



North Texas Citizens Lobby

Welcome

Connecting the Citizens of North Texas with their elected officials



1. Introduction to NTCL - Chuck Molyneaux
2. Researchers - Barbara Harless
3. Citizen Communicators- Brian Gallimore
4. Citizen Lobbyist - Chuck Molyneaux
5. Closing



Introduction to NTCL

MISSION

Through education and active civic participation, restore limited government that benefits all and shows preference to none.



Introduction to NTCL

PRINCIPLES

1. Our governments derive their limited powers from ‘we the people’ for the purpose of protecting the individual’s life, liberty, and property and for the defense from foreign invasion.
2. Each government entity shall practice fiscal responsibility and accountability.
3. Individuals are responsible for the actions of the elected officials and therefore must be informed and involved.



Introduction to NTCL

GOALS

1. Instruct and nurture an increasing number of people how to communicate with Texas elected officials.
2. Provide Instruction and guidance on how to watch over Texas elected officials (and not rely on newsletters or media).
3. Lobby for good legislation and against bad legislation.
4. Encourage and develop citizen statesmen to serve local, county, and state offices.



Introduction to NTCL

Bills

Review and create analysis

- White papers (Word Documents with markup) and talking points for important bills dealing with Rule of Law, Education, Budget & Finance, Election Code, Transportation, Immigration, and Health & Human Services.

The information generated will be used by the citizen lobbyists and citizen communicators in promoting the passage of good bills and preventing passage of bad bills.



Introduction to NTCL

Citizen lobbyists

- Travel to Austin periodically, to meet with staff and Legislators to support good legislation and oppose bad legislation.

We will provide training and support, and will travel in groups so that everyone will be comfortable and effective.

Introduction to NTCL

Citizen communicators

- Contribute to the lobbying effort by writing emails, postcards, making phone calls, and using social media to influence legislators.

Communications will also be directed to NTCL members as well as un-involved citizens in and around the metroplex to pass on important information related to NTCL and encourage participation in our government.



3 ROLES

- ❑ RESEARCHERS
- ❑ COMMUNICATORS
- ❑ CITIZEN LOBBYISTS



Researchers

- ❖ **Backbone of North Texas Citizens' Lobby**
 - Support the good Legislators
 - Support the good bills/oppose the bad bills
 - Create:
 - Marked up Bills for NTCL Lobbyists
 - Message for NTCL Communicators

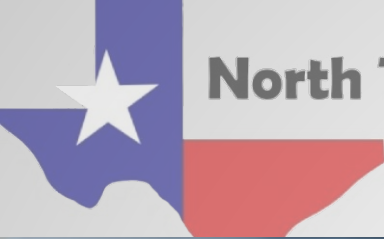
NTCL Legislative Priorities

- 2nd AMENDMENT RIGHTS / RULE OF LAW
- IMMIGRATION
- VOTER FRAUD
- BUDGET & FINANCE
- HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
- EDUCATION
- TRANSPORTATION



How to Find Bills

- **SET UP** your TLO account
(YouTube video)
- **FIND** bills using the TLO “text search”
(YouTube video)



North Texas Citizens Lobby

83rd Legislature Regular Session
Texas Legislature Online

Help | FAQ | Site Map | Contact | Login

House: Adjourned sine die
Senate: Adjourned sine die

Home | My TLO | House | Senate | Legislation | Search | Committees | Calendars

Texas House

- Home
- Speaker of the House
- Members
- Committees
- Committee Meetings
- Committee Witnesses **NEW!**
- Calendars
- Current Amendment
- Journals
- News
- House Research Organization
- Kids' House

Texas Senate

- Home
- Lieutenant Governor
- Members
- Committees
- Committee Meetings
- Calendars
- Journals
- News
- Senate Research Center
- Senate Kids

Search Legislation

Legislature: 83(R) - 2013

Word/Phrase Bill Number

Additional Searches

[Text Search](#) [Statutes](#)
[Bill Lookup](#) [Constitution](#)
[Bill Search](#) [Reports](#)
[Amendments](#) [View Votes](#)
[Sections Affected](#) [Administrative Code](#)
[Legislative Archive System](#)

How Do I ...

[Find list of filed bills?](#)
[Follow the status of a bill?](#)
[Contact my legislator?](#)
[Find how a legislator voted?](#)
[Find when hearings are scheduled?](#)
[View the text of a bill?](#)
[Testify at a House committee hearing?](#)

[more>>](#)

My TLO

[Track Legislation With Bill Lists](#)
[Receive Bill and Meeting Alerts](#)
[Subscribe to RSS Feeds](#)

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:



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4OdaoxqYb08&feature=youtu.be

TLO -- Performing a Simple...

