

Together our voices are stronger, advocating for greater access to addiction prevention, treatment and recovery support in Texas.





Recovery Day at the Capitol 2023

To Register:

https://recoverypeople.org/advocates/recovery -day-at-the-capitol/

Date: April 5, 2023 @ 8:00 AM

Today's Objectives:

- 1. How to prepare for Recovery Day at the Capitol?
- 2. What are some of the bills that have been filed thus far?



Be Prepared!

- → Check the weather
- → Dress for success, but wear comfortable shoes
- → Pack business cards, if you have them
- → If you are not early, you are late
- → Account for Austin traffic
- → Self care
 - Dietary needs



Family Life Center- 8am: Morning Briefings and Schmidt-Organizing Jones Family Life Center Capitol Visitors Parking Garage W 11TH ST

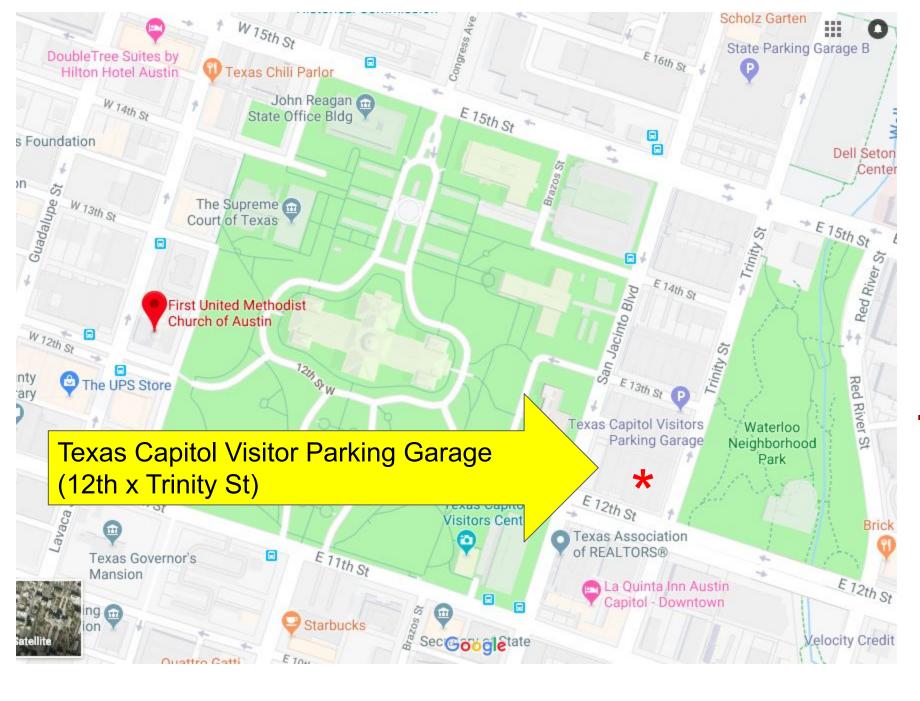
Early Morning Questions

7:30 AM - Where do we park? Capitol Visitors
Parking Garage

7:45 AM - Where is registration, the morning briefing and breakfast?

8:15 AM - What will the briefing be like?

10:00 AM - Where do we take the group photo? West Entrance of Capitol



Early MorningQuestions

7:30 AM - Where do we park?

Remember to account for Austin traffic

WTATHST Family Life Center- 8am: Morning Briefings and Schmidt-Jones Family Life Center Organizing Capitol Visitors Parking Garage W 11TH ST

Early MorningQuestions

7:45 AM - Check In opens; Light breakfast

- → Walk or Uber from the parking garage to Schmidt-Jones Family Life Center
- → Light breakfast and coffee



