



How to Drop a Card

Type of Action: In-Person (Austin, Capitol)

Time: Est 15 mins

NOTE: The form does NOT work on mobile, bring a laptop or tablet.

What is “Dropping a Card”?

“Dropping a card” refers to the action of officially registering your stance (opposition or support). This action can only be taken when a committee is hearing a bill. Dropping a card logs your stance on a bill and submitted to the official bill record. Official records accompany the bill as its moves through the Legislature.

You can only drop a card on a bill being heard by a House committee if you are connected to the public Capitol WiFi. Luckily for us, the WiFi usually reaches outside the building, so you do not have to risk your health or waste your time entering the Capitol building.

When to Drop a Card?

Dropping a card must be done on Austin’s Capitol grounds through a laptop\ tablet with a connection to the Captiol’s free wifi. A card can only be dropped on the day of the committee hearing. The bill will be available for registration about an hour before the committee is scheduled to start. Typically, registration closes when public testimony is completed, but this is not always the case.

How to Drop a Card: Step-by-Step Guide

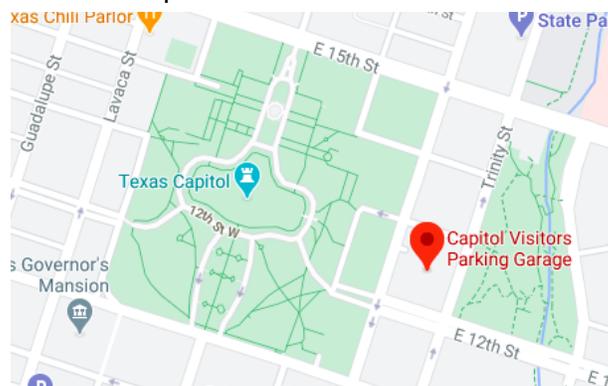
→ Park at the Capitol:

◆ [The Capitol Visitors Parking Garage](#)

Address: 1201 San Jacinto Blvd, Austin, TX 78701

Note: The first 2 hrs in the parking garage are free

◆ Here’s a map:



→ Log into Capitol Wifi

- ◆ [Click here](#) for a map to the Capitol grounds and good areas to sit
- ◆ The best device to use will be your laptop computer, but a tablet will work as well. Your cell phone will **not** work with the online portal
- ◆ *Note: Do not skip this step. The websites below will only work when you are connected to the Capitol WiFi.*

→ Go to the House or Senate Witness Registration Page

- ◆ For House bills (HB ##) go here: <http://hwrs.house.state.tx.us/>
- ◆ For Senate bills (SB ##) go here: <http://swrs.senate.state.tx.us/>
- ◆ *Note: The screenshots below are from the House website. Senate bills will follow a similar format*

→ Below is the first page you will see. Click “**Begin**” to continue.



→ Step 1: Select your committee hearing or search for the bill #

- ◆ You'll see a page full of committee hearings happening on this day
- ◆ If you know what committee your bill is being heard in, you can select the committee
- ◆ If you don't know what committee your bill is being heard in you can select "Find a Bill"
- ◆ *Note: Select "Page Down" if you do not immediately see the bill you're looking to register a position for.*

Step 1: Hearings Select a hearing	Step 2: Agenda Items Select an agenda item	Step 3: Contact Provide contact information	Step 4: Representing State your representation	Step 5: Acknowledgement Verify and submit request
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Select the committee hearing for which you want to register or

Committee	Subcommittee	Hearing Date, Time and Place	Select One
Criminal Jurisprudence		March 22, 2021 - 2:00 PM or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted; E2.010	<input type="button" value="Select"/>
Culture, Recreation & Tourism		March 22, 2021 - 1:00 PM or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted; E2.036	<input type="button" value="Select"/>
Defense & Veterans' Affairs		March 22, 2021 - 10:00 AM; E2.028	<input type="button" value="Select"/>
Energy Resources		March 22, 2021 - 2:00 PM or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted; JHR 120	<input type="button" value="Select"/>
Environmental Regulation		March 22, 2021 - 2:00 PM or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted; E1.026	<input type="button" value="Select"/>
Juvenile Justice & Family Issues		March 22, 2021 - 10:00 AM; E2.014	<input type="button" value="Select"/>

Showing 1 to 6 of 7 items.

→ Step 2: Agenda Item Selection

- ◆ Once you find the committee or bill that you want to “register” your position on you select the “Register” button next to that bill
- ◆ A pop-up window will appear.

Step 1: Hearings Select a hearing	Step 2: Agenda Items Select an agenda item	Step 3: Contact Provide contact information	Step 4: Representing State your representation	Step 5: Acknowledgement Verify and submit request
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Register your position on one or multiple agenda items for **Criminal Jurisprudence - March 22, 2021 - 2:00 PM or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted; E2.010**

Agenda Item	Bill Caption	Note	Position
HB 239 by Murr	Relating to the punishment for certain controlled substance offenses committed in a drug-free zone; increasing criminal penalties.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>
HB 246 by Murr	Relating to the prosecution of the criminal offense of improper relationship between educator and student.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>
HB 376 by Smith	Relating to the punishment for the criminal offense of improper sexual activity with a person in custody; increasing a criminal penalty.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>
HB 402 by Hernandez	Relating to the use of certain funds derived from criminal asset forfeiture to provide services to domestic victims of trafficking.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>
HB 489 by Wu	Relating to providing certain information to criminal defendants before a plea is entered or before the defendant elects to have punishment assessed by a jury.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>
HB 703 by Gervin-Hawkins	Relating to the imposition of consecutive sentences for more than one criminal offense of injury to a child, elderly individual, or disabled individual arising out of the same criminal episode.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>

Showing 1 to 6 of 16 items.

