Appropriations and State Finance 13
Business and Commerce 23
General 23
Business Organization and Regulation 28
Business Transactions 30
Financial Services 32
Civil Remedies and Procedures 39
Corrections 45
General 45
Community Supervision, Parole, and Sex Offender Registration 47
Courts 53
Criminal Justice 63
General 63
Crime Victim Rights and Services 74
Offenses and Penalties 76
Procedures 85
Economic Development 93
General 93
Local Economic Development 95
Elections 99
General 99
Campaign Ethics and Financing 101
Election Officials and Election Procedures 103
Redistricting 107
Voter Fraud, Voter Identification, and Voter Registration 107
Emergency Response 111
Energy Resources 115
Environment 121
General 121
Air Quality 126
Waste Disposal 128
Water Quality 130
Family Law 133
General 133
Child Custody and Parental Rights 136
Divorce, Child Support, and Spousal Maintenance 138
Domestic Violence, Child Abuse and Neglect, and Child Protection Services 141
Government Purchasing 147
Health and Medical Occupations 153
General 153
Pharmacists and Pharmacies 156

iii

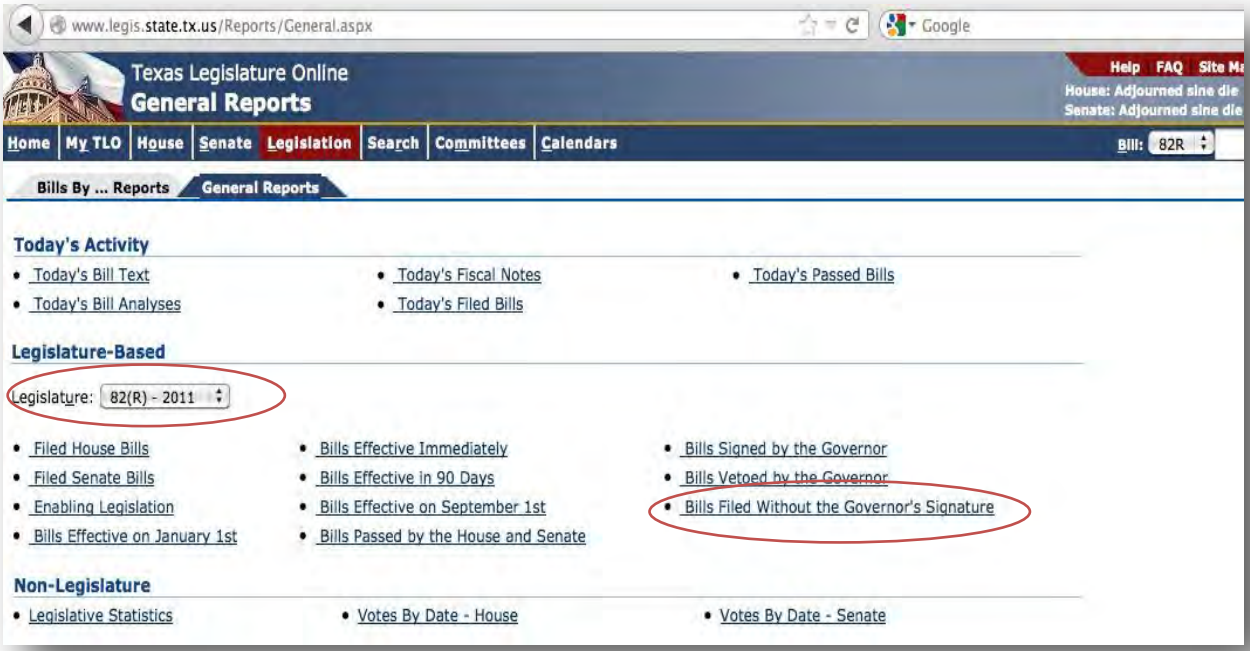
If the summary book has not been posted and a summary is needed right away, follow these steps.

1. From the main Texas Legislature Online page http://www.legis.state.tx.us/, under "Additional Searches," click on "Reports":

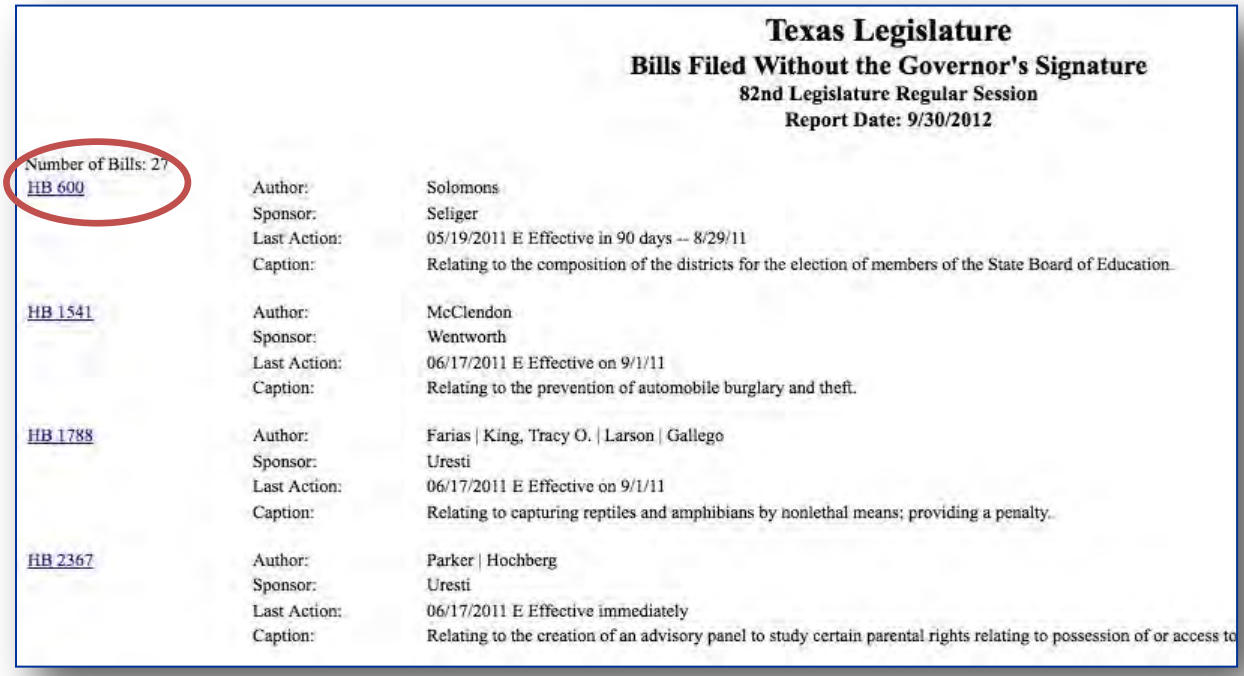
2. From the reports search page, click the "General Reports" tab – circled tab from second row of tabs in image below:



3. Select the appropriate Legislature and type of legislation you want to search. For this example, 82 (R) – 2011 was selected and "Bills Filed Without the Governor's Signature" was clicked:



4. Below is what the search results for "Bills Filed Without the Governor's Signature" would look like. To follow the life of the original bill of interest, click on the hyperlink of that bill:

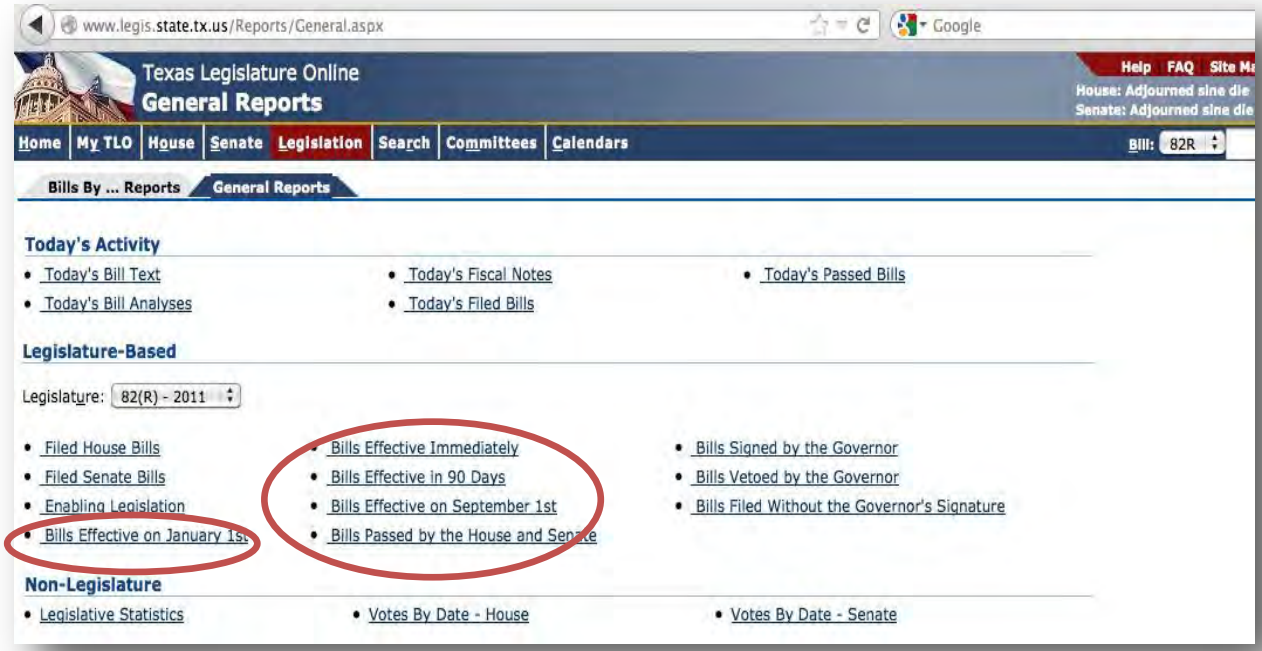


Texas Legislature
Bills Filed Without the Governor's Signature
82nd Legislature Regular Session
Report Date: 9/30/2012

Number of Bills: 27

HB 600	Author:	Solomons
	Sponsor:	Seliger
	Last Action:	05/19/2011 E Effective in 90 days -- 8/29/11
	Caption:	Relating to the composition of the districts for the election of members of the State Board of Education.
HB 1541	Author:	McClendon
	Sponsor:	Wentworth
	Last Action:	06/17/2011 E Effective on 9/1/11
	Caption:	Relating to the prevention of automobile burglary and theft.
HB 1788	Author:	Farias | King, Tracy O. | Larson | Gallego
	Sponsor:	Uresti
	Last Action:	06/17/2011 E Effective on 9/1/11
	Caption:	Relating to capturing reptiles and amphibians by nonlethal means; providing a penalty.
HB 2367	Author:	Parker | Hochberg
	Sponsor:	Uresti
	Last Action:	06/17/2011 E Effective immediately
	Caption:	Relating to the creation of an advisory panel to study certain parental rights relating to possession of or access to

5. To compile a thorough list of bills for a session, click on the four different "Bills Effective" links – that is, bills enacted into law, and "Bills Passed by the House and Senate" link – the bills enrolled by the legislature and pending action by the Governor:



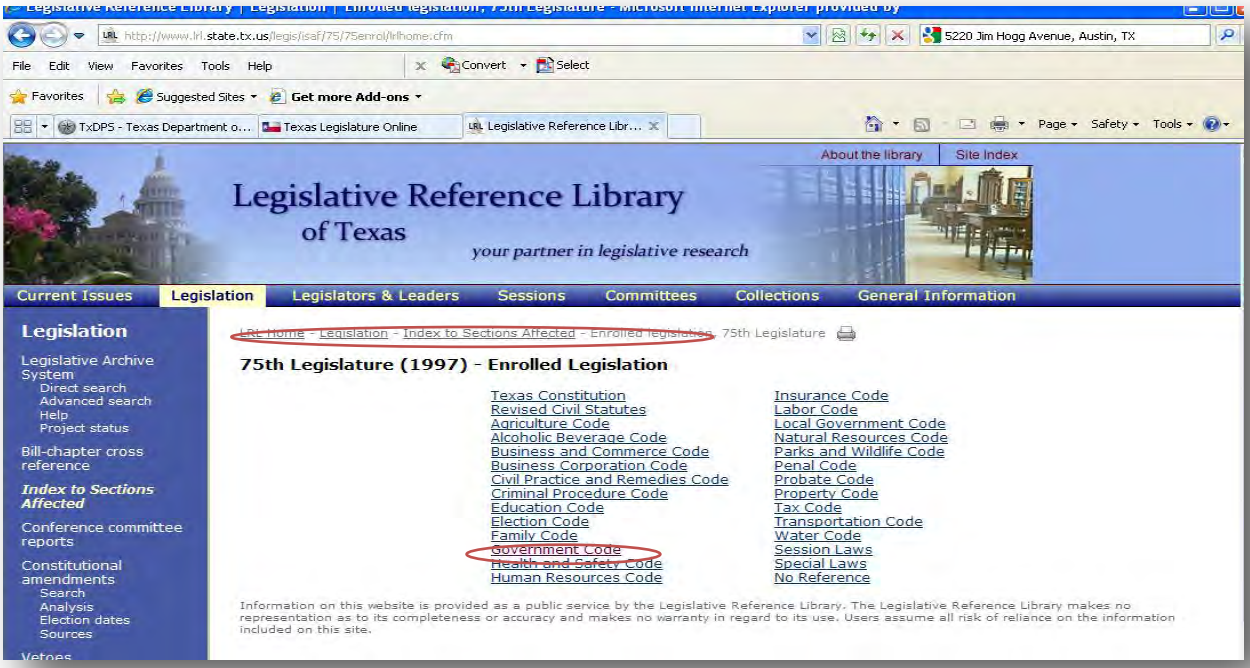
For more details about specific code(s) or section(s) summaries, follow these steps.