You Tube

How to Use the
Texas Legislature Online Website
(TLO Website)
www.capitol.state.tx.us
This video will feature:
**Performing Simple Text Searches for
Bills of Interest**

0:03 / 6:12

TLO -- Performing a Simple Text Search for Bills in the TX Legislature

1:03:09
1:48:20
31:56
45:30
6:59
LEGO MARVEL

140%

6:59 PM



North Texas Citizens Lobby

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0ncTc5rdiw&feature=youtu.be

You Tube

Upload Sign In

How to Use the
Texas Legislature Online Website
(TLO Website)
www.capitol.state.tx.us
This video will feature:
**Setting Up "Bill Lists"
and "Bill Alerts"
using MY TLO**

TLO-Setting Bill Lists & Alerts_version 2

Barbara Harless

34 views

1:03:09
1:48:20
31:56
45:30
4:28

6:55 PM

Connecting the Citizens of North Texas with their elected officials

Creating the Message

- MARKUP bills using “comments” in margin
(YouTube video)
- CREATE ALERT using NTCL template
(NTCL.org)



HB 2870 Mrakup_BH [Compatibility Mode] - Microsoft Word

File Home Insert Page Layout References Mailings Review

Spelling & Grammar Proofing Research Thesaurus Word Count Language Translate Language

New Comment Delete Previous Next Comments

Track Changes Show Markup Reviewing Pane Tracking

Accept Reject Changes Previous Next Compare Compare Block Authors Restrict Editing Protect

Insert Comment
Add a comment about the selection.

By: Capriglione H.B. No. 2870

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

relating to confidentiality of information related to toll projects.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
SECTION 1. Section 371.052(d), Transportation Code, is repealed.)

SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to

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Comment [2]: E
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Page: 1 of 1 Words: 168 140%



Citizen Communicators





Citizen Communicators

Q:

Which path is the 'right' path of communication (social media, email, phone call, fax, hand-written letter)?



Citizen Communicators

Q:

Which path is the 'right' path of communication?

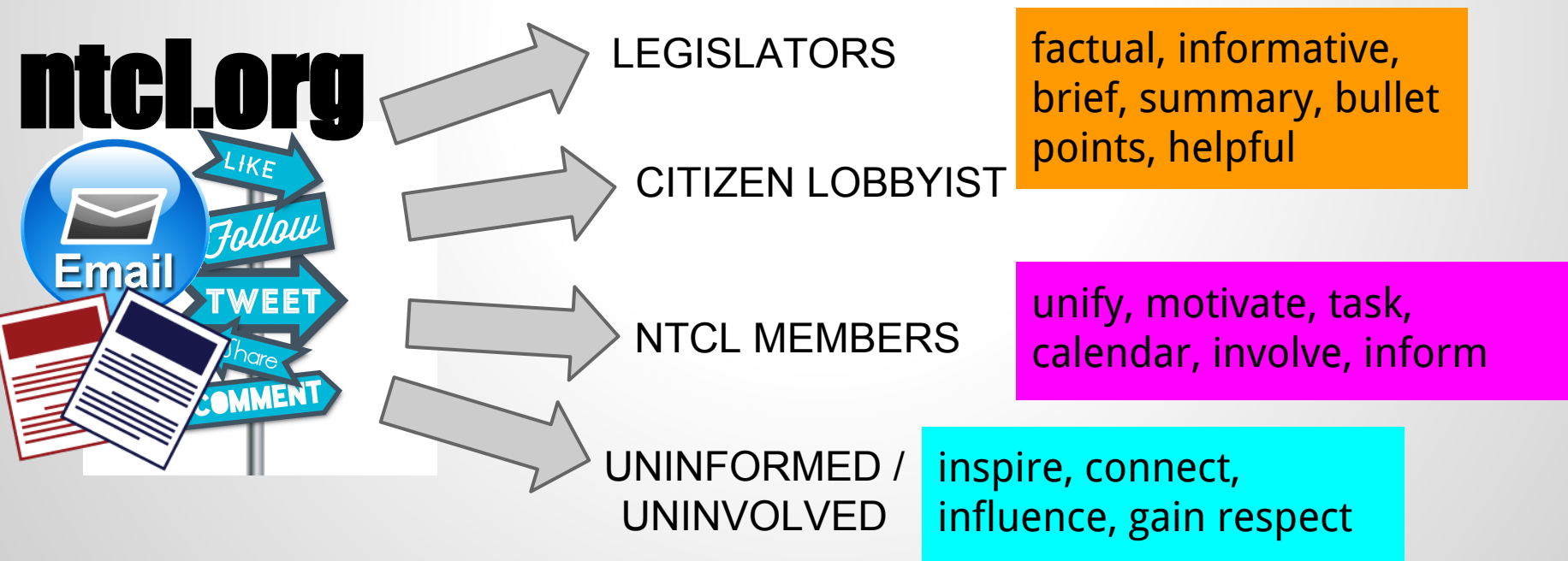
A:

The one that works!



