# Finding Changes to a Law Using Texas Legislature Online

www.legis.state.tx.us

February 2015
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## The Goal

The goal of this handout is to assist you with updating the fee schedule for your department.

# **Step 1:** Getting Started

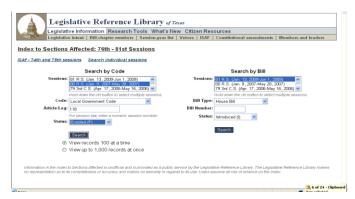
Go to: www.legis.state.tx.us

Click on "Legislative Reference Library" located on the left side of the Home Page under the Related Links heading. From that home page, click on "Index to Sections Affected." This will take you to a new screen that allows you to search for changes that have been made to a particular section of the Texas Codes.

# **Step 2:** Searching for Changes to the Code

- 1. Under "Search by Code," locate the "Session" box. Choose the 80<sup>th</sup> Legislature, Regular Session by selecting 80 R.S. (Jan 9, 2007 May 28, 2007) on the pull-down menu.
- 2. Next, choose the code in which you want to search for any changes by making a selection from the "Code" pull-down menu.





- **3.** If you know the Section or Article number of the specific section of the code you want to see, enter it in the "Section/Legislature" box.
- **4.** Now choose the **Enrolled Version** of the law from the "Status" pull-down menu. The Enrolled version is the text of the bill as it is finally passed by BOTH houses of the legislature. This version is the final version of the bill as signed by the Governor; this version is known as "the law."
- **5.** Finally, click on the "Search" button to send your request. You will be taken to a screen that displays all of the bills that have made changes to this code section during the most recent legislative session.
- **6.** Click on the bill that you wish to view under the "Bill/Section" column. This will take you to a new screen displaying the different versions of the selected bill.

## **Step 3: Viewing a Bill**

Once you have retrieved a bill, click on the icon in the Text column to select the **Enrolled** version of the bill. This will display the text of the bill as it was passed by both houses of the legislature and signed by the Governor.

#### How to read the changes:

When text is **added** to a code section, the new text is displayed as <u>underlined</u>.

When text is **removed** from a code section, the old text is displayed as [strikethrough with brackets].

#### For example:

"(b) The comptroller shall deposit the money received under <u>Subsection</u> (a)(1) [this section] to the credit of the child abuse and neglect prevention trust fund..."

