Understanding And Working With The Legislature

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*Water 101 – The Basics and Beyond*
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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
  - 26 Dems
  - 14 Reps
- 4 Year Terms
  - 6 – 2018 *
  - 8 – 2020 *
  - 9 – 2022 *
  - 7 – 2024 *
  - 2 – 2024 †
  - 5 – 2026 †
  - 3 – 2028 †

**Assembly**
- 80 Members
  - 52 Dems
  - 25 Reps
  - 3 Vacancy
- 2 Year Terms
  - 1 – 2018 *
  - 34 – 2026 †
  - 23 – 2026 †
  - 19 – 2028 †

* Old Term Limit Rules (3 Asm, 2 Sen)
† New Term Limits Rules (12 yrs Total)
Meet The California Legislature

**Senate**
- 7 Local Government
- 5 Attorney
- 5 Business Owner
- 5 Former Leg Staffer
- 4 Educator
- 3 Rancher/Farmer
- 3 Medical
- 2 Business Persons
- 6 Miscellaneous

**Assembly**
- 20 Local Government
- 13 Educator
- 10 Attorney
- 8 Business Owner
- 5 Former Leg Staffer
- 3 Medical
- 3 Rancher/Farmer
- 21 Miscellaneous
Leadership

Senate
Pro Tem (Late March)
Toni Atkins

Minority Leader
Patricia Bates

Assembly
Speaker
Anthony Rendon

Minority Leader
Brian Dahle
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. 22  Last day to submit bill requests to Legislative Counsel
Jan. 31  Last day for bills introduced in 2017 to be passed bills out of the house of origin (Art. IV, Sec. 10(c))
Feb. 16  Last day for bills to be introduced
Apr. 27  Last day for policy committees to hear & report fiscal bills
May 11  Last day for policy committees to hear & report non-fiscal bills
May 25  Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 6
May 25  Last day for fiscal committees to hear & report bills

May 29 – June 1
Floor Session Only. No committee may meet for any purpose

June 1  Last day for bills to be passed out of the house of origin
Legislative Calendar
Key Dates:

Jun  4  Committee meetings may resume
Jun  15  Budget must be passed by midnight (Art. IV, Sec. 12 (c)(3)).
Jun  28  Last Day for a legislative measure to qualify for the Nov. 2014 ballot
July  6  Last Day for policy committees to meet & report bills
        Summer Recess begins upon adjournment (if budget passed)
Aug.  6  Reconvene from Summer Recess
Aug. 17  Last day for fiscal committees to meet & report bills to the Floor
Aug. 24  Last day to amend bills on the Floor

Aug. 20–31

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

Aug. 31  Last day for each house to pass bills (Art. IV, Sec. 10 (c))
        Final Recess begins at the end of this day’s session
# Standing Committees

## Senate

- Agriculture
- Appropriations
- Budget & Fiscal Review
- Business, Professions & Economic Development
- Education
- Elections & Constitutional Amendments
- Energy, Utilities & Communications
- Environmental Quality
- Governance & Finance
- Governmental Organization
- Health
- Human Services
- Insurance, Banking & Financial Institutions
- Judiciary
- Labor & Industrial Relations
- Legislative Ethics
- Natural Resources & Water
- Public Employment & Retirement
- Public Safety
- Rules
- Transportation & Housing
- 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 Employees, Retirement & Social Security
- Public Safety
- Revenue & Taxation
- Rules
- Transportation
- Utilities & Energy
- Veterans Affairs
- Water, Parks & Wildlife
How a Bill Becomes a Law

1. **Bill is introduced**
2. **Committee Hearings**
3. **Committee Hearings**
   - If passed (Sent to other house)
4. **Floor Action**
5. **Floor Action**
   - If passed without amendments
   - If passed with amendments
6. Returned to original house
7. If original house concurs
8. Bill goes to Governor
   - If not vetoed
   - If original house concurs
   - If not vetoed
9. Most bills become law January 1 of the next year

Most bills become law January 1 of the next year.
Bill Load Has Been Declining
Governor

Senate Floor

Senate 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 Floor

Assembly Budget Committee

Assembly Budget Subcommittees
No. 1 Health & Human Services
No. 2 Education & Finance
No. 3 Resources
No. 4 State Administration
No. 5 Information Technology & Transportation

Budget Conference Committee

Senator Floor
Oversight: Standing & Select Committees

15 Senate Select Committees:
- Asian Pacific Islander Affairs
- California’s Wine Industry
- California, Armenia and Artsakh Mutual Trade, Art and 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

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
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
### Tables

- Officers of the Senate/Senate Order of Business
- Members of the Senate, Names, Addresses, and Phone Numbers
- Senate Floor Seating Chart
- Standing Committee Membership
- Select Committee Membership
- Subcommittee Membership
- Joint Committee Membership
- Weekly Committee Schedule
- Budget Subcommittee Schedule
- Legislative Calendar
- Joint Rule 62 (a) Suspensions
- 31st Day in Print Table
- Session Schedule
- Holiday Schedule

### Committee Hearings

- Conference Committee Hearing Notices
- Committee Hearing Notices

### Vetoes

- Governor’s Vetoes/Item Vetoes

### Appointments

- Governor

### Conference

- Senate In Conference
- Assembly In Conference

### Unfinished Business

- Senate bills
- Assembly Bills

### Third Reading

- Senate Third Reading
- Assembly Third Reading

### Inactive File

- Senate Bills
- Assembly Bills

### Bills on the Senate Daily File (Index)

- Bills on the Senate Daily File (Index)
All Things Bill Related:
http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/
Query Any Bill

[Image of a web page showing a bill search interface on the California Legislative Information website]
Track Bills Via Subscription
Anything Else Legislative:
http://www.legislature.ca.gov
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
- Suspension 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?