First United
Methodist Church
of Austin

Family Life Center

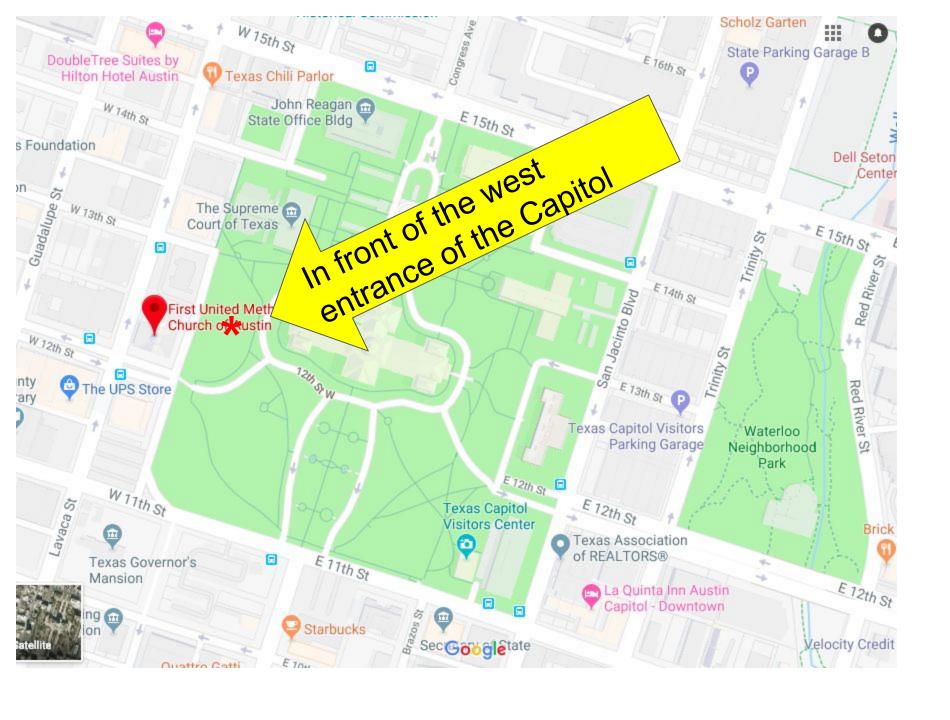
1300 Lavaca St. Austin, TX 78701



Early Morning Questions

8:15 AM - What will the briefing be like?

- → Call to order
- → Welcome to Capitol
- → Logistics and overview of the day
- → Packets
 - Map
 - Appointment schedule
 - **♦** Talking points
 - Leave behind folders
 - Report out forms



Early Morning Questions

10:00 AM - Where do we take the group photo?

→ The West Entrance of the Capitol

Legislative Visits

The Reason You Came to the Capitol!

- → During the morning briefing, you will be given information about your legislative visits.
- → You will make visits as a group by voting District.
- → A team lead will schedule appointments for your group (if there is more than one constituent).
- → You will have one appointment with your Representative and another with your Senator.
- → During Session, meeting with staff is just as effective as meeting with Legislators.



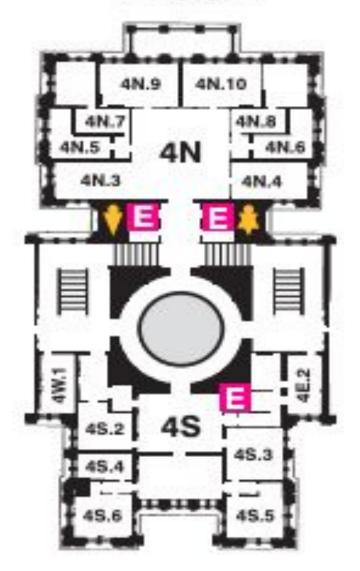
Legislative Visits

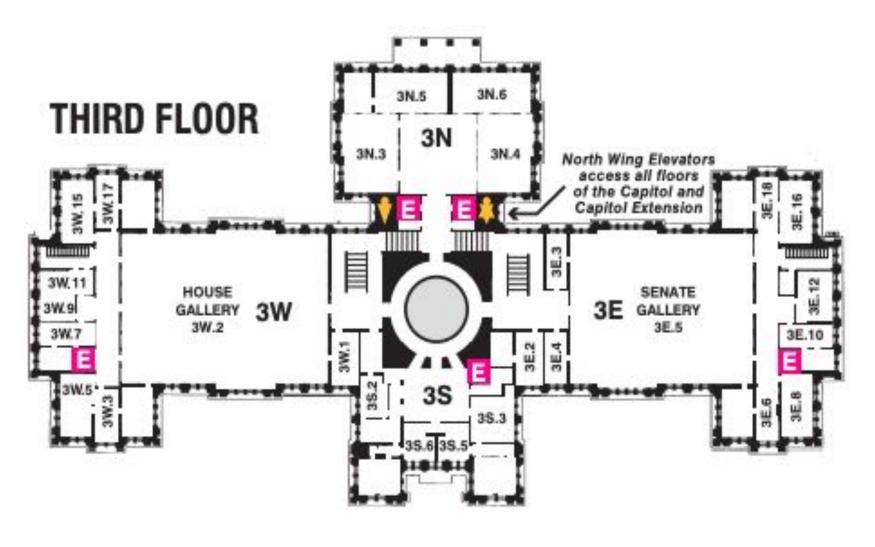
The Reason You Came to the Capitol!