1. From the main Texas Legislature Online page http://www.legis.state.tx.us/, under the "Additional Searches" header, click on "Sections Affected."

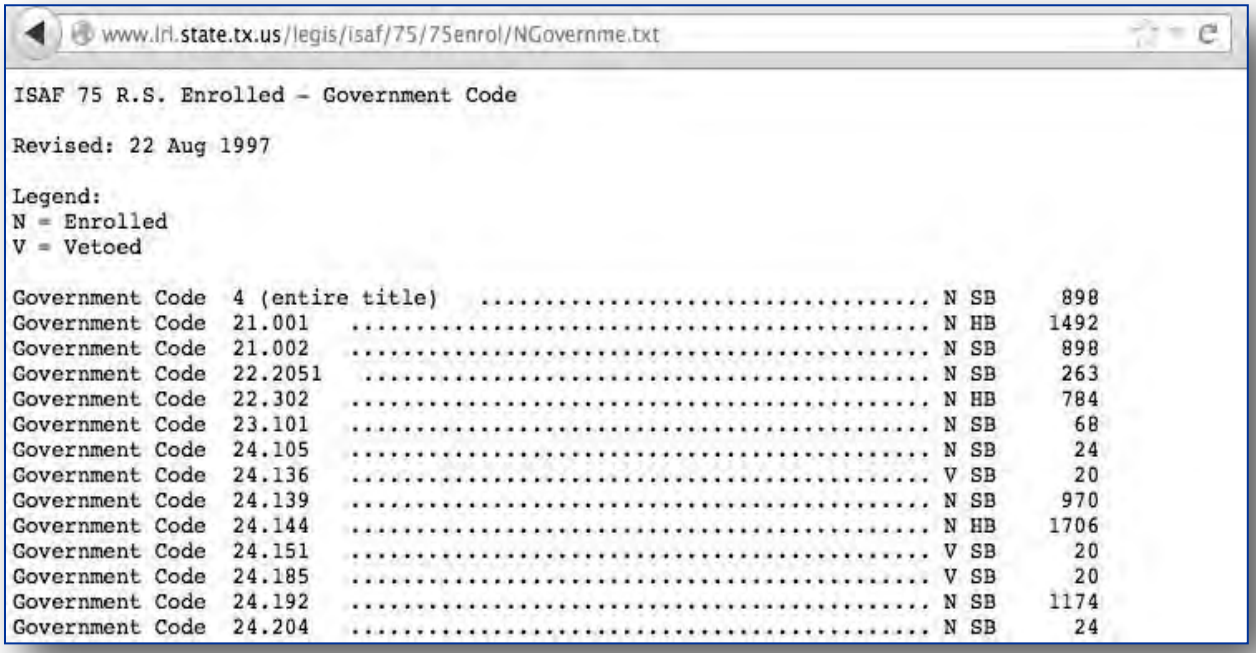
2. On the "Index to Sections Affected" page http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/legis/isaf/lrlhome.cfm, select the latest session or, if you want to see previous sessions, select those. To search the 74th or 75th legislative sessions, click the "ISAf – 74th and 75th sessions" link at the bottom of the page.

3. For this example, the 75th Legislature, "Enrolled Legislation" was selected:

4. From the "Enrolled Legislation" screen, "Government Code" was selected:

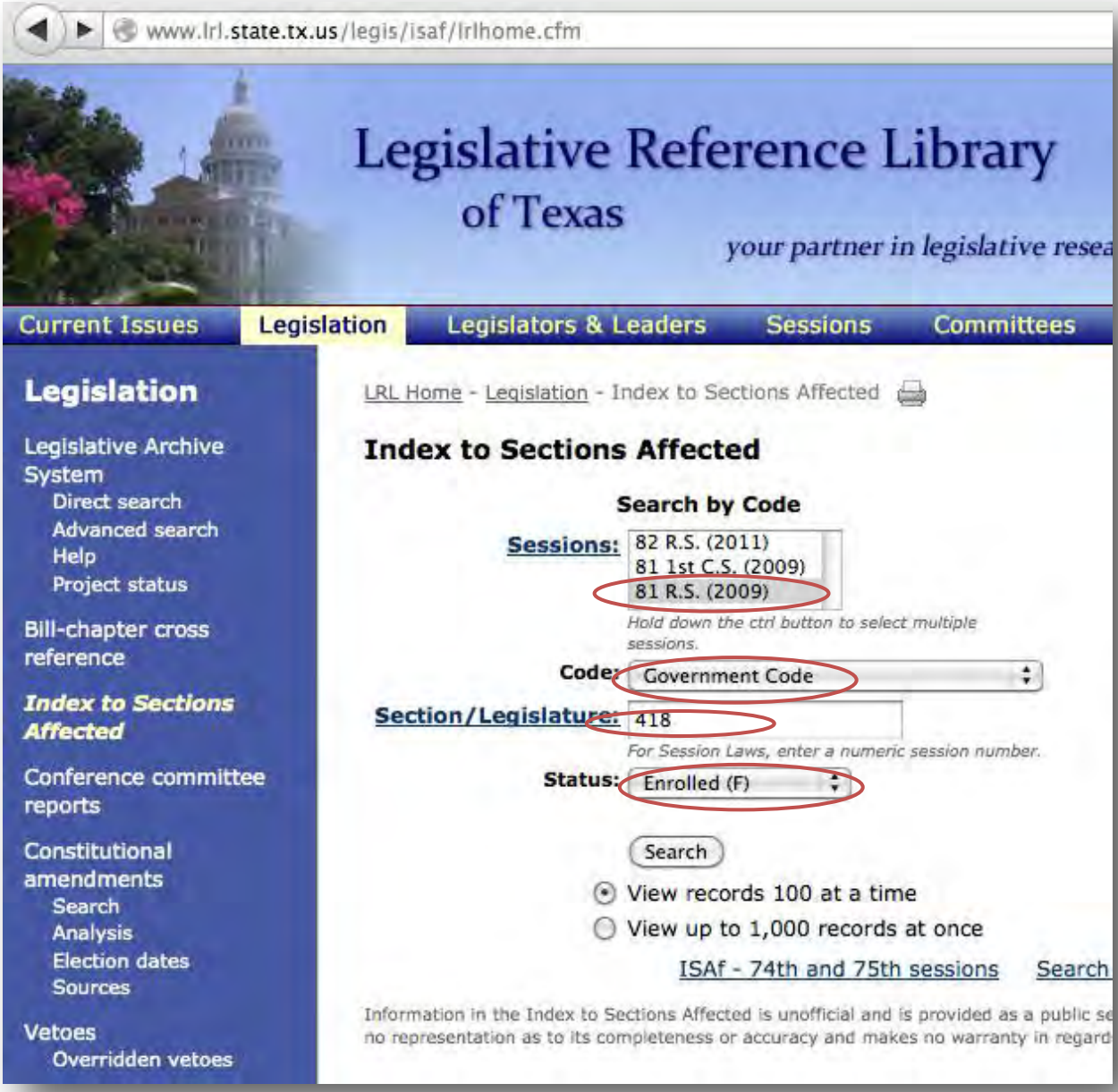


5. Below is an example index of changes to the Government Code from the 75th Legislature:



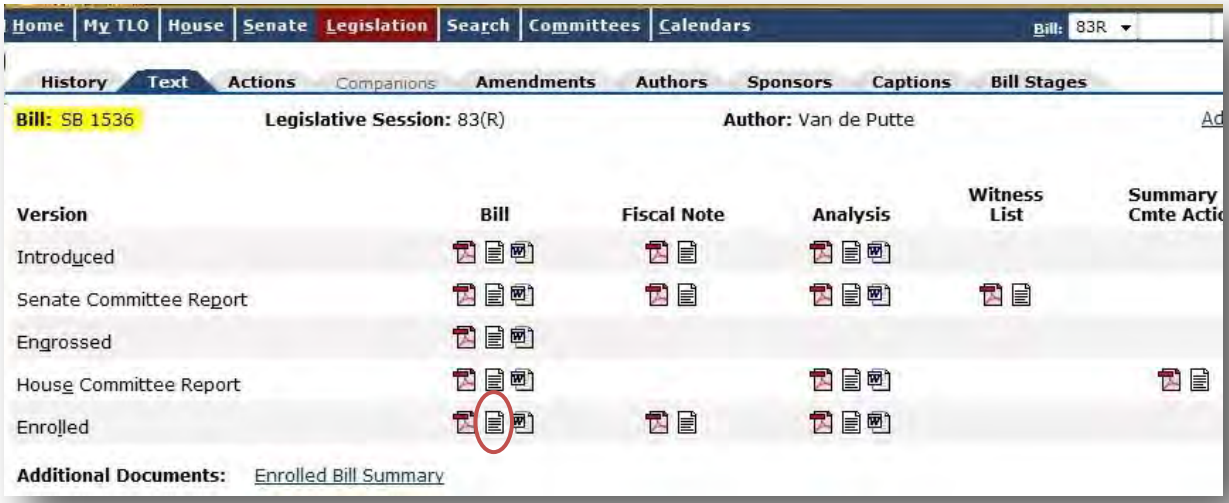
For a more recent session, the 81st Legislature is examined here:

1. From the "Index to Sections Affected" page http://www.lrl.state.tx.us/legis/isaf/lrlhome.cfm, select "81 R.S. (2009)".
2. Select "Government Code".
3. Type in "418" to see changes to Chapter 418 of the Government Code.
4. Select something from the "Status" menu – if it's post legislative session, likely the list of enrolled or vetoed legislation would be desired:

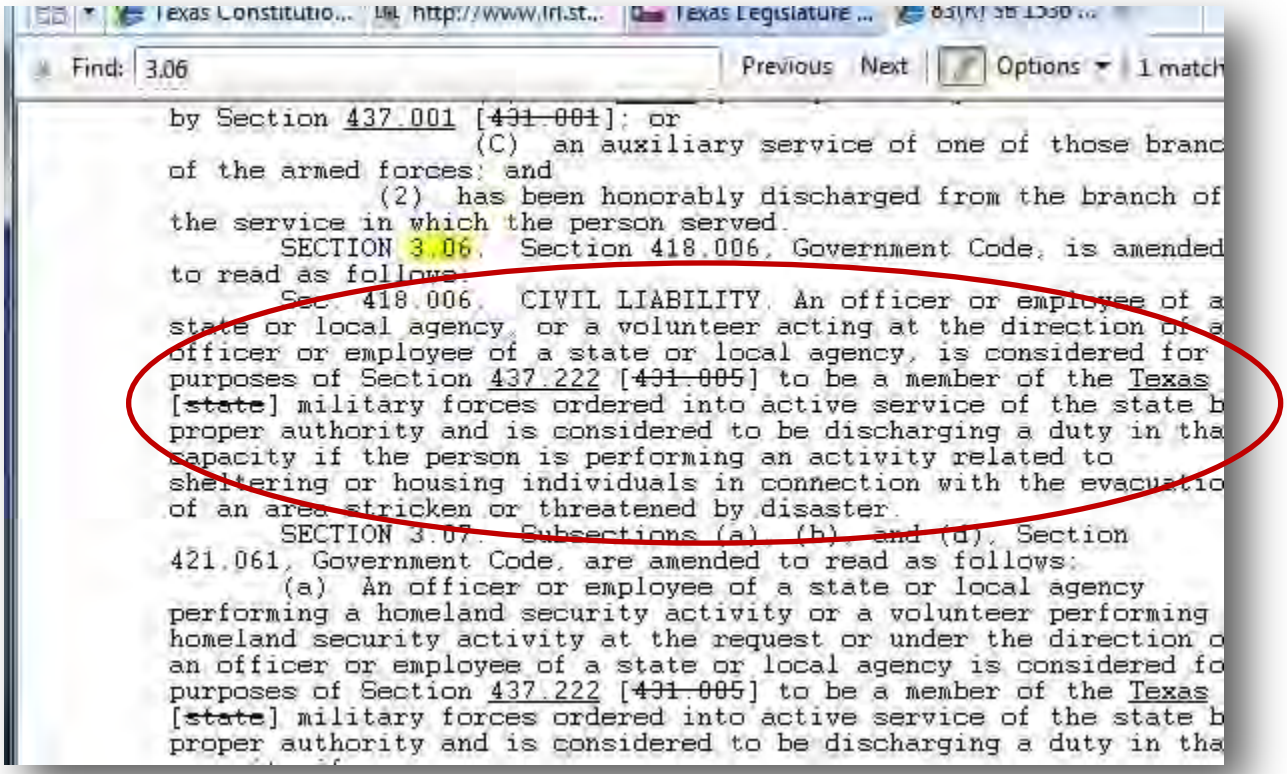


5. The following image shows the enrolled bills. If it does not say "vetoed" next to "enrolled," the bill passed into law. To see the original bill for a specific section, click on the HB or SB hyperlink. The number next to the bill number represents the section of the bill where the amended/new section can be found. For example, Section 418.006 was amended by SB 1536, specifically section 3.06 of the section. Since the bill was enrolled and not vetoed, such as HB 1090, the bill was enacted:

