

Understanding And Working With The Legislature

Dennis O'Connor

Water Education Foundation

Water 101 – The Basics and Beyond

February 7, 2018



Water Politics Can Be A Full Body Contact Sport



To Play The Game, You Need To Know:

- The Players
- The Rules of the Game
- Some Strategy

Meet The California Legislature

Senate

- 40 Members
 - 28 Dems
 - 10 Reps
 - 2 Vacancies
- 4 Year Terms
 - 6 – 2020 *
 - 7 – 2022 *
 - 7 – 2024 *
 - 2 – 2024 †
 - 4 – 2026 *
 - 4 – 2026 †
 - 3 – 2028 †
 - 5 – 2030 †

Assembly

- 80 Members
 - 61 Dems
 - 19 Reps
- 2 Year Terms
 - 32 – 2024 †
 - 20 – 2026 †
 - 21 – 2028 †
 - 7 – 2030 †

* Old Term Limit Rules (3 Asm, 2 Sen)

† New Term Limits Rules (12 yrs Total)

Meet The California Legislature

Senate

- 8 Local Government
- 8 Attorney
- 7 Business Owner
- 3 Real Estate
- 2 Educator
- 2 Former Leg Staffer
- 2 Medical
- 2 Organized Labor
- 2 Retired Military
- 2 Miscellaneous

Assembly

- 18 Local Government
- 11 Attorney
- 11 Educator
- 10 Former Leg Staffer
- 6 Business Owner
- 4 Rancher/Farmer
- 3 Medical
- 2 Real Estate
- 2 Law Enforcement
- 13 Miscellaneous

Leadership

Senate



Pro Tem

Toni
Atkins



Minority
Leader
(March 1)
Shannon
Grove

Assembly



Speaker

Anthony
Rendon



Minority
Leader

Marie
Waldron

What Do We Do?

- Adopt Rules
- Pass New Laws
- Appropriate Funds
- Oversight of Executive Branch
- Constituent Services

Legislative Calendar

Key Dates:

- Jan. 10 Budget must be submitted by Governor (Art. IV, Sec. 12(a))
- Jan. 25 Last day to submit bill requests to Legislative Counsel
- Feb. 22 Last day for bills to be introduced
- Apr. 26 Last day for policy committees to hear & report fiscal bills
- May 3 Last day for policy committees to hear & report non-fiscal bills
- May 10 Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 3
- May 17 Last day for fiscal committees to hear & report bills
- May 28 – May 31
Floor Session Only. No committee may meet for any purpose
- May 31 Last day for bills to be passed out of the house of origin

Legislative Calendar

Key Dates:

- Jun 3 Committee meetings may resume
- Jun 15 Budget must be passed by midnight (Art. IV, Sec. 12 (c)(3)).
- July 10 Last day for policy committees to hear & report fiscal bills
- July 12 Last Day for policy committees to meet & report bills
Summer Recess begins upon adjournment (if budget passed)
- Aug. 12 Reconvene from Summer Recess
- Aug. 30 Last day for fiscal committees to meet & report bills to the Floor

Sep. 3 – 13

Floor Session only. No committees, other than Conference Committees & Rules Committee, may meet for any purpose

- Sep. 6 Last day to amend bills on the Floor
- Sep. 13 Last day for each house to pass bills (Art. IV, Sec. 10 (c))
Interim Study Recess begins at the end of this day's session

