

Quick Guide for Physicians Testifying before the Texas Legislature



Message Tips Legislative Testimony

Physicians Caring for Texans

Make it personal. Make it relevant

- Convey what is important to *your patients* and community
- Always position the message from the perspective of "my patient," "my practice," and "patient access to care"
- TALK to legislators and share stories; do not simply READ your testimony.

Keys to success: Know your message. Develop an outline (and follow it). Use a story/practice example. Get to the point quickly.

Common mistakes

- Not knowing your main message; no focus
- Being too complicated, using "medicalese," giving too much information/too many facts
- Not practicing your testimony
- Not anticipating questions (and preparing potential answers)
- Reading your testimony
- "Winging it"

Tips for Taking Control of the Testimony

Redirecting: Technique to help you deliver the message you want delivered – different from the premise that's been stated

- "The real issue is..."
- "My experience is..."
- "What I see in my practice is..."
- "The patient suffers when..."
- "What's important to my patients is..."

Bridging: Use legislator's lead to make your point

- "That's a good point **and** in fact I see [x] in my practice every day...(elaborate)"
- "That's one perspective **and** in truth..."
- "Some people say that **and** the situation in my town is..."
- "Yes, and the reality in my practice [or for my patients] is ..."

If you can't answer the question exactly as the legislator asks, here are few ways to answer and get your message across:

- "I'm not certain of that, but here's what I do know..."
- "This is what I see in my practice every day..."
- "This is what is important to my patients..."
- "The reality of today's health care system is..."
- "That's not my expertise..."

If a lawmaker asks a "Yes" or "No" question (but the answer is not that simple) – use these effective responses:

- "Medicine is art. This issue [or medicine in general] is often not black and white..."
- "It's not that simple; though there are trends and protocols, every patient is different..."



Division of Advocacy

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- Scope of Practice
- Mospital/Facility/ Medical Staff Issues
- 3 Rural Health
- 4 Telemedicine
- Corporate Practice of Medicine
- 6 Licensure/TMB
- Professional Liability
- 8 Privacy

Clayton Stewart

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 Insurance Issues
 - a. Health Insurance Literacy
 - **b.** Network Adequacy/ Limited Networks
 - c. Disclosure/Transparency
 - d. Payment Issues- In Network/Out of Network
- Quality Improvement
- Worker's Comp

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- Children's health/Safety
- 4 Health Information Technology
- 3 Advanced Directives
- 4 Taxes
- 6 Long-term Care
- 6 Public Health
- Medical Records

Michelle Romero

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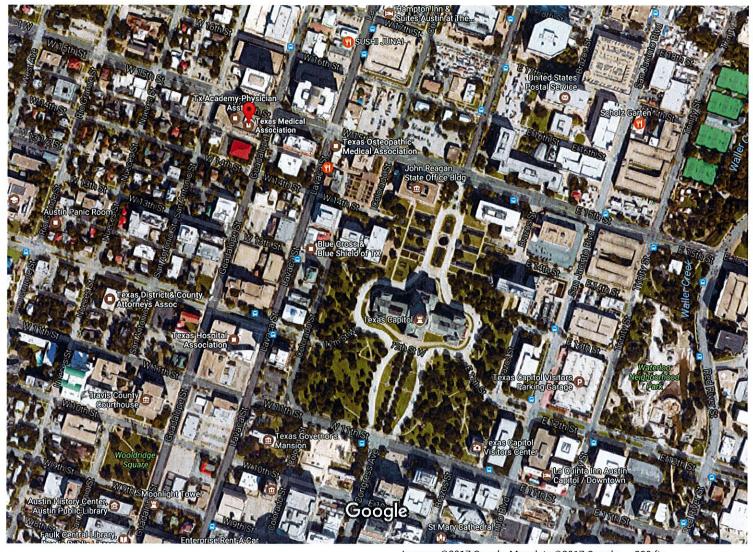
Michelle.romero@texmed.org

- Appropriations/Budget
- 2 Medicaid/CHIP
- Mental Health
- 4 GME/Workforce
- 6 EMS/Trauma
- 6 Birth Outcomes
- Women's Health
- Medical Science