Citizen Communicators

Who is your audience?



Citizen Communicators

- Use materials from researchers as core
- Create articles, newsletter, handouts, etc
- Create snippets, talking points, memes, etc
- Inform NTCL members, calendar
- Inspire uninvolved to make a difference



Citizen Communicators

Publicize good things

and bad

commissioners, state legislators, local issues

Citizen Communicators

social media -- what works, what doesn't
avoid:

- spam -- excessive posts
- upsetting people by including them in massive emails w/ addresses in To or Cc line (exposing addresses)
- reposting nonsense or false information

Citizen Communicators

social media -- what works, what doesn't
good:

- establish reputation and trust
- provide value (unique, source of truth)
- connections



Citizen Communicators

Example:

Barbara research on the subject of toll roads and finds that the chair of the transportation committee is against transparency in road studies.

By: Capriglione H.B. No. 2870

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

relating to confidentiality of information related to toll projects.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 371.052(d), Transportation Code, is repealed.

SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to a comprehensive development agreement for which a request for proposals is issued on or after the effective date of this Act. A comprehensive development agreement for which a request for proposals was issued before the effective date of this Act is

Comment [1]: Current law effectively keeps toll viability studies SECRET from the public.

Comment [2]: **REPEALING:** Transp Code 371.052(d): NOTIFICATION TO LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD.
(d) Before the comprehensive development agreement is entered into, financial forecasts and traffic and revenue reports prepared by or for a toll project entity for the project are confidential and are not subject to disclosure, inspection, or copying under Chapter 552, Government Code.

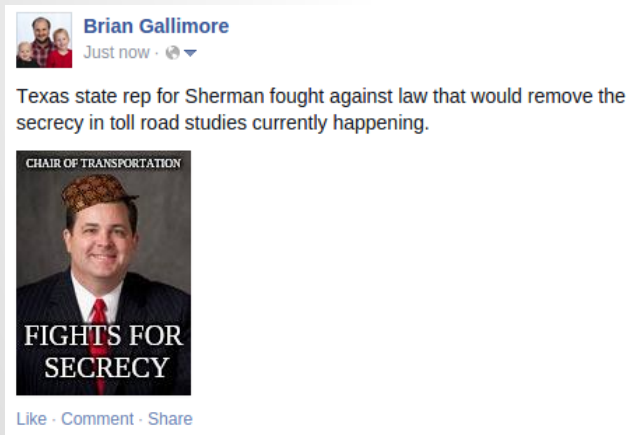
Citizen Communicators

Shortest possible message? With a picture?



Citizen Communicators

Internet memes -- potential of spreading, have a chance of being read if short enough, funny enough... *...but...*



Citizen Communicators

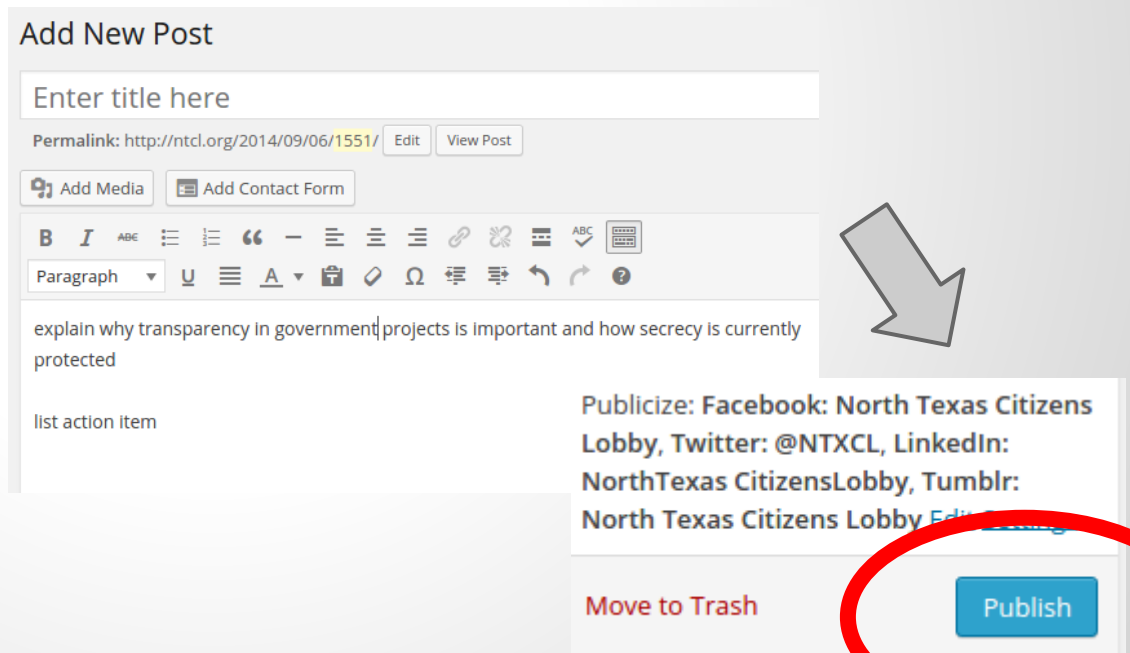
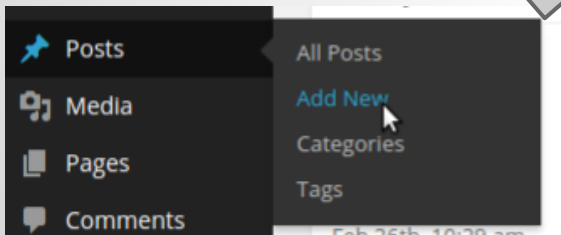
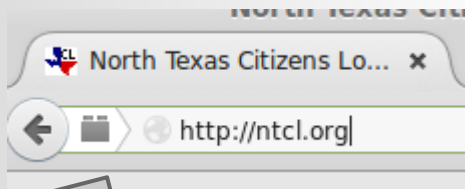
More (serious) methods:

