

LEGISLATIVE TOOLS/STRATEGI ES/MODEL LEGISLATION

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Family Watch International

BASICS: KNOW THE “WHO”

- ▶ Types of legislatures:
 - ▶ Bicameral (CA) or unicameral (only NE)
 - ▶ Full-time vs. part-time
 - ▶ High pay vs. low pay
 - ▶ Very intense vs. “lite”

5 Types of Legislatures

Legend:

- Full-time, well paid, large staff (4)
- Full-time Lite (6)
- Hybrid (26)
- Part-time Lite (10)

Map showing the distribution of legislatures across the United States, categorized by type and color-coded according to the legend.

AS QU MP VI PR

TABLE 1. ANNUAL AND BIENNIAL BUDGETING STATES

(**Boldface** indicates the 10 most populous states in 2010.)

ANNUAL SESSION ANNUAL BUDGET (31 states)	ANNUAL SESSION BIENNIAL BUDGET (15 states)	BIENNIAL SESSION BIENNIAL BUDGET (4 states)
Arizona+	Connecticut	Montana
Alabama	Hawaii	Nevada
Alaska	Indiana	North Dakota*
Arkansas	Kentucky	Texas
California	Maine	
Colorado	Minnesota	
Delaware	Nebraska	
Florida	New Hampshire	
Georgia	North Carolina	
Idaho	Ohio	
Illinois	Oregon	
Iowa	Virginia	
Kansas+	Washington	
Louisiana	Wisconsin	

Maryland	Wyoming*	
Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Mississippi		
Missouri		
New Jersey		
New Mexico		
New York		
Oklahoma		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
Utah		
Vermont		
West Virginia		

*Biennial budget states that enact a consolidated two-year budget. Other biennial budget states enact two annual budgets at one time.

+Annual budget states where smaller agencies receive biennial budgets.

BASICS: KNOW THE “WHO”

- ▶ Composition:
 - ▶ Political spectrum
 - ▶ Gender
 - ▶ Ethnicity/culture/religion
 - ▶ Profession



**FIGURE OUT
THE “WHERE”**



GETTING INFORMATION: WEBSITE

- ▶ Who's your representative?
- ▶ Calendar
- ▶ Current session information
- ▶ Code = laws
- ▶ Budget
- ▶ Bills
- ▶ Committees
- ▶ The beloved "Search" key



UTAH STATE
LEGISLATURE

Audits

Bills

Budget

Code

Committees



 Search le.utah.gov



2018 Session



Calendar



My Legislators



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Texas Senate

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Legislature:
☒ Word/Phrase ☐ Bill Number

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[Find list of filed bills?](#)
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Access Mobile Version of TLO

Access a [mobile version](#) of TLO, Who Represents Me, and DistrictViewer on an iPhone, iPad, or other mobile device. From the mobile device browser, enter [www.txlegis.com](#). NOTE: Some applications or features within an application may not be accessible on all mobile devices.

Legislative Activity

Video Broadcasts: [House](#) | [Senate](#)
Today's Calendars: [House](#) | [Senate](#) | [All](#)
Today's Meetings: [House](#) | [Senate](#) | [All](#)
Today's Filed Bills: [House](#) | [Senate](#) | [All](#)
Today's Votes: [House](#) | [Senate](#)

Legislative Process



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

Who Represents Me?

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

Address:

City:

ZIP Code:

[Redistricting](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

Capitol Complex Information



[Events and Visitor Information](#)
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Oregon State Legislature

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Multicultural Day at the Capitol

Saturday, September 8, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Free performances, exhibits, cultural activities and more! Tower tours, weather permitting. [Learn more.](#)



Today's Events at the Capitol

Scheduled Events For 9/4/2018

☒ Floor Sessions ☒ Committees ☒ Building Activities

Time:	Event:	Location:
8:00 AM	Art of the Time Art of the People Art Exhibit	Exhibit Building Wide
8:00 AM	Capitol History Gateway Exhibit	Galleria East
8:00 AM	Oregon Rock and Mineral Exhibit	Rock Case Display
8:00 AM	We are Oregonians - Our Shared Heritage Exhibit	Exhibit Case East_West

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Search Bills



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Oregon State Legislature
Building Hours: Monday - Friday, 7:30am - 5:00pm
1-800-332-2313 | 900 Court St. NE, Salem Oregon 97301



The “HOW” - THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN POLITICS IS RELATIONSHIPS

- ▶ Start with your own representatives –
The All-Powerful CONSTITUENT
 - ▶ Find out who they are (Start in interim)
 - ▶ Say hello! Build a relationship
 - ▶ Aides and staff rule! Get to know them
 - ▶ Delegate vs. Constituent – Delegate wins!
 - ▶ Use weight of organizations – make yourself look bigger. Coalitions even better!