→ Step 2a: Make a selection based on: (1) your position on a bill; and (2) whether or not you plan to testify

- ◆ Select “**Against**” if it’s a bill you’re opposing.
Select “**For**” if it’s a bill you’re supporting.
- ◆ Additionally be sure to select “**Not Testify.**” (If you plan to enter the building and testify, you should select “**Testify**”. This is also how you can register to testify from outside the building.)
- ◆ *Note: Dropping a card, at it’s core, means registering your position without testifying.*

The screenshot displays a web interface with three steps: Step 2: Agenda Items, Step 3: Contact, and Step 4: Representing. A table of bill captions is visible, with a modal dialog box titled "Register Position for HB 402" overlaid. The dialog contains the following text and options:

Register Position for HB 402 ×

I am For Against Neutral
(state agency personnel must select "Neutral")

I plan to Testify Not Testify

Buttons: OK, Deselect, Cancel

→ Step 2b: Confirm your agenda item selections are there

- ◆ You will now see your stance in the blue button for the particular bill
- ◆ Select “**Next**” to continue

Step 1: Hearings Select a hearing	Step 2: Agenda Items Select an agenda item	Step 3: Contact Provide contact information	Step 4: Representing State your representation	Step 5: Acknowledgement Verify and submit request
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Register your position on one or multiple agenda items for **Criminal Jurisprudence - March 22, 2021 - 2:00 PM or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted; E2.010**

Agenda Item	Bill Caption	Note	Position
HB 239 by Murr	Relating to the punishment for certain controlled substance offenses committed in a drug-free zone; increasing criminal penalties.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>
HB 246 by Murr	Relating to the prosecution of the criminal offense of improper relationship between educator and student.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>
HB 376 by Smith	Relating to the punishment for the criminal offense of improper sexual activity with a person in custody; increasing a criminal penalty.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>
HB 402 by Hernandez	Relating to the use of certain funds derived from criminal asset forfeiture to provide services to domestic victims of trafficking.		<input type="button" value="Position: Neutral Testify: No"/>
HB 489 by Wu	Relating to providing certain information to criminal defendants before a plea is entered or before the defendant elects to have punishment assessed by a jury.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>
HB 703 by Gervin-Hawkins	Relating to the imposition of consecutive sentences for more than one criminal offense of injury to a child, elderly individual, or disabled individual arising out of the same criminal episode.		<input type="button" value="Register"/>

Showing 1 to 6 of 16 items.



→ Step 3: Provide contact information

- ◆ Enter all of your contact information
- ◆ Select **“Next”** when completed

Step 1: Hearings Select a hearing	Step 2: Agenda Items Select an agenda item	Step 3: Contact Provide contact information	Step 4: Representing State your representation	Step 5: Acknowledgement Verify and submit request
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OPTIONAL: [Load previously saved witness contact information](#)

First Name:

Last Name:

Title (optional):

Contact Address:

City/State: TX

ZIP Code:

Phone Number:

OPTIONAL: [Save for future registrations](#)

→ Step 4: State your representation

- ◆ Unless you have explicit permission to represent an organization, you will select “**No.**”
- ◆ It will ask for your occupation, so just put whatever simplified name of your position is easiest.

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Are you an authorized representative of a business, group, organization, agency, or governmental entity? Yes No

Representing Self - Enter your occupation or profession:

You have 0 pending agenda item selections.
Your current selections are listed below.

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 items.

Agenda Item	Hearing	Testify	Position
HB 402 by Hernandez	Criminal Jurisprudence - March 22, 2021 - 2:00 PM or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted; E2.010	No	Neutral

→ Step 5: Acknowledgement

- ◆ Acknowledge that all the information you have submitted is correct and that you are the person you say you are, present in the Capitol Complex, and that you electronically approve this form
- ◆ *Note: This form is legally binding. Please don't drop a card on behalf of someone else!*

Step 1: Hearings Select a hearing	Step 2: Agenda Items Select an agenda item	Step 3: Contact Provide contact information	Step 4: Representing State your representation	Step 5: Acknowledgement Verify and submit request
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Contact Information Jules Mandel Edit Contact Information

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 items.

Agenda Item	Bill Caption	Hearing	Position	Remove
HB 402 by Hernandez	Relating to the use of certain funds derived from criminal asset forfeiture to provide s...	Criminal Jurisprudence - March 22, 2021 - 2:00 PM or upon final adjourn./recess o...	Position: Neutral Testify: No Self	Remove

Read and acknowledge disclaimer before proceeding: I acknowledge that by signing or marking this document, I am swearing an oath to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. I solemnly swear and affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the information entered herein and the testimony I may give in connection with this official proceeding are true and correct, that I am physically present in the Capitol Complex, and that I have personally affixed my electronic signature to this form, or that I am testifying pursuant to Rule 4, Section 20(g).

[Start Over/Exit](#)
[Add Another Agenda Item](#)
[Previous](#)
[Finish](#)