6. Selecting the hyperlink "SB 1536" above leads to the text screen related to the bill. To see the actual bill that proposed the new or revised law, click on the HTML icon next to "Enrolled" and under "Bill." Clicking on the PDF or Word document icons will open the bill in that format:



7. In this example, Section 3.06 of SB 1536 addresses Section 418.006 of the Government Code. The underlined text and text that has a strikethrough represents new/amended language, namely a change in citation for volunteer liability limitation and a change of language referring to the Texas Military Forces:

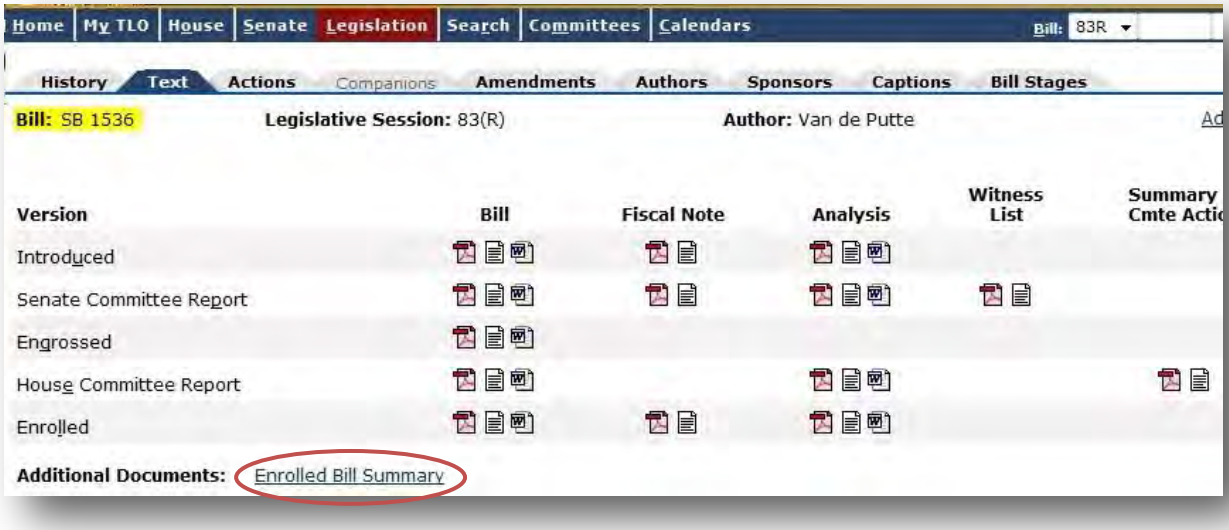


Texas Constitutio... http://www.lrl.st... Texas Legislature ... 83(R) SB 1536 ...

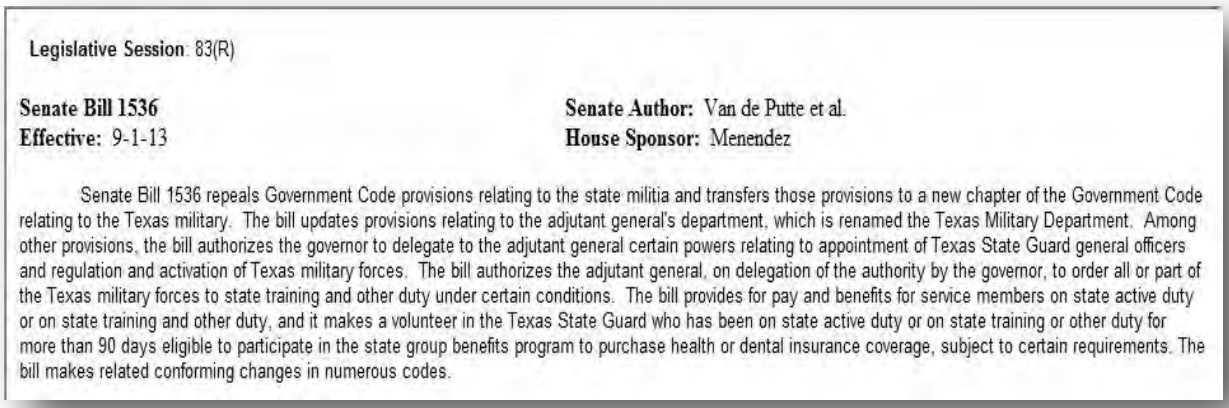
Find: 3.06 Previous Next Options 1 match

by Section 437.001 [~~431.001~~]; or
(C) an auxiliary service of one of those branc
of the armed forces; and
(2) has been honorably discharged from the branch of
the service in which the person served.
SECTION 3.06. Section 418.006, Government Code, is amended
to read as follows:
Sec. 418.006. CIVIL LIABILITY. An officer or employee of a
state or local agency, or a volunteer acting at the direction of a
officer or employee of a state or local agency, is considered for
purposes of Section 437.222 [~~431.005~~] to be a member of the Texas
[~~state~~] military forces ordered into active service of the state b
proper authority and is considered to be discharging a duty in tha
capacity if the person is performing an activity related to
sheltering or housing individuals in connection with the evacuatio
of an area stricken or threatened by disaster.
SECTION 3.07. Subsections (a), (b), and (d), Section
421.061, Government Code, are amended to read as follows:
(a) An officer or employee of a state or local agency
performing a homeland security activity or a volunteer performing
homeland security activity at the request or under the direction o
an officer or employee of a state or local agency is considered fo
purposes of Section 437.222 [~~431.005~~] to be a member of the Texas
[~~state~~] military forces ordered into active service of the state b
proper authority and is considered to be discharging a duty in tha

8. A summary of the enrolled bill can be found by clicking on the "Enrolled Bill Summary" link in the "Additional Documents" section at the bottom of the page:



9. This is the bill summary for SB 1536:



Legislative Session: 83(R)

Senate Bill 1536
Effective: 9-1-13

Senate Author: Van de Putte et al.
House Sponsor: Menendez

Senate Bill 1536 repeals Government Code provisions relating to the state militia and transfers those provisions to a new chapter of the Government Code relating to the Texas military. The bill updates provisions relating to the adjutant general's department, which is renamed the Texas Military Department. Among other provisions, the bill authorizes the governor to delegate to the adjutant general certain powers relating to appointment of Texas State Guard general officers and regulation and activation of Texas military forces. The bill authorizes the adjutant general, on delegation of the authority by the governor, to order all or part of the Texas military forces to state training and other duty under certain conditions. The bill provides for pay and benefits for service members on state active duty or on state training and other duty, and it makes a volunteer in the Texas State Guard who has been on state active duty or on state training or other duty for more than 90 days eligible to participate in the state group benefits program to purchase health or dental insurance coverage, subject to certain requirements. The bill makes related conforming changes in numerous codes.

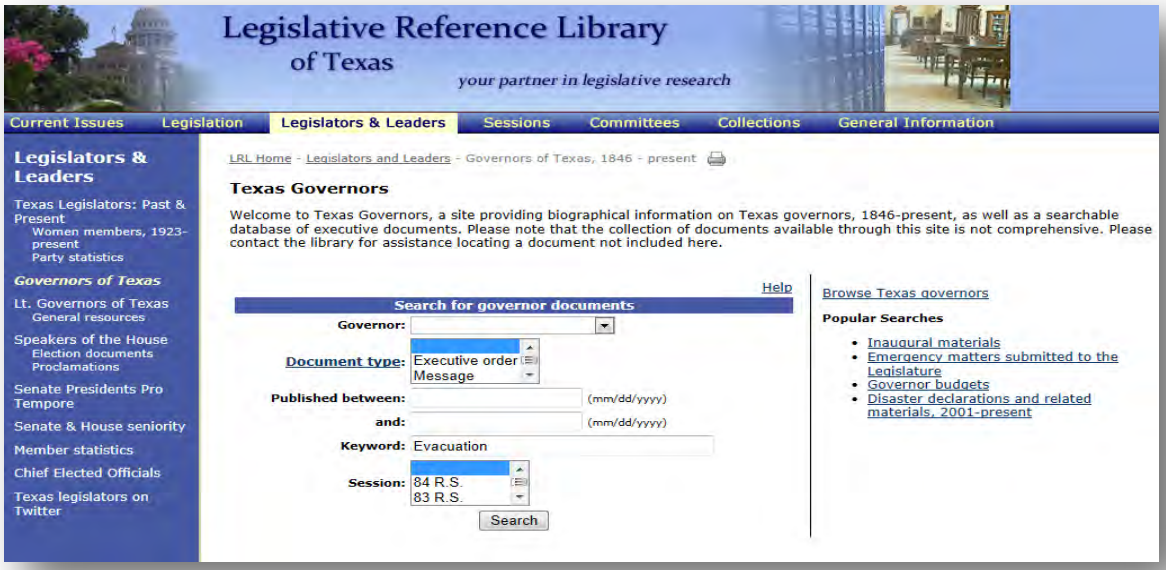
Governor Documents

To search for executive orders, messages, proclamations, speeches, and vetoes from past and present governors, follow these steps:

1. From the main Legislative Reference Library page http://www.lrl.state.tx.us, select "Legislators & Leaders."

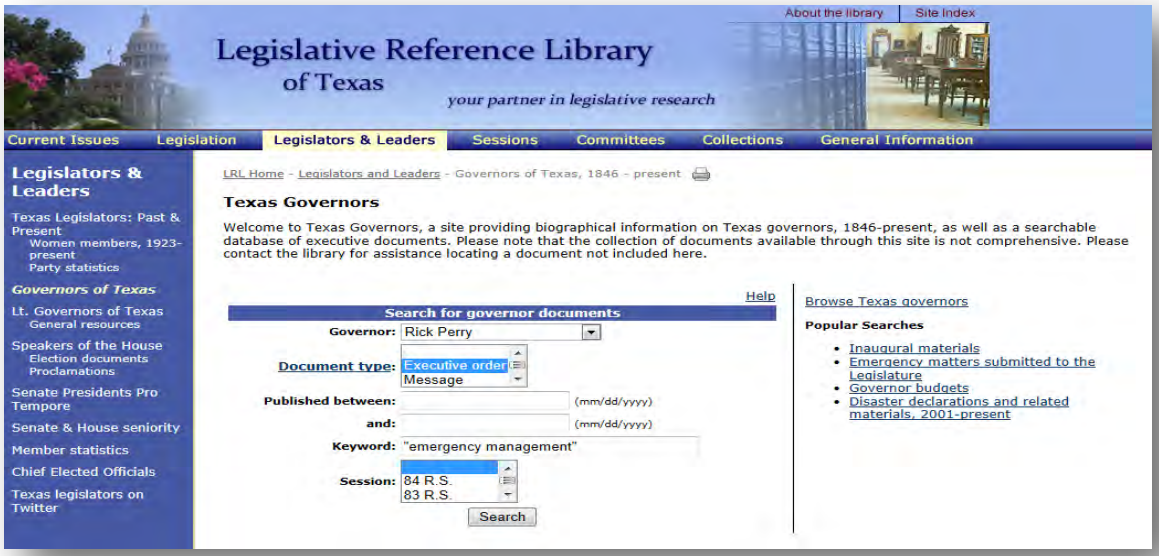
2. Select "Governors of Texas."

3. On this page, you can conduct a general or very specific search for governor documents. Leave all items blank except for the keyword text box to search all documents for a specific term or phrase.



4. Results show the date of release, the related legislative session, the governor, and the document type. "Evacuation" was entered for the following results:

5. For a more specific search, select the appropriate governor's name and document type. Enter a keyword if you are looking for a specific term or phrase. Remember to use quotes around phrases.