THE “HOW”

- ▶ Careful with texts
 - ▶ Be persistent – PPPG!
 - ▶ Add them to your social media
 - ▶ Variety of contacts
 - ▶ Say thank you – reminder of action items
 - ▶ Committee members – start with friends first
 - ▶ Build database of legislators – keep track
- 

COURTING




GETTING THE WORK DONE – THE “WHAT”

- ▶ Easy as 1-2-3
 - ▶ 1 – Educate
 - ▶ 2 – Speak up
 - ▶ 3 – Share



Easy as
1, 2, 3...

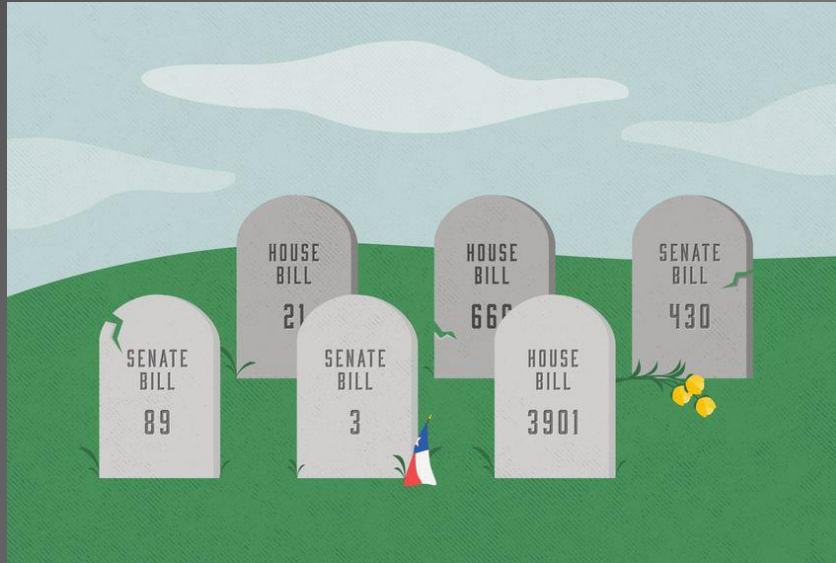
HOW TO FIND A BILL

- ▶ By name, subject
 - ▶ By number (go to tracking, go to the bottom)
 - ▶ Learning about a bill: Click on a bill number or name
 - ▶ Number and name
 - ▶ Sponsors
 - ▶ Bill text
 - ▶ Information – what's happened, where it is
 - ▶ Sections affected
- 

#I-EDUCATE = HOW TO FIND A BILL

- ▶ Tracking – click on “Bills” and “Tracking Service”
- ▶ Status, etc. (Can review on Daily Agendas)
- ▶ Bills Agendas – committee hearings
- ▶ Committees – go to website, click on “Committees”, pick a subject. Or you can go to a bill, click on committee
- ▶ Look at constitution of committee, esp. chair
- ▶ Look at time/date – subject to change
- ▶ Look at where it is on the agenda
- ▶ Look at party affiliations to target

BEST PLACE TO KILL A BILL: COMMITTEE



► Or even earlier – with the sponsor!

- *Coordinate efforts
- *Wear lapel pin or t-shirts to identify supporters
- *Effective testifiers
- *Use experts
- *Practice ahead of time!
- *Copies for everyone
- *Be succinct
- *Keep emotions in control
- *Tell the story!

#2 – SPEAK UP!

****Targeted approach** (contact either the ones REALLY for it or those REALLY against it)

****Emailing legislators** – click on “Legislators”, use the search box, go to their page to get all their info

****Phone calling** - RARE

#3 – SHARE – SPREAD THE WORD!

- ▶ Emails/cottage meetings, phone calls
- ▶ Social media
- ▶ Use “alerts” sparingly – audiences tire
- ▶ Visit social media pages of those you’re trying to reach
- ▶ Weekly summary
- ▶ FB live videos



WARNING



MODEL LEGISLATION LIBRARY – A PROJECT OF FAMILY WATCH INTERNATIONAL



INTRO TO MODEL LEG LIBRARY

- ▶ What is the library?
- ▶ Who is doing this?
- ▶ Where can I find it?



WHAT'S IN IT?