Standing Committees

Senate

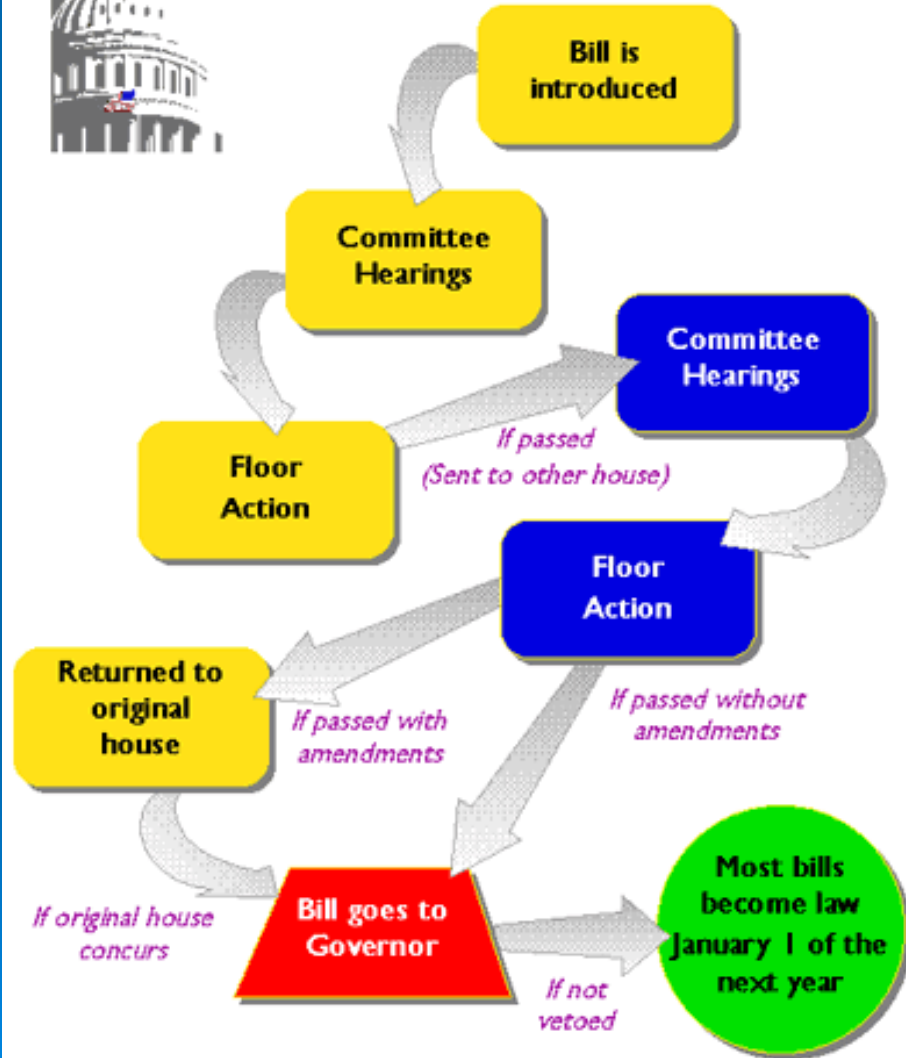
Agriculture
Appropriations
Banking & Financial
Institutions
Budget & Fiscal Review
Business, Professions &
Economic Development
Education
Elections & Constitutional
Amendments
Energy, Utilities &
Communications
Environmental Quality
Governance & Finance
Governmental Organization
Health
Housing
Human Services
Insurance
Judiciary
Labor, Public Employment &
Retirement
Natural Resources & Water
Public Safety
Transportation
Veterans Affairs