6. See the results for this search below:

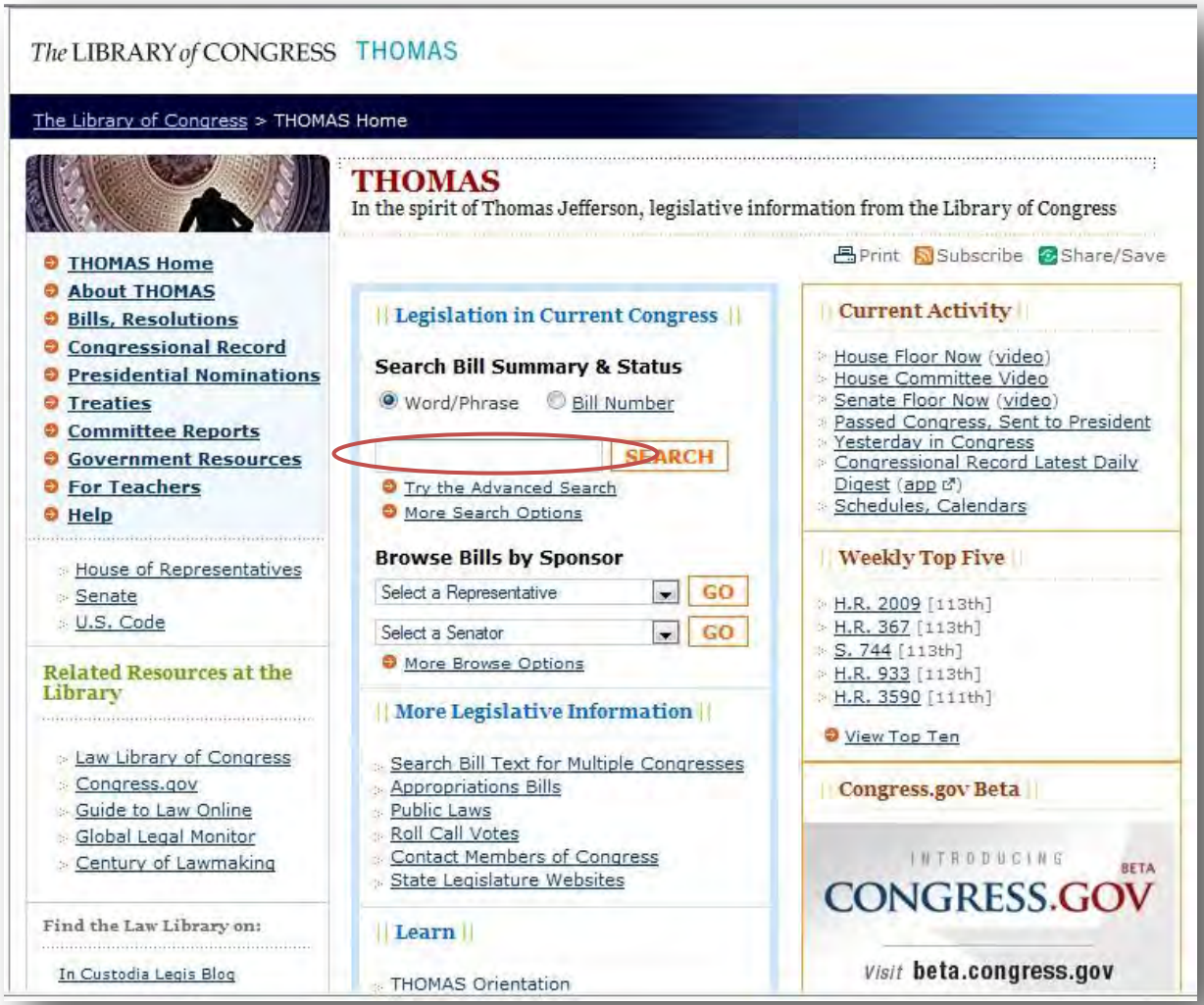
Conducting Online Federal Legal Research

In this section the planner is introduced to the functionality of various federal legislative research websites.

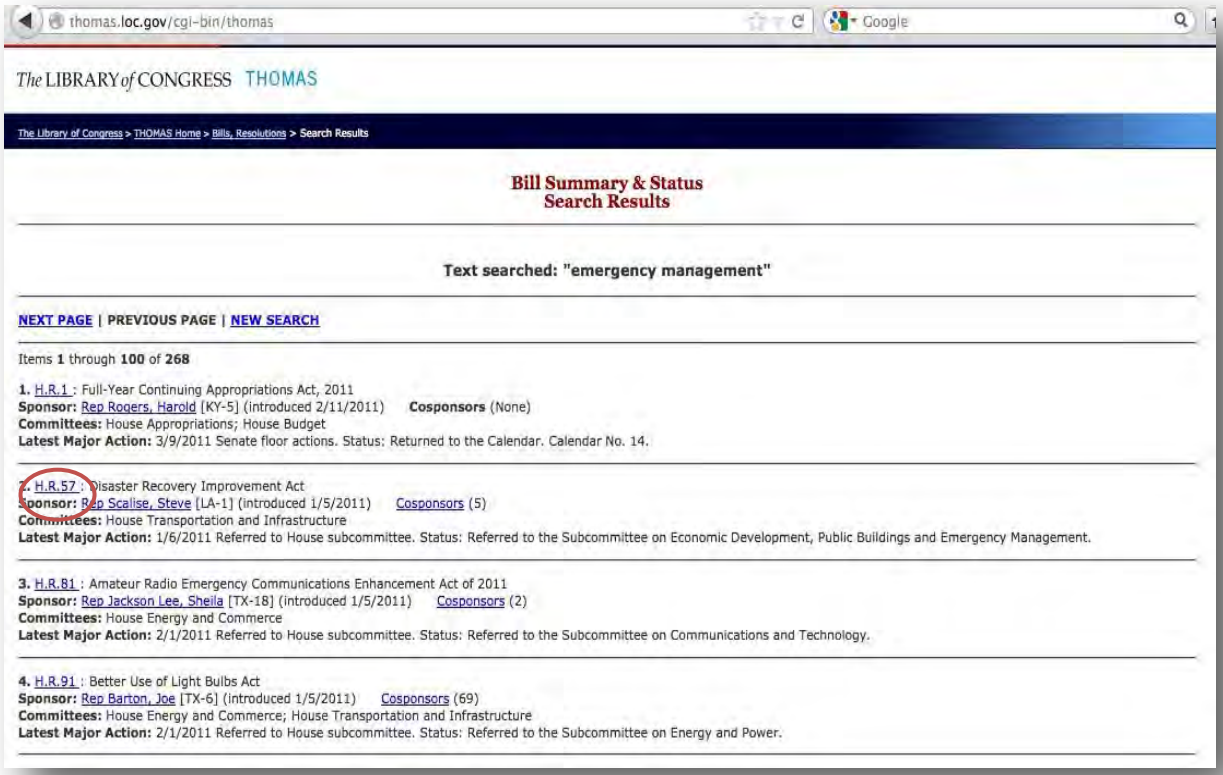
THOMAS Website

A key site for starting federal legislative research is the Library of Congress' THOMAS website, located at: http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php

1. To do a general term/phrase search for legislation **currently** in Congress, enter your phrase/term in quotes in the search box:



2. The phrase "emergency management" was entered for the following results:



thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/thomas

The LIBRARY of CONGRESS THOMAS

The Library of Congress > THOMAS Home > Bills, Resolutions > Search Results

Bill Summary & Status
Search Results

Text searched: "emergency management"

NEXT PAGE | **PREVIOUS PAGE** | **NEW SEARCH**

Items **1** through **100** of **268**

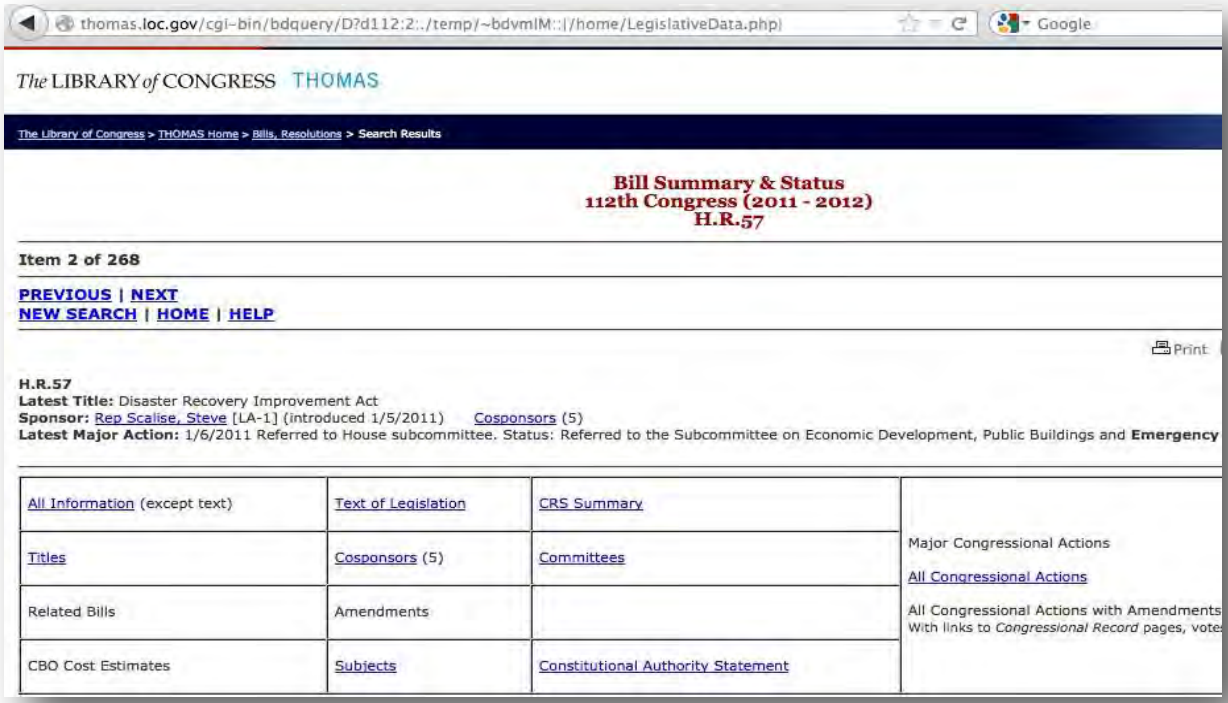
1. H.R.1 : Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011
Sponsor: Rep Rogers, Harold [KY-5] (introduced 2/11/2011) **Cosponsors** (None)
Committees: House Appropriations; House Budget
Latest Major Action: 3/9/2011 Senate floor actions. Status: Returned to the Calendar. Calendar No. 14.

2. H.R.57 : Disaster Recovery Improvement Act
Sponsor: Rep Scalise, Steve [LA-1] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (5)
Committees: House Transportation and Infrastructure
Latest Major Action: 1/6/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.

3. H.R.81 : Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2011
Sponsor: Rep Jackson Lee, Sheila [TX-18] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (2)
Committees: House Energy and Commerce
Latest Major Action: 2/1/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

4. H.R.91 : Better Use of Light Bulbs Act
Sponsor: Rep Barton, Joe [TX-6] (introduced 1/5/2011) Cosponsors (69)
Committees: House Energy and Commerce; House Transportation and Infrastructure
Latest Major Action: 2/1/2011 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Power.