Texas Medical Association

Witness Capitol Map for Committee Testimony



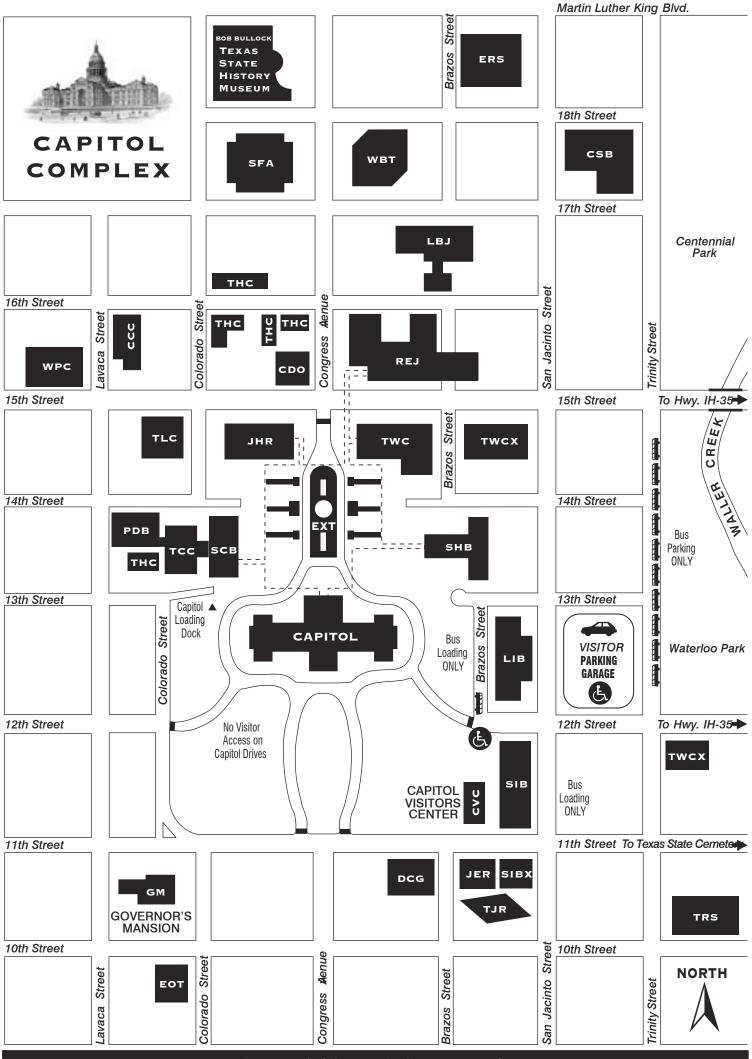
Imagery ©2017 Google, Map data ©2017 Google 200 ft

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The San Antonio Street entrance to the TMA parking garage opens at 7:00am.

Park on the P2 level of the garage and take the elevators to the 1st floor street level to get to the Capitol.

Security can be reached at 512-370-1575 if you have any problems at the building.