- Blog articles
 - can be very in-depth
 - can have multiple links, videos
 - easy to share
 - generates conversations
- NTCL Newsletter
 - good to pass out or leave out for others
 - many people still want to read on paper



Citizen Communicators

Write an article to explain the bill:



The screenshot shows the WordPress "Add New Post" editor interface. At the top, there is a text input field labeled "Enter title here". Below it, a "Permalink" field shows the URL <http://ntcl.org/2014/09/06/1551/> with "Edit" and "View Post" buttons. There are buttons for "Add Media" and "Add Contact Form". A rich text editor toolbar is visible with options for bold, italic, text color, background color, bulleted list, numbered list, quote, link, unlink, table, and text-to-speech. The main text area contains the text "explain why transparency in government projects is important and how secrecy is currently protected" and "list action item". On the right side, there is a social media sharing section with links for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Tumblr. At the bottom right, there is a "Publish" button circled in red, and a "Move to Trash" button.





Citizen Communicators

More methods:

- Direct to Legislators
 - email
 - letters
- Postcards
- Phone Calls

Citizen Communicators



No matter which path is being used the goals, mission, and principles of NTCL guide our actions when representing NTCL.

Citizen Lobbyist

Depart at 5:30 am arrive around 9 am

Personal cars - ride share - cost share

Visit elected officials

Visit house or senate Chamber

Participate in committee hearings

Depart around 3:30 pm - arrive around 9 pm

Citizen Lobbyist

Visit elected officials (9 -11)

1. Contact legislators you wish to discuss the issues with ahead of time if possible.
2. Know your topic, provide handouts
3. Get to know the staff by name
4. Make your point clear and concise
5. Wear name badges and leave business card

Citizen Lobbyist

Visit House or Senate gallery (11 -)

1. Listen and observe as bills are discussed, argued, and voted upon. (See how the process works)
2. Learn who supports or objects to the bills
3. Understand the arguments
4. Understand the process

Citizen Lobbyist

Visit Cafeteria (12 - 1)

1. You purchase your own lunch
2. Sit with other lobbyist groups
3. Discover who is doing what
4. Expand your relationships
5. Prepare for committee meeting(s)

Citizen Lobbyist

Visit Committee hearing (1 - 3)

1. Know what committees are meeting before making the trip to Austin
2. Speak at the committee meeting with prepared information & documentation
3. Discover the objections
4. Tell them who you represent
5. Be factual

Citizen Lobbyist

Return home (3 - 8)

1. 35 is under construction - Traffic is heavy
2. Usually do not stop for dinner
3. It's fun, exhilarating, it is beneficial and always enjoyed by all.



10 Reasons to Join NTCL

1. Dr Stuart Spitzer - TX HD4
2. Molly White - TX HD55
3. Matt Shaheen - TX HD66
4. Tony Tinderholt - TX HD94
5. Rodney Anderson - TX HD105
6. Matt Rinaldi - TX HD115
7. Bob Hall - TX SD2
8. Van Taylor - TX SD8
9. Konni Burton - TX SD10
10. Don Huffines - TX SD16