

THE TEXAS TWO STEP: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

What's Happen in Austin?



The Next Step

1. Know your subject matter.
2. Gather your facts.
3. Develop a letter addressing your issue(s) and include facts and supporting data research.
4. Send the information to your Senator and Representative.



**The Texas Two Step Chamber...
Senate or House**

To be successful, a bill must be passed in both the Senate and House.
Many bills die in one chamber or the other or in a committee.




The Final Step!

1. The bill is signed in both chambers.
2. Once the bill is signed, the bill goes to the Governor's office.
3. The Governor can...
 - a. sign the bill ✓
 - b. not sign the bill ✓ or
 - c. veto the bill ✗
4. Bill goes into effect immediately or as stated in the bill.



OBJECTIVES

1. Learner will be able to identify the steps of the legislative process.
2. Learner will be able to describe bills that directly impact school nursing roles.
3. Learner will be able to list two methods to advocate for school nursing issues.



Senate Steps

1. Bill must be sponsored by a Senator.
2. The bill is sent to a committee.
3. A public hearing is held.
4. After the hearing the committee will...
 - a. vote on the bill
 - b. pass on the bill or
 - c. leave the bill pending.
5. If the bill is passed out of the committee, the bill must be set on the Senate calendar.
6. Senate Vote.



House Steps

1. Bill must sponsored by a Representative.
2. The bill is sent to a committee.
3. Public Hearing is held.
4. After the hearing, the committee will...
 - a. vote on the bill
 - b. pass on the bill or
 - c. leave the bill pending.
5. If the bill is passed out of the committee, the bill must be placed on the House calendar.
6. The bill must be read 3 times before it passes out of the House.



INITIAL STEPS

Understanding the Legislative Process

1. Many many other laws (Statutes)
2. Bills may be filed prior to the official start of the legislative session.
3. Session starts in January and ends in May.
4. A special session may be called by the Governor to address a subject.






TEXAS SCHOOL NURSES ORGANIZATION

2015 – 84th Regular Texas Legislative Session Texas School Nursing Organization

Bill	Initiative	Status
HB 2323 Blanco	Relating to mandatory spinal screenings for children in certain grades attending public or private schools.	Bill Died waiting to be heard in the Senate
SB 69 / Ellis HB1938/Coleman	Relating to a notification requirement if a public school campus or open- enrollment charter school does not have a nurse assigned to the campus during all instructional hours.	Bill Died waiting for House Public Ed Committee to hear
HB 465/Howard	Relating to the immunization data included in and excluded from the immunization registry.	Bill Died – left pending in House Committee
SB 28/Zaffirini	Relating to immunity from liability for public and open-enrollment charter school campuses that maintain a supply of anaphylaxis medicine for emergency use	Bill Died waiting for House Public Ed Committee to hear
SB 298/Watson	Each student shall be fully immunized against bacterial meningitis, except as provided by Subsection (c).	No Action
SB 97/Hinojosa HB 81/Guillen	Relating to regulation of the sale, distribution, possession, use, and advertising of e-cigarettes; creating offenses.	Passed -Signed by the Governor
HB 1729/Pena	Relating to the qualifications of persons employed as nurses by public school districts.	No Action
SB 952/West	Relating to parental notification of physical fitness assessment results and development of wellness plans for certain public school students.	No Action
SB 265/Ellis	Relating to student use of sunscreen products in public schools.	Passed -Signed by the Governor
HB 1878/Laubenberg	Relating to the reimbursement of providers under the Medicaid program for the provision of telemedicine medical services in a school-based setting.	Passed-Signed by the Governor
SB 66/ Hinojosa HB 566/Herrero	Relating to use of epinephrine auto-injectors on public and open-enrollment charter school campuses and at off-campus school sanctioned events.	Passed -Signed by the Governor

The mission of the Texas School Nurses Organization is to advance the practice of professional school nurses and enhance school nursing practice in ways that promote each student's optimal level of wellness and educational success.