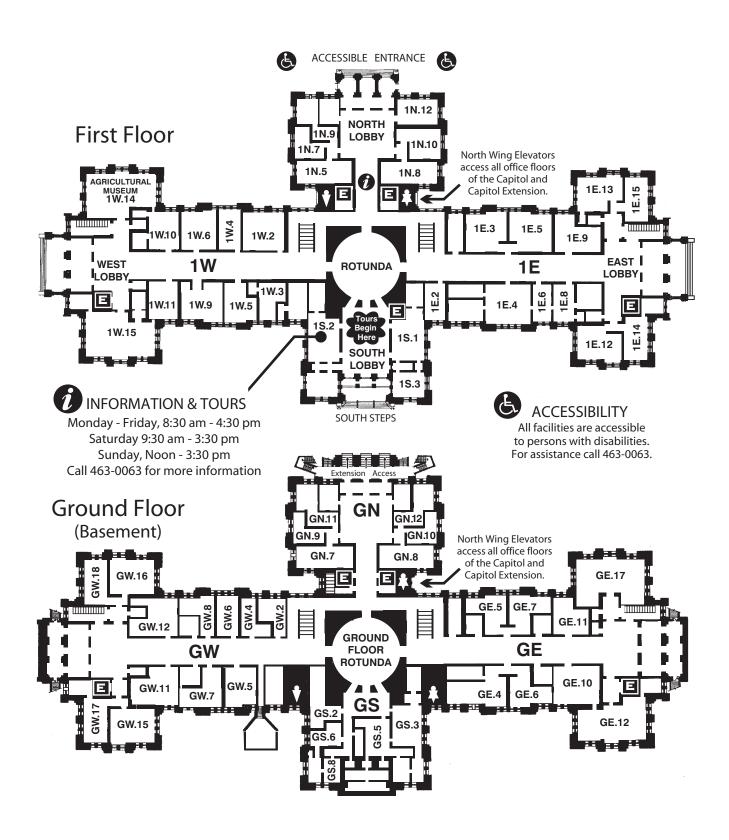


CAPITOL COMPLEX

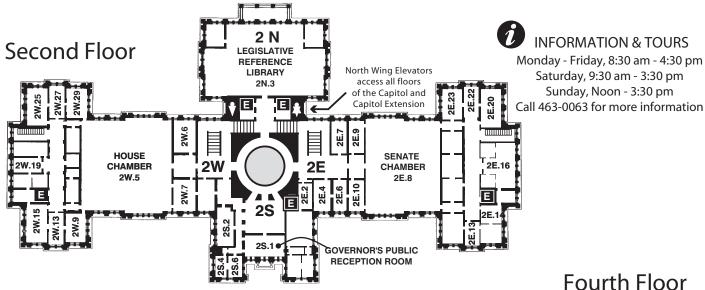
- CCC Capitol Complex Child Care Center
- CVC Capitol Visitors Center
- CDO Capitol District Office
- CSB Central Services Building
- DCG Dewitt C. Greer
- EOT Ernest O. Thompson
- ERS Employee Retirement System EXT Capitol Extension (Underground)
- GM Governor's Mansion
- JER James Earl Rudder

- JHR John H. Reagan
- LBJ Lyndon B. Johnson
- LIB Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library
- PDB Price Daniel Sr. Building
- REJ Robert E. Johnson SCB Supreme Court Building
- SFA Stephen F. Austin
- Sam Houston Building SHB
- SIB State Insurance Building SIBX State Insurance Building Annex

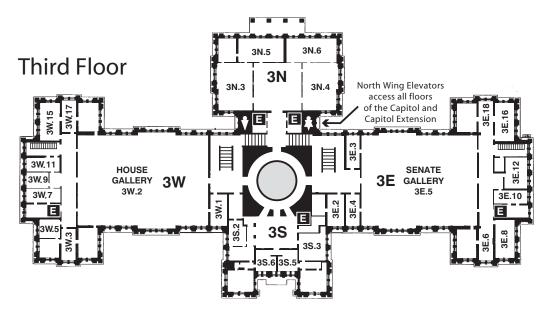
- TCC Tom C. Clark
- Thomas Jefferson Rusk TJR
- TRS Teacher Retirement System
- THC Texas Historical Commission
- TSHM Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum
- Texas Workforce Commission TWC
- Texas Workforce Commission Annex **TWCX**
 - TI C Texas Law Center
- WBT WIlliam B. Travis
 WPC William P. Clements, Jr.

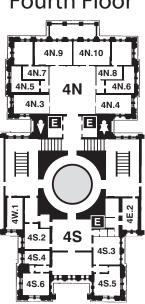


CAPITOL BUILDING GUIDE FLOORS 1 & GROUND



Capitol Extension Access: Take the North Wing elevators to Floor E1 or E2 of the underground Capitol Extension. Please visit the Capitol Giftshop on Floor E1 for Texas and Capitol mementos and books, as well as mints, medicines, and other sundries. Also located on level E1 are a public cafeteria, an Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) and vending machines.