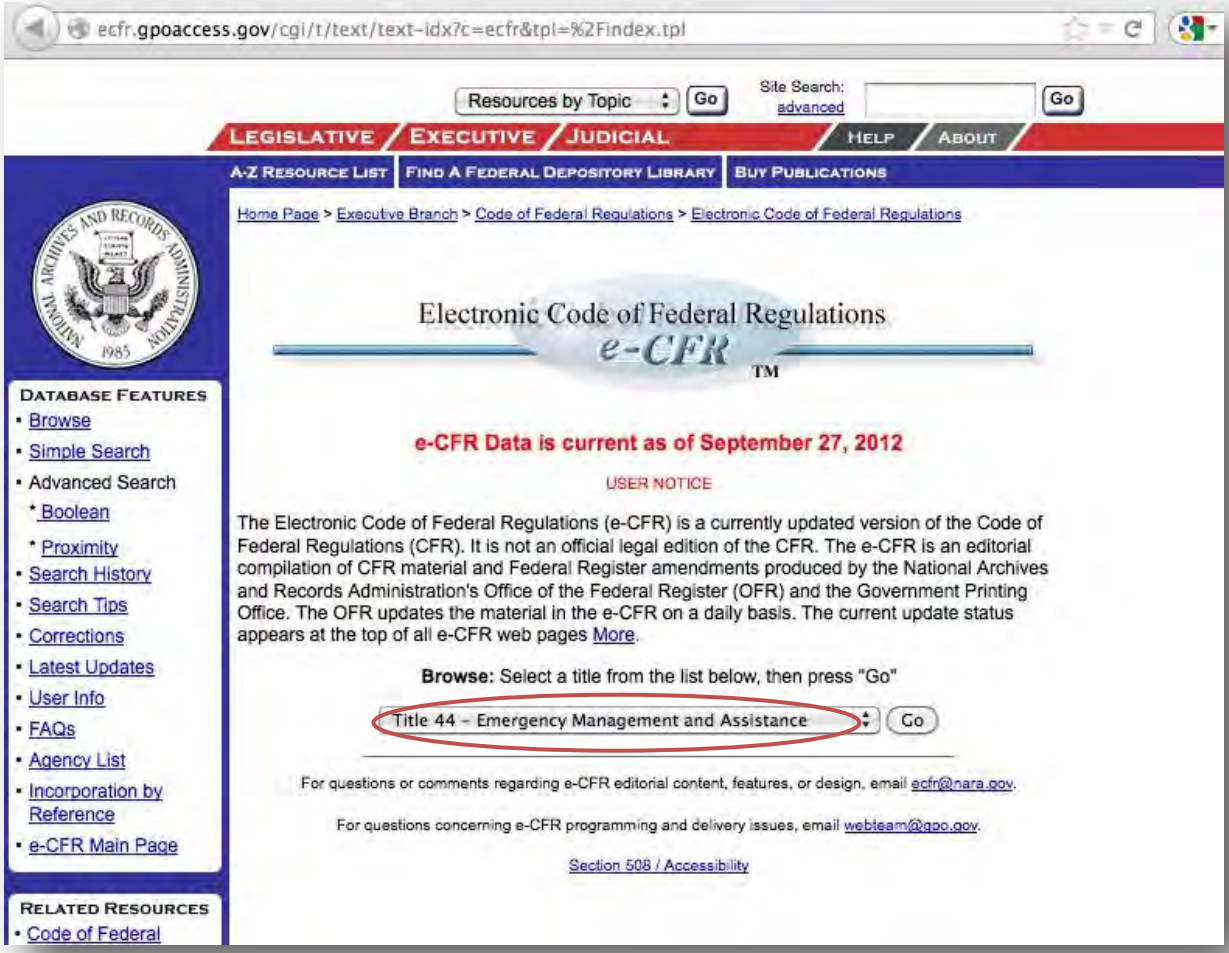
3. When the link - H.R. 57 in this example - is selected, the following information is provided:



Electronic Code of Federal Regulations Website

Another important resource in researching federal regulations is the Code of Federal Regulations website (e-CFR), located at: http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/.

1. To search the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), go to the drop-down menu, which displays all 50 titles of federal regulations. The titles that impact emergency management the most are Title 42: Public Health and Title 44: Emergency Management and Assistance.
2. Select the title of interest (Title 44 was selected for this example) and press "Go":



3. Select the hyperlink of choice under "Browse Parts" to access regulatory text. Each hyperlink takes you to the table of contents for the section. For the following example, the "0-399" hyperlink was selected:

Title	Volume	Chapter	Browse Parts	Regulatory Entity
Title 44 Emergency Management and Assistance	1	I	0-399	Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security
		IV	400-499	Department of Commerce and Department of Transportation

4. Select the hyperlink of choice to view the table of contents and navigate to the relevant text:

e-CFR Data is current as of September 10, 2013

TITLE 44--Emergency Management and Assistance

CHAPTER I--FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

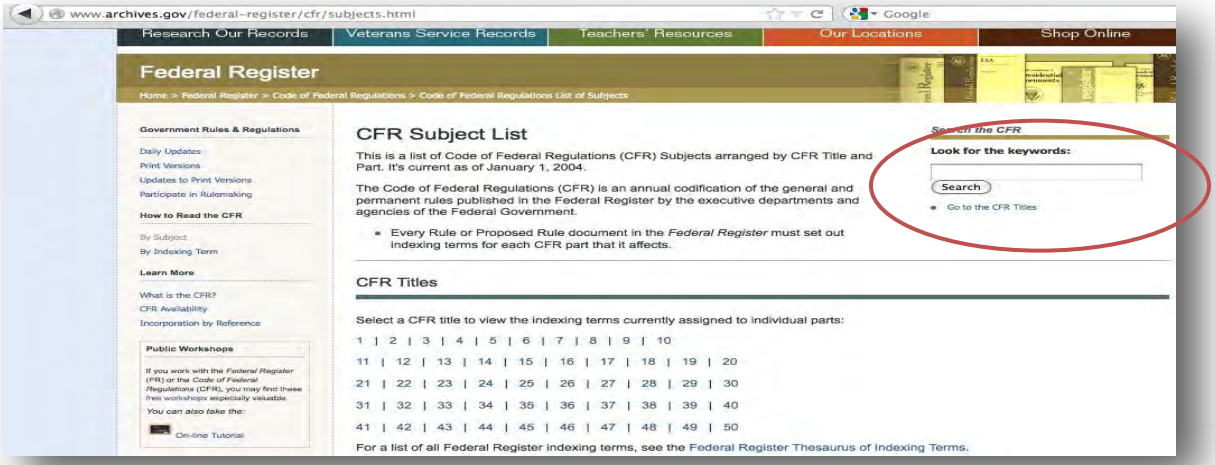
SUBCHAPTER A--GENERAL

Part	Table of Contents	Headings
0		[Reserved]
1	1.1 to 1.18	RULEMAKING; POLICY AND PROCEDURES
2	2.1 to 2.2	OMB CONTROL NUMBERS
3		[Reserved]
4	4.1 to 4.13	INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW OF FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES
5	5.1 to 5.89	PRODUCTION OR DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION
6	6.1 to 6.87	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974
7	7.1 to 7.949	NONDISCRIMINATION IN FEDERALLY-ASSISTED PROGRAMS (FEMA REG. 5)
8	8.1 to 8.4	NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
9	9.1 to 9.18	FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION OF WETLANDS
10	10.1 to 10.14	ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

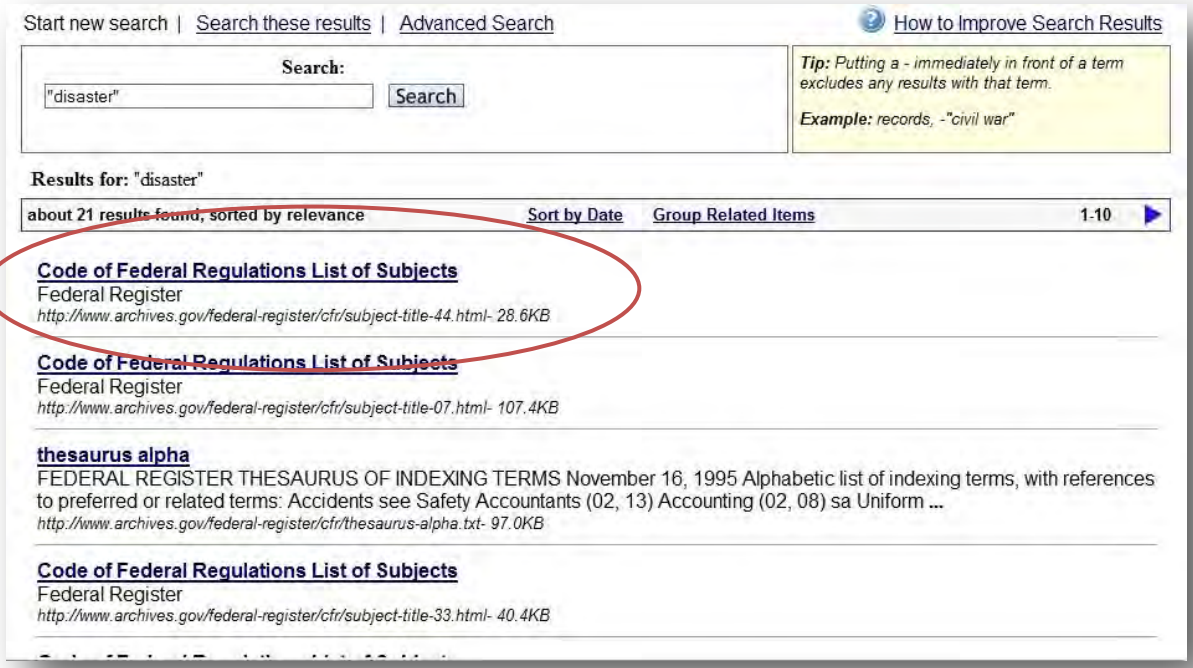
National Archive's CFR Website

To search key words/phrases in the CFR titles, visit the CFR Subject List page at http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/subjects.html.

1. Enter your search term in quotes:



2. Entering the term "disaster" yields several entries, including a subjects list of Title 44 (44 CFR):



3. Selecting the Title 44 "Disasters" subjects list yields:

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)

CFR TITLE 44

List of Subjects revised as of January 1, 2004.

44 CFR Part 1
- Administrative practice and procedure

44 CFR Part 2
- Authority delegations (Government agencies)
- Organization and functions (Government agencies)
- Reporting and recordkeeping requirements

44 CFR Part 4
- Intergovernmental relations

44 CFR Part 5
- Courts
- Freedom of information
- Government employees

44 CFR Part 6
- Privacy

44 CFR Part 7
- Administrative practice and procedure
- Aged
- Civil rights
- Reporting and recordkeeping requirements

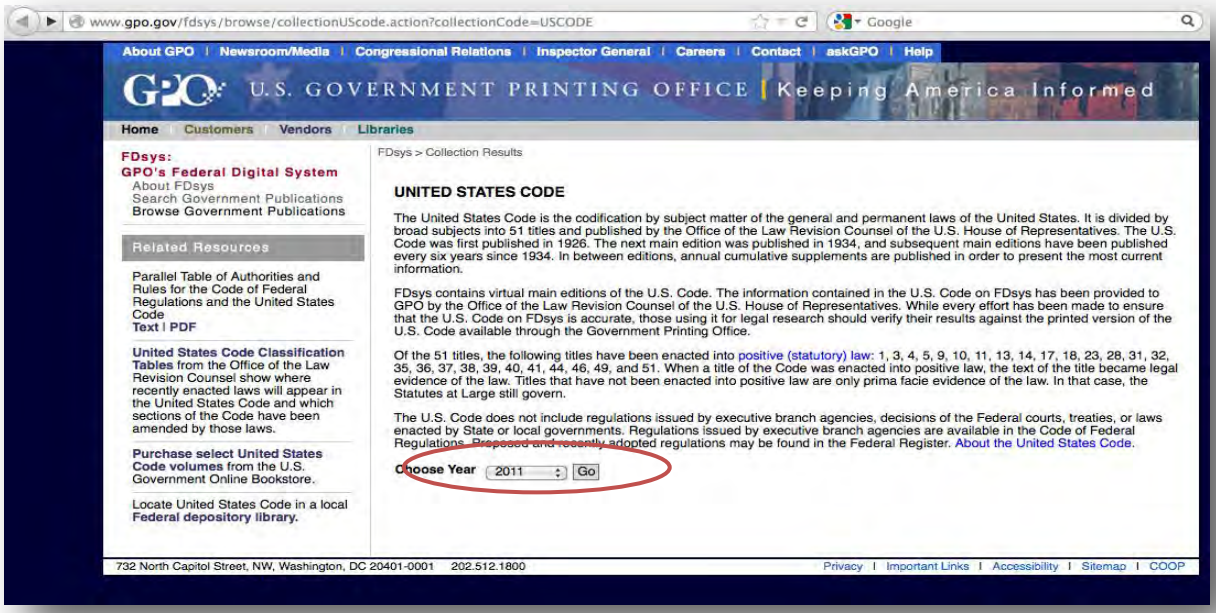
44 CFR Part 8
- Classified information

44 CFR Part 9
- Flood plains
- Reporting and recordkeeping requirements

Government Printing Office Website

Another source for federal statute research, by subject, is the Government Printing Office's USC website: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionUScode.action?collectionCode=USCODE.

1. To start a search, select the year of code updates you're interested in and click on "Go":



2. From here, select your topic of interest for codes that were updated that year:

Additional Online Resources

Video access to the Texas Legislature is possible as well as social media feeds for specific action of bills.

Real-time and archived video feed

Both chambers of the state legislature offer live and archived video feeds of committee and whole chamber (floor) action.