Assembly

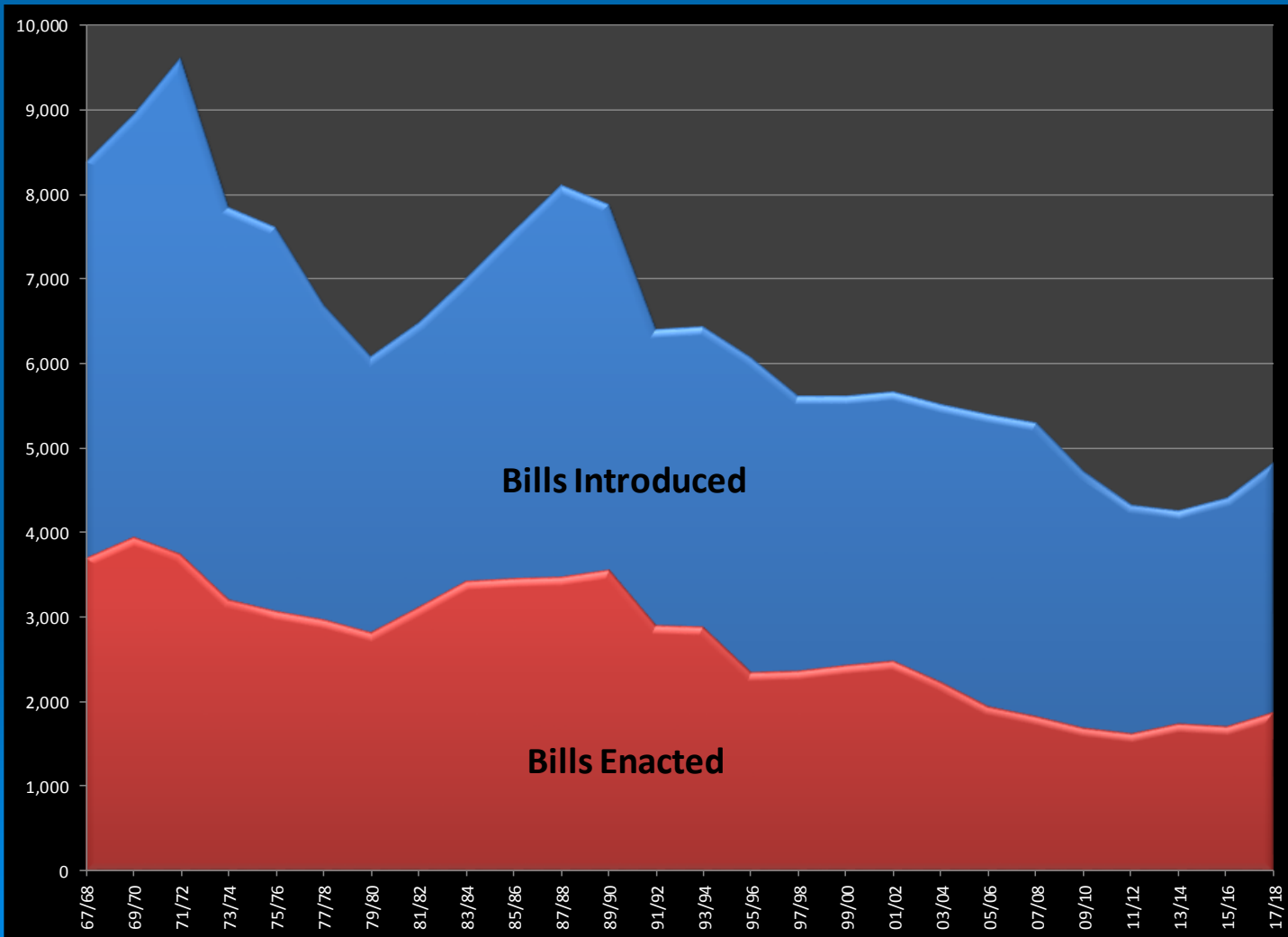
Accountability &
Administrative Review
Aging & Long-Term Care
Agriculture
Appropriations
Arts, Entertainment, Sports,
Tourism, & Internet Media
Banking & Finance
Budget
Business & Professions
Communications &
Conveyance
Education
Elections & Redistricting
Environmental Safety &
Toxic Materials
Governmental Organization
Health
Higher Education
Housing & Community
Development
Human Services
Insurance
Jobs, Economic
Development, & the
Economy
Judiciary
Labor & Employment
Local Government
Natural Resources
Privacy & Consumer
Protection
Public Employment &
Retirement
Public Safety
Revenue & Taxation
Rules
Transportation
Utilities & Energy
Veterans Affairs
Water, Parks, & Wildlife



How a Bill Becomes a Law



Until Recently, Bill Load Has Been Declining



Governor

Senate Floor

Assembly Floor

**Senate Budget
Committee**

**Assembly Budget
Committee**

Senate Budget Subcommittees

- No. 1 Education**
- No. 2 Resources, Environmental Protection,
Energy, & Transportation**
- No. 3 Health & Human Services**
- No. 4 State Administration, General Government,
Judicial, & Veterans Affairs**
- No. 5 Revenue, the Economy, & Labor**

Assembly Budget Subcommittees

- No. 1 Health & Human Services**
- No. 2 Education & Finance**
- No. 3 Resources**
- No. 4 State Administration**
- No. 5 Information Technology & Transportation**