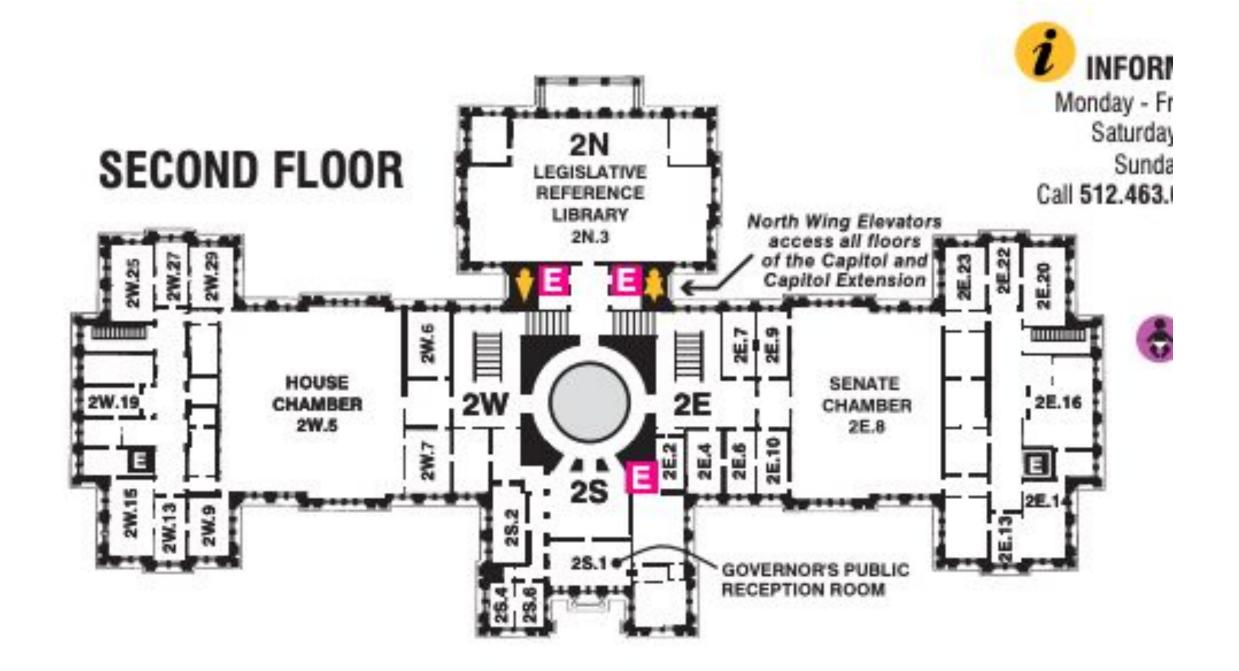
- → The appointment may be in their office. If there is not enough room in their office, they may have scheduled an alternative room or they may meet with you in the hallway.
- → Offices are located across 7 different floors, some above ground and some below.
- → You may want to take the stairs, when the elevators are too busy.