As an example of how this works, recent video feed of a House Committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety is presented. To access this feed:

1. Open the webpage for the House video feed: http://www.house.state.tx.us/video-audio/. To get to the homeland security and public safety committee feed, select the "Recent Committee Broadcasts" link:

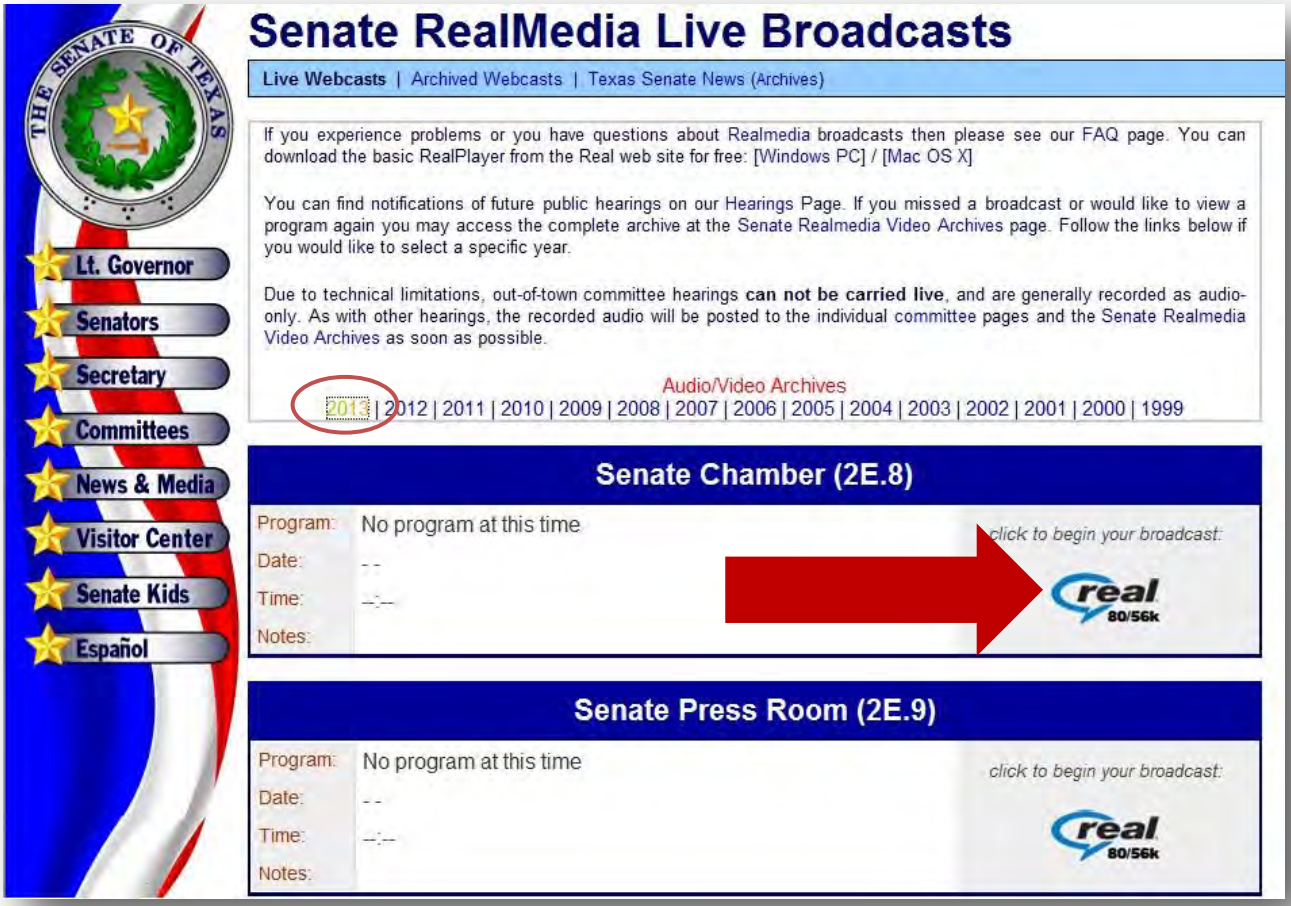
2. Select the committee meeting feed by clicking on the time column:

3. This causes a new window to open. Click on video feed play button.

4. This causes another window to open and the video to begin in a few moments.

A similar process allows access to the senate live feed, using the link: http://www.senate.state.tx.us/bin/live.php.

1. Access to the live feed in this example is not possible as the senate in not in session, however if a committee was in session, access would be by the link to the right of the screen shot. Archived feed is also available through the link circled.

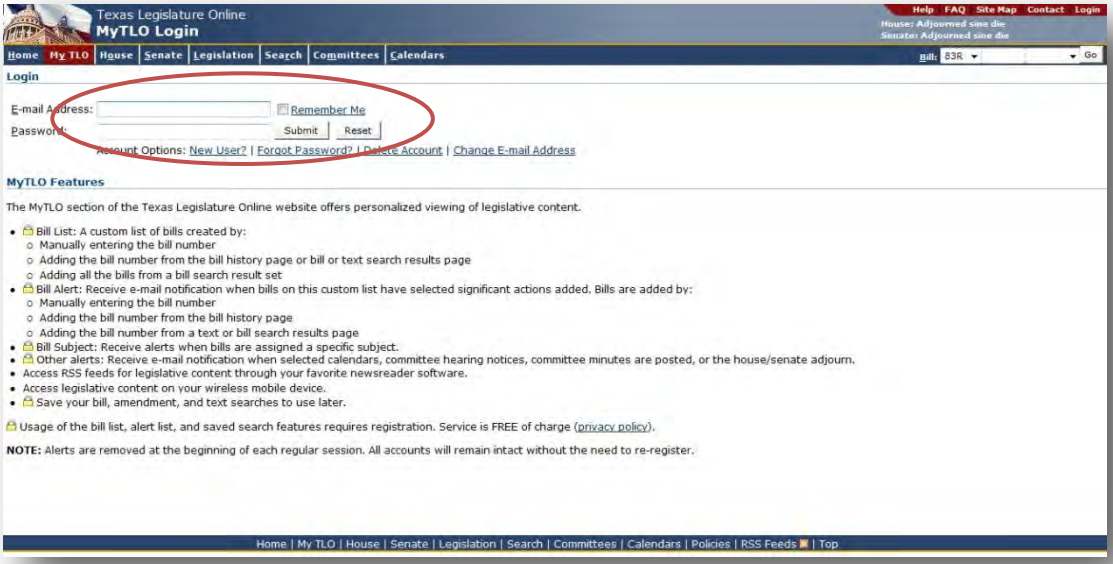


2. Selecting the archived video leads to available video feeds. Activate preferred feed by clicking the link under the date column.

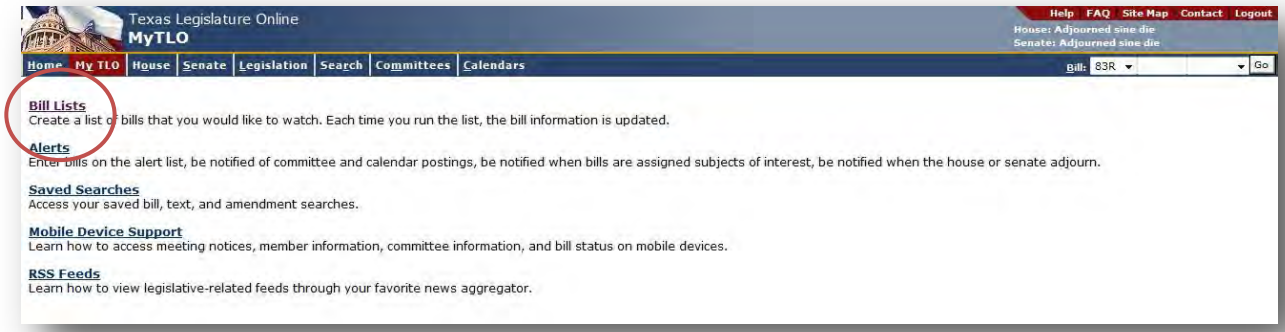
3. Selection of the link, activates a new window with the video feed starting after a few moments.

Personalized tracking of legislative action

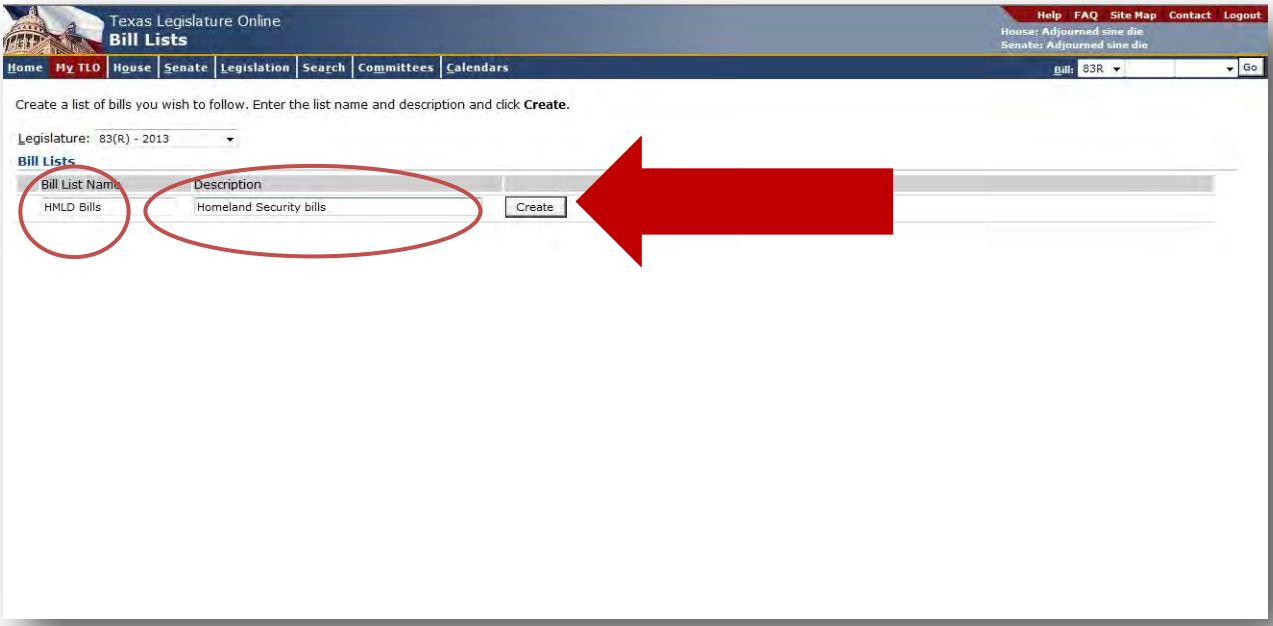
To initiate a personalized media feed from the TLO website, a "MyTLO" account must be created or an existing account must be logged onto at http://www.legis.state.tx.us/MyTLO/Login/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fMyTLO%2fAlerts%2fBills.aspx:



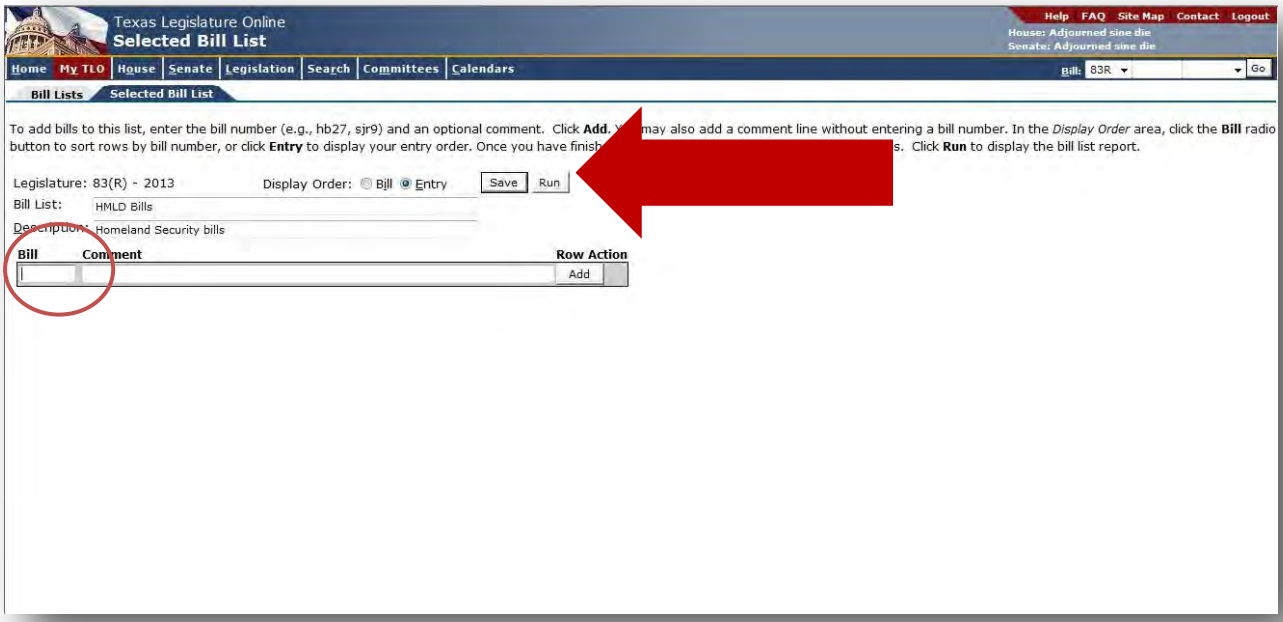
1. Once accessed, several interactive functions are possible, including creating a "Bill List":



2. Through the "Bill List," specialized lists of bills can be developed but first the list must be created. The example here is a list called "HMLD Bills" for "Homeland Security bills."