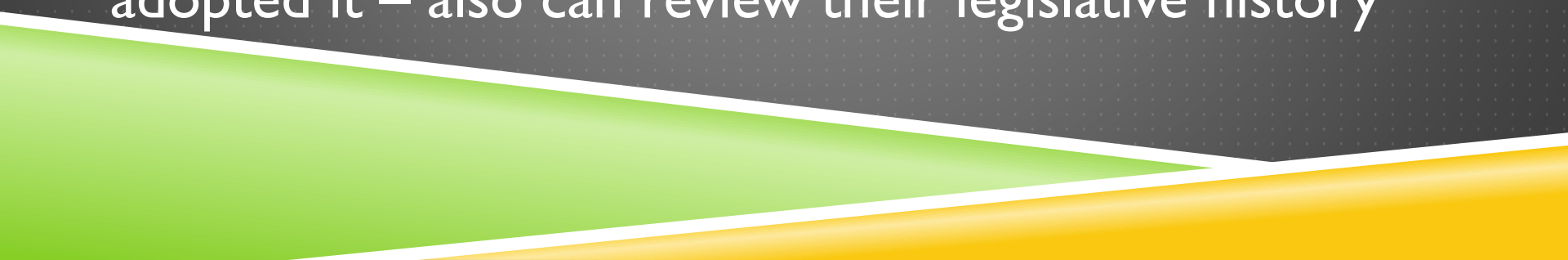
- ▶ **Legislation/policy info on following topics:**
 - ▶ Sex education (including Comprehensive Sexuality Education)
 - ▶ Abortion
 - ▶ Parental rights
 - ▶ Gender issues
 - ▶ Pornography and obscenity laws
 - ▶ Religious freedom

WHAT'S IN IT?

- ▶ Sample legislation from existing state laws
- ▶ Model legislation – drafted without reference to a particular state
- ▶ Policy information



HOW DO I USE IT?

- ▶ Look up the area of law you are interested in
 - ▶ Review model laws & state samples – compare to yours
 - ▶ Discuss with your group to see what types of legislation you want to consider
 - ▶ Either take to a potential legislative sponsor or take to party leaders to pursue
 - ▶ Revise as desired – also can be submitted to your legislative attorney as a starting point
 - ▶ Feel free to contact our allies in the state who has adopted it – also can review their legislative history
- 

Sex Ed Providers

Louisiana

LA HB

305 <http://www.legis.la.gov/legis/BillInfo.aspx?i=224017>

SUMMARY: Prohibits providers of elective abortions and their affiliates from delivering certain instruction or materials in schools

(prohibits Planned Parenthood from teaching sex ed)

Sexual Education Opt-in Laws

Utah

Utah Code 53G-10-402 Required parental consent for sex education instruction

Summary: A school must obtain written consent from parents before providing sex education to students. If a parent chooses not to have their child participate in sex education, the parent then takes responsibility for the child's instruction in cooperation with the teacher or school, and the school shall either waive the requirement or provide a reasonable alternative to the requirement. There is no penalization if parents opt their student out of sex education.

[Index](#) **Utah Code****Title 53G Public Education System -- Local Administration****Chapter 10 Curriculum Participation and Requirements****Part 4 Health Curriculum Requirements****Section 403 Required parental consent for sex education instruction. (Effective 5/8/2018)*****Effective 5/8/2018*****53G-10-403. Required parental consent for sex education instruction.**

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Parent" means the same as that term is defined in Section [53G-10-205](#).

(b) (i) "Sex education instruction" means any course material, unit, class, lesson, activity, or presentation that, as the focus of the discussion, provides instruction or information to a student about:

(A) sexual abstinence;

(B) human sexuality;

(C) human reproduction;

(D) reproductive anatomy;

(E) physiology;

(F) pregnancy;

(G) marriage;

(H) childbirth;

(I) parenthood;

(J) contraception;

(K) HIV/AIDS;

(L) sexually transmitted diseases; or

(M) refusal skills, as defined in Section [53G-10-402](#).

(ii) "Sex education instruction" does not include child sexual abuse prevention instruction described in Section [53G-9-207](#).

(c) "School" means the same as that term is defined in Section [53G-10-205](#).

(2) A school shall obtain prior written consent from a student's parent before the school may provide sex education instruction to the student.

(3) If a student's parent chooses not to have the student participate in sex education instruction, a school shall:

(a) waive the requirement for the student to participate in the sex education instruction; or

(b) provide the student with a reasonable alternative to the sex education instruction requirement.