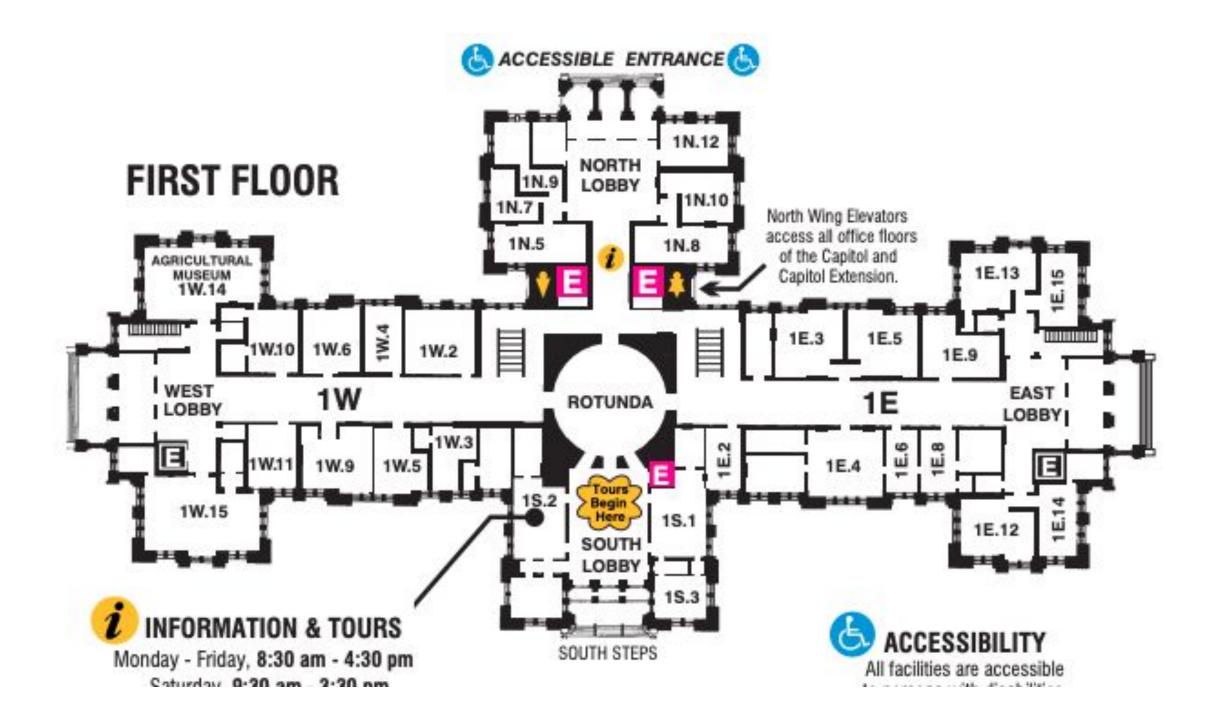
Floor	Room Number Example
4th floor	4N.10
3rd floor	3S.15
2nd floor	2W.12
1st floor	1E.20
Ground (basement) Sub 0	GW.4
Extension Sub 1	E1.234
Extension Sub 2	E2.502

