

Notable Names in the Minutes: Texas Governors

Posted At : March 2, 2020 9:30 AM | Posted By : TexasLRL

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A few months ago, we shared some notable names in the

minutes—famous figures like Willie Nelson and Larry Hagman who have testified at legislative hearings. But sometimes the notable figures come from the executive branch of the Texas government:

- Governor Ann Richards **testified** on March 3, 1991, before the **House Insurance Committee** in favor of an insurance bill (**HB 2, 72R**) that later passed. During a special session, she testified on July 16, 1991, before the Senate State Affairs Committee for a government reorganization bill (**SB 7, 72nd 1st C.S.**) that did not pass. Typescripts of her prepared testimonials are available for both bills—with a caveat noted on her **testimony for SB 7** that "Governor Richards frequently deviates from prepared remarks."
- Governor George W. Bush testified on the need for tort reform at the 74th Legislature's **Senate Committee on Economic Development** meeting on **February 2, 1995**. (Search within the document to find his name on witness lists for bills **SB 25, SB 28, and SB 32**, all of which passed.) We do not have his testimony transcripts.
- Governor Rick Perry also "frequently departs from prepared remarks," according to the May 20, 2004, **testimony** published for his remarks to the **House Select Committee on Public School Finance** for the 78th Legislature.