(4) In cooperation with the student's teacher or school, a parent shall take responsibility for the parent's student's sex education instruction if a school:

- ▶ Indiana
- ▶ Indiana Public Law 154 (Senate Enrolled Act 65, 2018)
- ▶ Summary: Human sexuality instructional materials shall be available for inspection by the parent of a student. Before a student is given instruction on human sexuality, parents must receive a written request for consent. This request must also provide a summary of the content and nature of the instruction, inform parents of their right to review and inspect all related instruction materials, and request that parents provide their consent or decline instruction. If instruction is declined, the school shall provide the student with alternate academic instruction during the time human sexuality instruction would have otherwise been given. Human sexuality instruction may only be provided if the parent give consent or if the parent fails to respond after two notifications from the school. Parents may opt their students out at any time.

SENATE ENROLLED ACT No. 65

AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 20-30-5-17, AS AMENDED BY P.L.286-2013, SECTION 95, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018]: Sec. 17. (a) ~~A~~ **Each** school corporation shall make available for inspection by the parent of a student any instructional materials, including

- (1) teachers' manuals,
- (2) curricular materials,
- (3) films or other video materials,
- (4) tapes, and
- (5) other materials,

used in connection with:

- (1) a personal analysis, an evaluation, or a survey described in subsection (b); **or**
- (2) **instruction on human sexuality.**

(b) A student shall not be required to participate in a personal analysis, an evaluation, or a survey that is not directly related to academic instruction and that reveals or attempts to affect the student's attitudes, habits, traits, opinions, beliefs, or feelings concerning:

- (1) political affiliations;
- (2) religious beliefs or practices;
- (3) mental or psychological conditions that may embarrass the student or the student's family;

SUPPLEMENTAL INFO

- ▶ Related information:
- ▶ [Life Site “New Law Empowers Parents to Veto Inappropriate Sex Ed”](#)
- ▶ [Sample non-consent form](#) provided by Liberty Counsel to parents

POLICY – RESOLUTIONS, ETC.

- ▶ Resolution Passed by Republican National Committee - July 20, 2018
- ▶ Summary: Schools shall disclose content of human sexuality instruction to parents and only provide such instruction after receiving written consent from parents. State legislatures to acknowledge the rights of parents to direct their children's education, care, and upbringing, including the right to protect them from content they find unsuitable.

=====

7.20.18 — REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

***RESOLUTION TO PROTECT STUDENTS FROM EXPOSURE TO POTENTIALLY UNSUITABLE CONTENT BY
SUPPORTING A PARENT'S RIGHT TO GRANT PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT FOR SEX EDUCATION***

WHEREAS, parents are a child's first and foremost educators, and have primary responsibility for the education of their children. Parents have a right to direct their children's education, care, and upbringing; (1)

WHEREAS, education is much more than schooling. Education is the whole range of activities by which families and communities transmit to a younger generation, not just knowledge and skills, but ethical and behavioral norms and traditions. It is the handing over of a cultural identity; (2)

WHEREAS, American education has, for the last several decades, been the focus of constant controversy, as centralizing forces from outside the family and community have sought to remake education in order to remake America. This has done immense damage; (3)

WHEREAS, school administrators routinely ask parents for their prior written permission for students to participate in various school-related instruction and activities, including, but not limited to: field trips, sports, and distribution of medicine;

WHEREAS, parents and their students should be afforded the same respect with regard to the increasingly sensitive and controversial nature of human sexuality instruction;

WHEREAS, much of the content in human sexuality instruction centers on contentious and sensitive issues, including but not limited to: abortion, birth control, sexual activity, sexual orientation, transgenderism, and/or gender identity;

WHEREAS, human sexuality instruction frequently places the wishes and concerns of the parents and/or guardians at odds with those of the school district; and

WHEREAS, the wishes and concerns of the parents and/or guardians are preeminent to those of the School District and should be acknowledged by simply affording parents and/or guardians the right to grant permission for such instruction; therefore

RESOLVED, that public schools must disclose the content contained within human sexuality instruction to the parents and/or guardians of all unemancipated students and shall only enroll those students whose parents and/or guardians provide prior written permission to opt their student into human sexuality instruction;

RESOLVED, that the default shall be that no human sexuality instruction shall be provided to any student not yet emancipated without prior written consent from their parent and/or guardian, making an opt-out default an insufficient protection for either the safety of the student or the rights of the parent;

RESOLVED, that all state legislatures are encouraged to enact legislation that implements these notices and safeguards to protect students from exposure to potentially inappropriate and salacious content and to acknowledge the right of the parents and/or guardians to direct their children's education, care, and upbringing, including their right to protect them from exposure to content they find unsuitable.

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (UDHR)

- ▶ Article 26:
- ▶ “.... Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.”

QUESTIONS???



NEVER FORGET:

YOU are the government