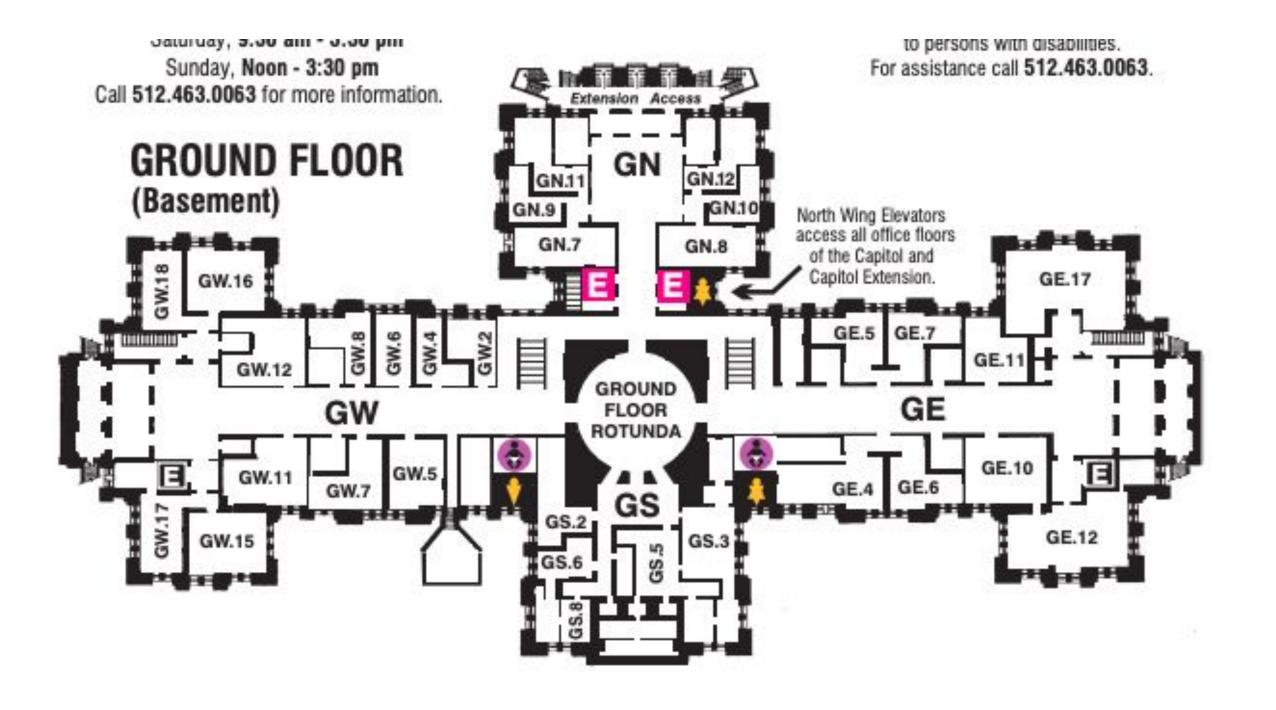
FOURTH FLOOR

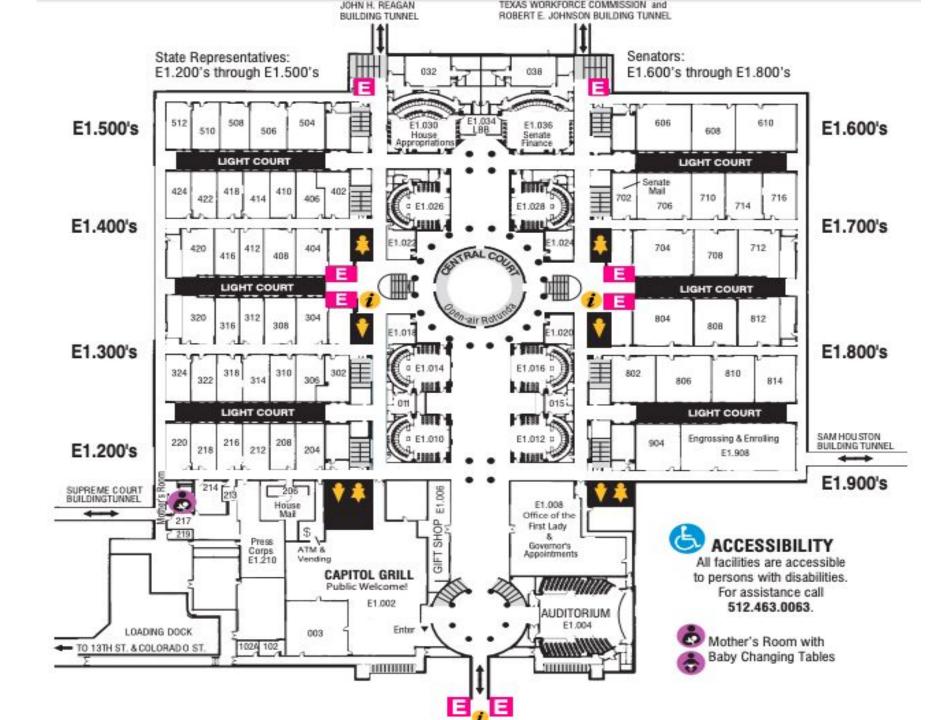












EXTENSION SECOND FLOOR (E2)

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



Legislative Visits

The Reason You Came to the Capitol!

- → Before stepping into the appointment, identify who in your group is responsible for delivering each of the talking points.
 - Prevention
 - **♦** Treatment
 - Recovery services
- → Due to limited time, be brief.
- → Make the <u>ASK</u>. Ask them to support or oppose legislation.
- → Make the offer to:
 - ♦ Be a resource
 - Connect them with answers
 - Stay connected after Session



Report Outs

The Reason You Came to the Capitol!

- → After your visit, complete a Report Out form, which can be found in your packet.
- → Describe how the meeting went, including follow-up action items, commitments or concerns
- → Turn in the form to the Recovery Capitol Day Team, who will be stationed at one of the cafeteria tables:
 - ◆ Capitol Grill, Extension / Extension E1