**Senate Budget
Committee**

**Assembly Budget
Committee**

Senate Floor

Assembly Floor

Senate Floor

Assembly Floor

**Budget Conference
Committee**

Governor

Oversight: Standing & Select Committees

15 Senate Select Committees:*

Asian Pacific Islander Affairs
California's Wine Industry
California, Armenia and Artsakh Mutual Trade, Art & Cultural Exchange
California-Mexico Cooperation
Career Technology and the New Economy
Children with Special Needs
Defense and Aerospace
Manufactured Home Communities
Mental Health
Policy Alignment and State Government Efficiency
Ports and Goods Movement
Student Success
U.S. Citizen Youth Exiled in Mexico
Women and Inequality: Strategies to Promote Opportunity
Women, Work and Families

* 2017-18 legislative session

45 Assembly Select Committees,† Including:

2024 Olympic Games
Aerospace
California-México Bi-National Affairs
California's Clean Energy Economy
Coastal Protection and Access to Natural Resources
Craft Brewing and Distilling
Cybersecurity
End of Life Health Care
Homelessness
Improving Bay Area Transportation Systems
Natural Disaster Response, Recover, and Rebuilding
Ports & Goods Movement
Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education
Status of Boys and Men of Color in California
Wine
Women in the Workplace

† 2017-18 legislative session

Constituent Services

(That Means You!)



Some Strategy


- Understand Our Process
- Know What's Going On
- Know Some Lingo
- Don't Be Shy

You Can't Tell The Players Without A Program

No. 157

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE
AT SACRAMENTO
2011-12 REGULAR SESSION

**Senate
Daily File**



SENATOR DARRELL STEINBERG
President pro Tempore

SENATOR ELLEN M. CORBETT
Majority Floor Leader

SENATOR BOB HUFF
Minority Floor Leader

Compiled Under the Direction of
GREGORY SCHMIDT
Secretary of the Senate
By
MARLISSA HERNANDEZ
Daily File Clerk
and
JAMIE TAYLOR
Assistant Daily File Clerk


SENATE CONVENES AT 2 PM.
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2012
(FLOOR SESSION)

ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVENTH DAY IN SESSION
(Please report any errors or omissions to Daily File Clerk; Phone 651-4171)

No. 158

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE
AT SACRAMENTO
2011-12 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY
DAILY FILE**



HON. JOHN A. PÉREZ
Speaker

HON. RON MA
Speaker pro Tempore

HON. CHARLES M. GALDERON
Majority Floor Leader

HON. MIKE GATTO
Assistant Speaker pro Tempore

HON. CONNIE CONWAY
Minority Floor Leader

E. DOTSON WILSON
Chief Clerk

RUSSELL C. TOMAS
Daily File Clerk

ASSEMBLY CONVENES AT 12 NOON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2012
ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION DAY
FOUR HUNDRED AND FORTY-THIRD CALENDAR DAY

(Please report any errors or omissions in this publication to Daily File Clerk;
Phone 319-2358)

Everything You Want To Know (Almost)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2012

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All Things Bill Related:

<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>

The screenshot shows the California Legislative Information website in a Windows Internet Explorer browser. The address bar displays the URL <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billSearchClient.xhtml>. The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, and Help. The page header features the California Legislative Information logo and navigation links: skip to content, home, accessibility, feedback, and login. A quick search box is present with a dropdown menu for 'Bill Number' and a 'GO' button. The main content area is titled 'WELCOME' and contains the following text:

TODAY'S SCHEDULE
Wed, Feb 6, 2013

FLOOR SCHEDULE
[ASM. CHECK-IN SESSION](#)
STATE CAPITOL 07:00 AM
[SEN. CHECK-IN SESSION](#)
STATE CAPITOL 09:00 AM

COMMITTEE HEARINGS
[SEN RULES](#)
Room 113 02:00 PM

WELCOME

The California Legislature is pleased to announce a new web site for accessing California legislative information! Some of you may have already accessed a beta site over the past few months. We appreciate the feedback and have incorporated many of the suggestions provided.

Some of the major features available with this new site include:

- Today's Law As Amended Feature**
Identifies textual differences between existing law and proposed law
- New Text Search Functionality**
Significant improvements for bill searches and California law searches
- All Text Search Results Are Now Highlighted**
Provides clear identification of search results
- California Law Code**
Code sections are cross-referenced to chaptered bills
- Improved Bill Subscription Service**
The bill subscription service is a fast way to track bills throughout the legislative session. Based on your subscription preferences, you will be notified of legislative actions taken on the bill.