3. Once named the list can be populated with relevant house or senate bills. These bills are identified by number "HB###", "SB###", etc. When entered, click on "Save" and the database will begin emailing notifications when the status of the bill changes.



Significant State and Federal Legislation

This section provides emergency management planners with a list of resources that can aid in better understanding the legal foundations of emergency management plans.

State of Texas

The following table presents state-level references each with relevance to this document and a hyperlink to its online location. They are presented in order of constitution, statute, executive order and other key references.

Source	Relevance	Link
Constitution of the State of Texas	Describes the basic principles and laws for the State of Texas, the powers and duties of state government, and guarantee of certain rights to Texas residents.	http://www.constitution.legis.state.tx.us
Texas Administrative Code Title 37	Defines the administrative duties of multiple state agencies as they relate to public safety and corrections in Texas.	http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=2&ti=37
Texas Agriculture Code Chapter 61	Presents commercial feed rules.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/AG/htm/AG.61.htm
Texas Agriculture Code Chapter 63	Describes the Texas Commercial Fertilizer Control Act.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/AG/htm/AG.63.htm
Texas Agriculture Code Chapter 65	Presents the commercial fertilizer rules.	http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=4&pt=3&ch=65
Texas Agriculture Code Chapter 141	Describes the Texas Commercial Feed Control Act.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/AG/htm/AG.141.htm
Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Chapter 49 Subchapter A	Describes role and responsibilities of Justices of the Peace.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/CR/pdf/CR.49.pdf
Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Chapter 49 Subchapter B	Describes role and responsibilities of Medical Examiners.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/CR/pdf/CR.49.pdf

Source	Relevance	Link
Texas Education Code Chapter 37	Describes measures for safe schools.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.37.htm
Texas Education Code Section 37.108	Defines the parameters for multi-hazard emergency operations planning, auditing and reporting.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.37.htm
Texas Education Code Chapter 88	Describes The Texas A & M University System and the agencies and services of that system.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.88.htm
Texas Education Code Section 88.112-88.116	Describes the South Central Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact ratified by the states of Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Oklahoma. Details roles and responsibilities.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.88.htm#88.112
Texas Government Code Chapter 411	Defines the Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.411.htm
Texas Government Code Chapter 418	Provides authority and mechanisms to clarify and strengthen key roles, as well as authorize and provide for cooperation and coordination of an emergency management system embodying all aspects of predisaster preparedness and post disaster response.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm
Texas Government Code Section 418.042	Describes provisions to be kept current by TDEM in the comprehensive state emergency management plan.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.050
Texas Government Code Section 418.050	Provides guidelines for reentry of areas previously evacuated because of a disaster or threat of disaster.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.050
Texas Government Code Section 418.11	Describes the Texas Statewide Mutual Aid System.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.018
Texas Government Code Section 418.117	Provides for reciprocity in professional licensure.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.418.htm#418.117
Texas Government Code Chapter 421	Describes the governor's role and responsibilities in state homeland security.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.421.htm
Texas Government Code Chapter 433	Describes the circumstances under which the governor may proclaim a state of emergency and	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs

Source	Relevance	Link
	designate the area involved.	/GV/htm/GV.433.htm
Texas Government Code Chapter 469	Describes the Texas accessibility standards for elimination of architectural barriers.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.469.htm
Texas Government Code Chapter 791	Authorizes Inter-local Cooperation Contracts.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/GV/htm/GV.791.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 81	Describes the Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Act.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.81.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 97	Authorizes the control of communicable diseases.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.97.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 121	Describes the Local Public Health Reorganization Act.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.121.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 121 Subchapter B	Defines the role and responsibilities of Public Health Authorities.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.121.htm#B
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 161	Provides public health provisions.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.161.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Section 161.00705	Describes recording administration of immunization and medication for disasters and emergencies.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.161.htm#161.00705
Texas Health and Safety Code Section 161.0211	Regulates epidemiologic or toxicological investigations.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.161.htm#161.0211
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 193	Regulates death records.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.193.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Section 193.010	Regulates certificate of death by catastrophe.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.193.htm#193.010

Source	Relevance	Link
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 431	Describes the Texas Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.431.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Section 431.081	Defines adulterated food.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.431.htm#431.081
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 508	Authorizes the commissioner of public health or a health authority to respond to the introduction of an environmental or toxic agent into the environment in a manner similar to that authorized for responding to an outbreak of a communicable disease, as provided in Section 81.085.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.508.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Section 531.002	Defines the local mental health authority and its responsibility with a specified region for planning, policy development, coordination, and resource development and allocation to help ensure the provision of mental health services in the most appropriate and available setting.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.531.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 671	Regulates determination of death and autopsy reports.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.671.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 694	Regulates burial.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.694.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 695	Regulates in-casket identification.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.695.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 711	Provides general provisions relating to cemeteries.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.711.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 713	Defines local regulation of cemeteries.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.713.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 714	Contains miscellaneous provisions related to cemeteries.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.714.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 716	Regulates crematories.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.716.htm

Source	Relevance	Link
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 777	Regulates regional poison control centers.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.777.htm
Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 778	Describes the Emergency Management Assistance Compact.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/HS/htm/HS.778.htm
Texas Occupations Code Chapter 651	Regulates cemetery and crematory services, funeral direction and embalming.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/OC/htm/OC.651.htm
Texas Transportation Code Chapter 541	Defines individual and governmental authorities related to vehicles, traffic and rules of the road.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/TN/htm/TN.541.htm
Texas Transportation Code Chapter 545	Defines the operation and movement of vehicles and the rules of the road in Texas.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/TN/htm/TN.545.htm
Texas Water Code Chapter 13	Defines water administration, rights, rates and services in Texas.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/WA/htm/WA.13.htm
Texas Water Code Chapter 16	Describes the role and responsibilities of the executive administrator of the Texas Water Development Board.	http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/WA/htm/WA.16.htm
RP57-Relating to implementing recommendations from the Governor's Task Force on Evacuation, Transportation and Logistics	Directs TDEM to develop a statewide hurricane evacuation and shelter plan for persons with critical transportation needs including medical patients and those with access and functional needs.	http://governor.state.tx.us/news/executive-order/3631/
	Provides planning guidance to local emergency management and shelter planners to meet access and functional needs in general population shelters.	https://www.preparingtexas.org/preparedness.aspx?page=32137bc8-eed7-42bb-ad7e-2765fd8abdb9
State of Texas Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2010-2013	Specifies hazard mitigation measures intended to eliminate or reduce the effects of future disasters throughout the state.	http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/documents/txhazmitplan.pdf

Source	Relevance	Link
Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan, 2010-2015	Serves as a high-level road map for the state's homeland security efforts for 2010 through 2015.	http://governor.state.tx.us/files/homeland/HmLndSecurity_StratPlan2015.pdf

Federal

The following table presents federal-level authority sources, their relevance to this document, and hyperlinks to their online location.

Source	Relevance	Link
29 U.S.C. § 794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended Section 504	Protects the rights of individuals with disabilities in programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education.	http://www.dol.gov/oasam/regs/statutes/sec504.htm
29 U.S.C. § 793 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended Section 508	Ensures the accessibility of technology to persons with disabilities to the extent it does not pose an undue burden on an agency or employer. Applies to, but is not solely focused on, federal web sites. Does not apply to web pages of private industry.	http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/act.htm
42 U.S.C. §§ 4151 et seq. Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended	Requires access to facilities designed, built, altered or leased with federal funds.	http://www.access-board.gov/about/laws/aba.htm
Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 44 Emergency Management and Assistance	Provides the foundation for the policies, procedures, structure, responsibilities and authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in providing assistance to states before, during and after disasters.	http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2002-title44-vol1/pdf/CFR-2002-title44-vol1.pdf
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)	Establishes national standards to eliminate and address discrimination against individuals with disabilities.	http://www.ada.gov

Source	Relevance	Link
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 2008	Protects the privacy of student education records. Applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. Gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."	http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html
The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996	Allows for the privacy and security of a person's individual identifiable information. Allows individuals to carry their health insurance from one job to another to avoid a lapse in coverage.	http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/
Public Law 88-352 78 STAT 241 Civil Rights Act of 1964	Prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.	http://www.eeoc.gov/laws/statutes/titlevii.cfm
Public Law 93-288 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended	Grants statutory authority to the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide disaster-relief assistance to states following a presidential disaster declaration.	http://www.fema.gov/robert-t-stafford-disaster-relief-and-emergency-assistance-act-public-law-93-288-amended
Public Law 100-408 Price-Anderson Amendments Act of 1988, as amended	Ensures the availability of a large pool of funds to provide prompt and orderly compensation of members of the public who incur damages from a nuclear or radiological incident no matter who might be liable. Requires Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensees and U.S. Department of Energy contractors to enter into agreements of indemnification to cover personal injury and property damage to those harmed by a nuclear or radiological incident.	http://www.ans.org/pi/ps/docs/ps54-bi.pdf
Public Law 104-321 Emergency Management Assistance Compact	Describes the establishment of EMACs by the U.S. Congress in 1996. Lays the groundwork for all states to adopt agreements to provide and receive mutual-aid assistance during disasters.	http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-104publ321/pdf/PLAW-104publ321.pdf
Public Law 105-19 Volunteer Protection Act of 1997	Provides certain protections to volunteers, nonprofit organizations and governmental entities in lawsuits based on the activities of volunteers.	http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-105publ19/pdf/PLAW-105publ19.pdf

Source	Relevance	Link
Public Law 106-390 Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, as amended	Provides the legal basis for FEMA mitigation planning requirements for state, local and tribal governments as a condition of mitigation grant assistance. Amends the Stafford Act by repealing and updating mitigation planning provisions.	http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1935
Public Law 109-295 Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA) of 2006	Brings new missions into FEMA; restores previously removed missions of preparedness, response and recovery; Amends the Homeland Security Act; and revises the Stafford Act to improve FEMA's disaster assistance efforts.	http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-109publ295/pdf/PLAW-109publ295.pdf
Public Law 109-308 Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS Act) of 2006	Amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure that state and local emergency preparedness operational plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency.	http://www.animallaw.info/statutes/stusfd2006pl109_308.htm
Public Law 110-289 Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008	Restructures the regulation of government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs), which include the Federal Home Loan Banks, and authorizes U.S. Treasury investments in the GSEs. Authorizes a new foreclosure prevention program under the Federal Housing Administration.	http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=DOC_12714.pdf
Executive Order 13166 Improving Access to Services for Persons of Limited English Proficiency	Improves access to federally conducted and assisted programs and activities for persons who, as a result of national origin, are limited in their English proficiency.	http://www.lep.gov/13166/eolep.htm
Executive Order 13175 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments	Establishes regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials in the development of federal policies that have tribal implications. Strengthens U.S. government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes and reduces the imposition of unfunded mandates upon tribes.	http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/nepa/regs/eos/eo13175.html
Executive Order 13347 Individuals with Disabilities in Emergency Preparedness	Ensures the federal government supports the safety and security of individuals with disabilities in situations involving disasters.	http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/resources/specialtopics/emergencypre/eo13347disabilitiesemergencypreparedness.pdf

Source	Relevance	Link
Executive Order 13407 Public Alert and Warning System	Establishes an effective, reliable, integrated, flexible and comprehensive system to alert and warn the American people in natural and man-made disasters and other hazards to public safety and well-being.	http://www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/eo/eo-13407.htm
Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 Management of Domestic Incidents February 2003	Enhances the ability of the U.S. to manage domestic incidents by establishing a single, comprehensive incident management system now known as NIMS.	http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PPP-2003-book1/pdf/PPP-2003-book1-doc-pg229.pdf
ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments	Shows state and local government officials how to identify and fix problems that prevent people with disabilities from gaining equal access to state and local government programs, services and activities. Guides state and local officials on how to conduct accessibility surveys of their buildings and facilities to identify and remove architectural barriers to access.	http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/toolkitmain.htm
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	Responds to and publicizes disease outbreaks, food safety alerts, and provides disease surveillance and monitoring among many other missions. Networks researchers, scientists, doctors, nurses, economists, communicators, educators, technologists, epidemiologists and many other professionals who contribute their expertise to improve public health.	http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/
CDC Public Health Law Program	Protects and promotes public health by developing law-related tools and providing legal technical assistance to public health practitioners and state, tribal, local and territorial policymakers.	http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/
Department of Homeland Security (DHS)	Combines 22 different federal departments and agencies into a unified, integrated cabinet agency to prevent additional terrorist attacks and protects Americans on land, sea and air. Established in 2002.	http://www.dhs.gov
Department of Justice (DOJ)	Enforces the law and defends the interests of the U.S. according to the law. Ensures public safety against threats foreign and domestic. Provides federal leadership in preventing and controlling crime. Seeks just punishment for those guilty of unlawful behavior. Ensures fair and impartial administration of justice.	http://www.justice.gov/
Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)	Offers assistance during governor-declared states of emergency through a system that allows states to send personnel, equipment and commodities to help disaster-relief efforts in other states. Established in 1996.	http://www.emacweb.org/
Environmental	Protects human health and the environment through	http://www.epa.gov