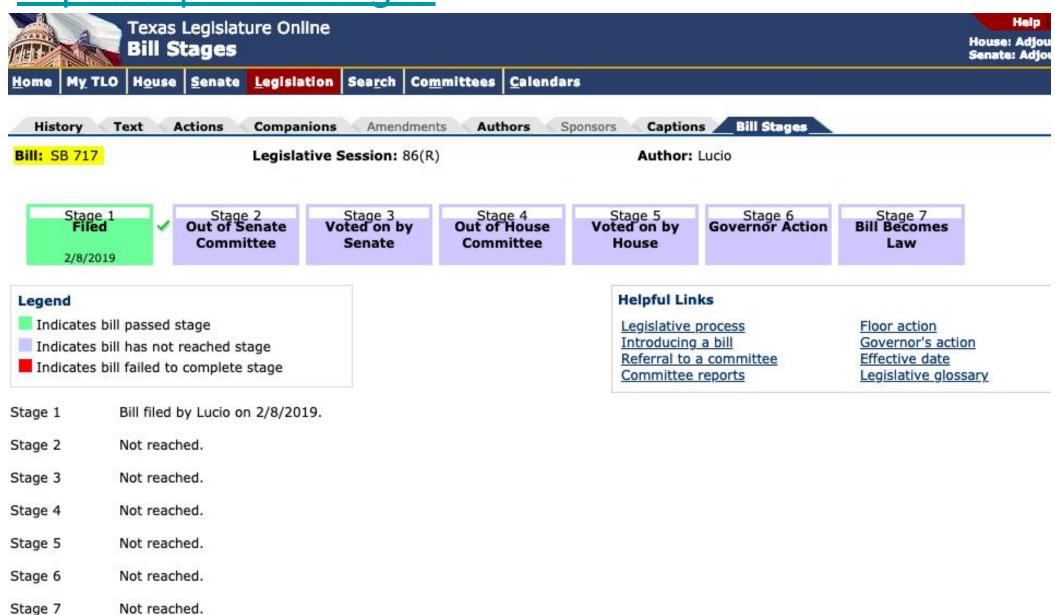


What's Next?

- → Stay connected!
- → Track bills through the process.
- → Make calls or send emails in support or opposition.
- → Hearings:
 - ♦ Watch online
 - Register in support or opposition
 - Submit written testimony
 - Provide oral testimony



https://capitol.texas.gov



What's been filed so far?

Legislative Topics: HB 233/SB 831 Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation training hours

What does HB 233 do?

- Updates bill originally passed in 1993 that established 8 hours annual training requirement for staff in residential SUD treatment facilities
- Reduces annual training hour requirement from 8 to 4 hours
- Maintains initial training requirement at 8 hours

Why do we need it?

- Reduction in annual hours will allow for more staff time to be spent in patient care
- More effective use of staff time rather than repeating same material each year
- Prohibitions related to abuse, neglect & exploitation remain virtually unchanged year to year so annual update with reduced hours will be effective

The ASK?

Vote FOR HB 233; in Senate, support SB 831

Legislative Topics: HB 248 Patient Brokering

What does HB 248 do?

- Updates Treatment Facility Marketing Practices Act and Patient Solicitation Act
- Updates marketing avenues to include the internet and call centers
- Extends prohibitions to outpatient providers and recovery housing providers
- Updates language and penalties for fraud and deceptive marketing
- Creates a task force to study and make recommendations on how to improve enforcement and prevention of illegal conduct with report due Dec 1 of even years

Why do we need it?

- Existing laws passed in early 1990s are out of date
- Corrupt business practices across the state by drug testing labs, treatment and recovery housing providers; some consider this "the way business is done"
- Protect Whistleblowers (Individuals are afraid of losing safety, housing, and/or jobs)

The ASK?

Support HB 248 (Murr)

Legislative Topics: HB 299 Recovery Housing

What does HB 299 do?

- Adopts a common definition of recovery housing and establishes a voluntary recovery housing accreditation program based on national standards
- Expands investment in training and technical assistance
- Develops and implements state model laws to address corrupt business practices
- Gives clear directions regarding referrals and funding
- Addresses fair housing, over-regulation and NIMBYism

Why do we need it?

- Lack of knowledge around scope of service, codes of ethics and best practices can result in negligence, relapse, injury or death of residents.
- State agencies that received concerns regarding recovery housing have no mechanism for recording or addressing the complaints.
- Over-regulation is a growing problem in Texas and violates fair housing laws.

The ASK?

Support HB 299 (Murr)

Legislative Topics: HB_____ Peer Directed Organizations

What does it do?

- Establishes a definition of a Peer Directed Organizations that is broad enough include peer / family governed entities focused on mental health / substance use, which provides agencies eligibility criteria as funding becomes available.
- Directs agencies to identify potential funding sources
- Governance by peers & affected family members

Why do we need it?

- Elevate & amplify peer services across the SUD and MH spectrum
- Clarity around who can receive funding (Recovery Support Services leg)
- Recovery-oriented
- Increases accountability
- Helps build capacity

The ASK?

Support the Peer Directed Organizations bill (Moody)

Note:

The last day for filing is March 10th, so we still have more to come!



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