PDF Bill Versions
Please continue to use the leginfo.ca.gov website to access the bill's PDF version with page and line numbers. It is our objective to provide PDF bill versions in a future release.

We want to hear from you!
We encourage you to use Feedback to provide your comments regarding the usability of this site. Your feedback will help us continue to build a product that better serves you. We review all feedback but may not always be able to respond with a personal reply.

Privacy and Conditions of Use Policy

The browser's status bar at the bottom shows 'Internet | Protected Mode: Off' and the system tray displays the time as 2:43 PM on 02/06/2013.

Query Any Bill

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Bill Search - Windows Internet Explorer provided by Office Of Legislative Counsel". The address bar contains the URL <http://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billSearchAdvClient.xhtml>. The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, and Help. The Favorites bar shows "bills Bill Search", "California State Assembly...", "California Code of Regula...", and "Welcome to Senateweb! ...". The browser toolbar includes Home, Feeds (0), Read Mail, Print, Page, Safety, Tools, and Help. The main content area features the "California LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION" logo and navigation links: [skip to content](#), [home](#), [accessibility](#), [feedback](#), and [login](#). A "Quick Search:" box is present with a "Bill Number" dropdown and a "Go" button. Below this is a navigation bar with "Bill Information", "California Law", and "My Subscriptions". The "Bill Information >> Bill Search" section contains a "Bill Search" tab and a "Text Search" tab. The search form includes fields for "Bill Number:", "Session Year:" (set to "2013 - 2014"), "Keyword(s):", "House:" (set to "Both"), "Author:" (set to "All"), "Statute Year:", and "Chapter Number:". A note reads "For a phrase: 'Surround it with Quotes'". "Search" and "Clear" buttons are at the bottom of the form. The browser status bar shows "Internet | Protected Mode: Off" and "100%". The Windows taskbar at the bottom displays the Start button, taskbar icons for Office applications, and system tray icons for Desktop, network, volume, and date/time (2:51 PM, 02/06/2013).

Track Bills Via Subscription

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the California Legislative Information website. The address bar shows the URL <http://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/home.xhtml>. The page features a navigation menu with 'Bill Information', 'California Law', and 'My Subscriptions' (the active page). A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is titled 'My Subscriptions' and includes a form to 'ADD A NEW BILL TO TRACK' with fields for 'AB' (dropdown), 'Measure Number' (text input), 'Regular' (dropdown), and 'Session Type' (dropdown), followed by a 'Submit' button. Below the form, it states 'BILLS TRACKED: 0' and includes a note: 'NOTE: All subscriptions will be deleted at the end of their respective two-year session.' The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system tray with the date '02/06/2013' and time '2:56 PM'.

Anything Else Legislative:

<http://www.legislature.ca.gov>

The screenshot shows the California State Legislature website in a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar displays <http://www.legislature.ca.gov/>. The page features a navigation menu on the left with categories like "The State Legislature", "Legislators and Districts", and "Research, Laws and Publications". A central banner includes links for "SENATE", "ASSEMBLY", "GLOSSARY", "SITE INDEX", and "FAQ" next to a photograph of the California State Capitol building. A "BILL SEARCH" section on the right allows users to search by session (2011-2012), house (Both), and limit (All hits). Below this is a "FIND MY DISTRICT" section with a ZIP code search field. The footer contains links for "Webmaster", "Privacy and Conditions of Use Policy", "Accessibility Guidelines", and "Downloads". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system clock at 10:28 AM on 02/21/2012.

Tell Us What You Think!


(At The Appropriate Time!)

- Bill Ideas
- Positions On Bills (In Writing)
- Issues Of Concern
- Background Information

Some Capitol Lingo

- Gut & amend
- Hijack
- Jail Break
- Suspense file
- Lay off
- Stakeholder
- Sponsor
- May revise
- Blue pencil
- Spot bill
- District bill
- Trailer bill
- Two-year bill
- Speakerize
- On call
- Mod
- Job killer
- Urgency clause

Final Points

- Staff Are Important Contacts
 - Paper Is Better Than E-Mail
E-Mail Is Better Than Phone
 - Time Is Usually Of The Essence
 - If In Doubt, Ask
- 

So What Might We See This Year?



Questions?