Source	Relevance	Link
Protection Agency (EPA)	focus on climate change, air quality, chemical safety, clean communities, water protection, environmentalism and environmental justice, and state and tribal partnerships.	
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to and recovering from natural and man-made domestic disasters including terrorism.	https://www.fema.gov/
FEMA Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans Version 2, November 2010	Provides guidance on planning and developing emergency operations plans.	http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?=&id=5697
FEMA Guidance on Planning for Integration of Functional Needs Support Services in General Population Shelters November 2010	Provides planning guidance that can be incorporated into existing shelter plans to state emergency managers and shelter planners to meet access and functional needs in general population shelters.	http://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/odic/fnss_guidance.pdf
Interagency Coordinating Council on Emergency Preparedness and Individuals with Disabilities	Ensures the federal government appropriately supports the safety and security for individuals with disabilities in disaster situations.	http://www.dhs.gov/interagency-coordinating-council-emergency-preparedness-and-individuals-disabilities
Interstate Emergency Response Support Plan (IERSP) October 2009	Serves to expedite the flow of EMAC assistance.	https://www.preparingtexas.org/DocumentManagement/DisplayContent.aspx?contentid=9a7d74ab-478b-49cf-b9f5-ad7fabfad334&siteid=21ad7fe0-eee5-49e6-980a-d722e65ceded
Limited English Proficiency (LEP): A Federal Interagency Website	Promotes the cooperative understanding of the importance of language access to federally conducted and federally assisted programs. Supports Title VI regulations of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 regarding language access. Serves as a clearinghouse of information, tools and	http://www.lep.gov/

Source	Relevance	Link
	technical assistance regarding limited English proficiency and language services for federal agencies, recipients of federal funds, users of federal programs and federally assisted programs, and other stakeholders.	
National Council on Disability (NCD)	Advises the president, congress and other federal agencies on policies, programs, practices and procedures that affect people with disabilities. Collaborates with people with disabilities to serve as a trusted advisor to state, tribal communities, local governments and other entities and organizations.	http://www.ncd.gov
National Response Framework May 2013	Shows how the nation responds to all types of disasters and emergencies. Develops the scalable, flexible and adaptable concepts identified in the National Incident Management System to align key roles and responsibilities across the nation.	http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=7371
The National Strategy for Homeland Security October 2007	Guides, organizes and unifies the nation's homeland security efforts. Provides a common framework for the nation to focus efforts on preventing and disrupting terrorist attacks; protecting the American people, our critical infrastructure, and key resources; responding to and recovering from incidents that do occur; and continuing to strengthen our foundation and ensure our long-term success as a nation.	http://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=479633
Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC)	Works to integrate and coordinate emergency preparedness, response and recovery for children and adults with disabilities and others with access and functional needs before, during and after a disaster.	http://www.fema.gov/office-disability-integration-coordination/office-disability-integration-coordination/office-1
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Protects the health of all Americans and provides essential human services especially for those who are least able to help themselves. Many HHS-funded services are provided at the local level by state and county agencies or through private-sector grantees.	http://www.hhs.gov
U.S. Department of Justice A Guide to Disability Rights and Laws July 2009	Provides an overview of federal civil rights laws that ensure equal opportunity for people with disabilities.	http://www.ada.gov/cguide.htm

Nongovernment Resources

The following table presents non-governmental organization/agency sources, their relevance to all-hazards planning, and hyperlinks to their online location.

Source	Relevance	Link
American Red Cross	National and international disaster-relief organization that focuses on meeting people's immediate emergency needs including shelter, food, and health and emotional health service.	www.redcross.org
Disability Rights Legal Center	Advocates for the rights of people with disabilities in order to eliminate discrimination and other legal barriers that keep people with disabilities in poverty. Trains local governments, employers, the business community and people with disabilities and has close working relationships with disability commissions and grassroots disability organizations.	http://www.disabilityrightslegalcenter.org/
Homeland Security Digital Library	The nation's premier research collection of open-source resources related to homeland security policy, strategy, and organizational management.	https://www.hsdl.org/
National Congress of American Indians	The organization works to protect and enhance treaty and sovereign rights; secure traditional laws, cultures, and ways of life for descendants; promote a common understanding of the rightful place of tribes in the family of American governments; and improve the quality of life for Native communities and peoples.	http://www.ncai.org/
National Disability Rights Network	Nonprofit organization for the federally mandated Protection and Advocacy Systems and Client Assistance Programs providing legally based advocacy services to people with disabilities in the United States.	http://www.ndrn.org/index.php
National Emergency Management Association	Nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) association dedicated to enhancing public safety by improving the nation's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from all emergencies, disasters, and threats to our nation's security.	http://www.nemaweb.org/
National Organization on Disability	Promotes the full participation of America's 56 million people with disabilities in all aspects of life. Focuses on increasing employment opportunities for the 79 percent of working-age Americans with disabilities who are not employed.	http://www.nod.org/

Source	Relevance	Link
National Voluntary Agencies Active in Disasters (NVOAD)	Nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that serves as the forum where organizations share knowledge and resources throughout the disaster cycle—preparation, response and recovery —to help disaster survivors and their communities.	http://www.nvoad.org/
The Salvation Army (TSA)	National and international nonprofit organization whose efforts include food distribution and disaster relief.	http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/www_usn_2.nsf

2013 Texas Legislation

The following table presents the 2013 State of Texas Legislation from the 83rd (R) Legislature impacting emergency management and homeland security.

Bill	Relevance	Impacted Statute(s)	Effective
HB 403	Extends certain protections to a qualified municipal inspector who volunteers to provide disaster response services. Relates to liability of certain certified municipal inspectors for services rendered during an emergency or disaster.	Civil Practice and Remedies Code, Sections 150.001 and 150.004.	Immediately
HB 487	Authorizes certain persons of a municipality or a county to accept assistance described by Section 79.003(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, to address man-made or natural disasters. A person defined by Section 79.001, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, would not be liable for an act or omission that is not reckless or intentional, that occurs while providing voluntary assistance to a municipality or a county.	Local Government Code, Section 370.006.	Immediately
HB 746	Adds a new chapter to the Occupations Code authorizing certain volunteers who are registered with the volunteer health practitioner registration system specified by the bill to provide certain services across state lines in catastrophic circumstances. Authorizes TDEM to regulate certain in-state and out-of-state volunteer health practitioners while an emergency declaration is in effect. The bill requires DSHS to administer the volunteer health practitioner registration system specified by the bill. The bill stipulates the volunteer health practitioner registration system must include information regarding the results of a criminal history background check on the health care practitioners listed in the system, as well as confirmation whether the volunteer health practitioners in the system are duly registered, licensed and in good standing.	Occupations Code, Chapter 115.	9/1/13
HB 762	Amends current law relating to restrictions on disaster remediation contracts following a locally declared disaster.	Business & Commerce Code, Section 57.001	9/1/13
HB 1025	Indicates appropriation increases to be made out of the Economic Stabilization Fund for state-directed deployments for natural disasters and wildfires to the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, Texas A&M Forest Service, Department of Public Safety, Parks and Wildlife Department for costs associated with wildfires and Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor.	Not applicable; General appropriations	Immediately

Bill	Relevance	Impacted Statute(s)	Effective
HB 1081	Requires the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) to conduct a study regarding the current risk level of bovine tuberculosis.	Not applicable; this is a study	Immediately
HB 1272	Continues the Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force. Requires the Task Force to work with the Texas Education Agency, Department of Family and Protective Services, and the Health and Human Services Commission to develop a list of human trafficking key indicators, develop a training curriculum, and train certain vocations to identify human trafficking.	Government Code, Section 402.035.	Immediately
HB 2741	Authorizes the DMV to issue a special permit during a major disaster declared by the President of the United States to an overweight or oversize vehicle or load that will be used only to deliver relief supplies.	Government Code, Section 418.016. Transportation Code, Sections 623.341-623.343.	Except as otherwise provided by the bill, 9/1/13
HB 3096	Amends current law relating to an exemption from the use of an emergency notification system by certain public service providers.	Government Code, Section 418.192.	Immediately
HB 3178	Repeals Section 418.114 of the Government Code related to requiring certain political subdivisions to agree on procedures that specify the manner in which mutual aid will be provided. Amends the Government Code to remove the time requirement for a request for mutual aid to be submitted in writing. Requires cost reimbursements to all respondents to requests for mutual aid in cases where the duration of the assistance exceeds 12 consecutive hours.	Government Code, Sections 418.114, 418.115, and 418.1181.	Immediately
SB 171	Amends the Government Code to require the chief of TDEM to establish a workgroup of appropriate emergency management council members, local government officials, and nonprofit organizations to determine if a uniform application form for assistance following a disaster may be developed for use by state agencies and by persons requesting assistance from state agencies.	Government Code, Section 418.013.	Immediately
SB 194	Amends the Local Government Code to require municipalities and counties to adopt infrastructure standards requiring at least two means of ingress and egress for use by emergency vehicles during evacuations for residential subdivisions that are subdivided into 1,000 or more lots in the unincorporated area of	Local Government Code, Section 232.0034.	9/1/13

Bill	Relevance	Impacted Statute(s)	Effective
	a county.		
SB 223	Designates certain vehicles of TDEM as authorized emergency vehicles.	Transportation Code, Sections 541.201 and 546.0065.	Immediately
SB 1120	Amends current law relating to a residential tenant's lease obligation after the loss of the leased premises resulting from a natural disaster. Prohibits an apartment or property management company from requiring a displaced resident to sign a new lease at a term longer than the existing lease term before relocating the resident to a habitable unit.	Property Code, Section 92.062.	1/1/14
SB 1134	Directs the Department of Information Resources (DIR) to develop strategies and a framework for the securing of cyber infrastructure by state agencies and cybersecurity risk assessment and mitigation planning. Requires DIR to assist state agencies, upon request, regarding the strategies and framework developed and to provide training to state agencies and promote public awareness on cyber security issues.	Government Code, Section 2054.059.	9/1/13
SB 1267	Establishes certain liability protections for any outside labor or assistance providing firefighting services on private land in conjunction with the Texas Forest Service.	Education Code, Section 88.104.	Immediately
SB 1393	Creates a more generic reference to federal guidance on state and local homeland security plans to avoid the perception that the state is basing its plans on outdated federal documents.	Government Code, Sections 421.002 and 421.021.	Immediately
SB 1394	Removes the requirement for a statewide critical infrastructure protection plan developed by the Homeland Security Council.	Government Code, Section 421.024.	Immediately
SB 1536	Updates state law regulating Texas Military Forces.	Government Code, Chapter 437.	9/1/13
SB 1556	Establishes the School Safety Task Force, which will study best practices for school multi-hazard emergency operations planning and make recommendations to the legislature, the Texas School Safety Center, and the governor's office of homeland security.	Education Code, Sections 37.1081, 37.1082, 37.2051, and 46.0081.	Immediately

Maintenance and Change

This section describes the process by which this document will be maintained and updated.

Development

This document was developed by the Preparedness Section of the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) in 2013.

Maintenance

This document is maintained by TDEM's Preparedness Section.

Abbreviations and Definitions

Abbreviations

C.C.R	Conference Committee Report
C.S.	Called Session
HB	House Bill
HCR	House Concurrent Resolution
HJR	House Joint Resolution
HR	House Resolution
(R)	Regular Session
R.S.	Regular Session
SB	Senate Bill
SCR	Senate Concurrent Resolution
SJR	Senate Joint Resolution
SR	Senate Resolution

Definitions

Conference Committee Report: The text of a bill and its required attachments that is issued when a conference committee has completed its work in resolving the differences between the house and senate versions of a measure.

Enacting Clause: A clause required by the Texas Constitution to precede the body of each bill. The enacting clause follows the caption and must read as follows: "Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas: …".

Session: The period during which the legislature meets. There are two types of sessions. The regular session convenes every two years and may last no more than 140 days. A called session, commonly referred to as a special session, is so designated because it must be called by the governor. A called or special session may last no more than 30 days. On the Texas Legislature Online site, the regular session is indicated by an "R" or "R.S." following the number of the legislature. Ex: 81(R) or 81st Leg., R.S. Format will depend on context.

The called session is indicated by a number in parentheses following the number of the legislature. Ex: 78(2) or 78th Leg., 2nd C.S., which indicates the second called session for the 78th Legislature. Format will depend on context.

Veto: The rejection of an enrolled bill by the governor.

For More Information

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www.tsdps.state.tx.us/dem/preparedness/plansunit.htm

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