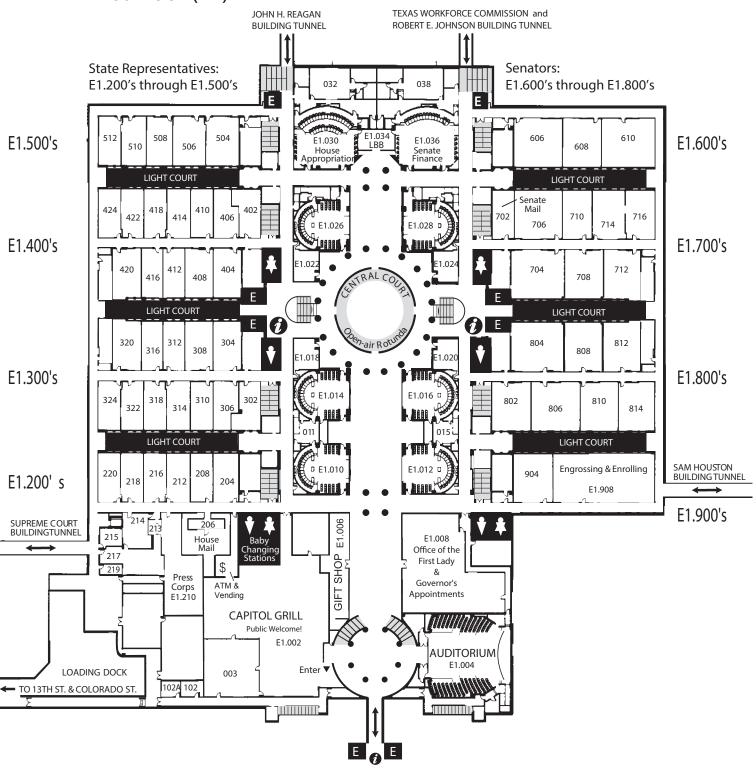




ACCESSIBILITY
All facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. For assistance call 463-0063.

FLOORS 2, 3, & 4

Extension First Floor (E1)

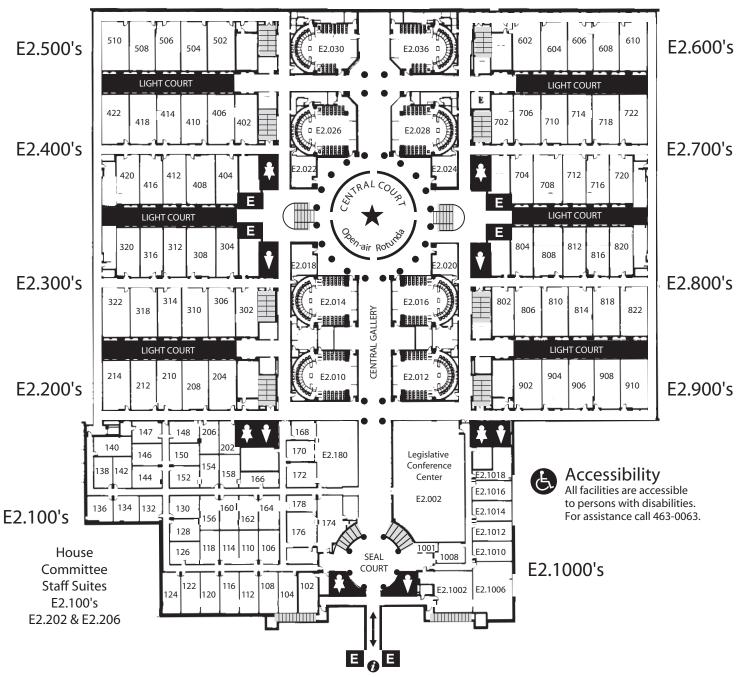


ELEVATORS TO CAPITOL NORTH WING

Capitol Extension Guide
Floor E1

Extension Second Floor (E2)

State Representatives Offices E2.200 through E2.900's



ELEVATORS TO CAPITOL NORTH WING

Capitol Extension Guide Floor E2

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GOVERNO	OR		SECURITY / EMERGENCY			
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Secretary of State	Capitol	1E.8				
SENATE						
Senate Chamber Senate Gallery Lieutenant Governor Secretary of the Senate	Capitol Capitol Capitol Capitol	2E.8 3E.5 2E.13 2E.22	Senate Sergeant at Arms Lt. Gov.'s Reception Room Ramsey Reception Room Betty King Committee Room	Capitol Capitol	2E.10 2E.16 2E.14 2E.20	
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	HOUSE (OF RE	PRESENTATIVES			
House Chamber House Gallery Speaker of the House Chief of Staff Chief Clerk	Capitol Capitol Capitol Capitol Capitol	2W.5 3W.2 2W.13 2W.27 2W.29	House Research House Sergeant At Arms Speaker's Committee Room Speaker's Conference Room Center Conference Room	Capitol Capitol	E2.180 2W.7 2W.6 2W.15 3W.9	

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GN.12

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GW.17

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Appropriations	Extension	E1.032
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Urban Affairs	Extension	E2.126
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For concerns and information on accomm	odations	

For concerns and information on accommodations for people with disabilities, please contact:

- Senate ADA Coordinator: Delicia Sams (512)463-0400
- House ADA Coordinator: James Freeman (512)463-0865

