



CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

I. INITIAL STEPS BY AUTHOR

IDEA

Sources of bills; legislators, legislative committees, governor, state and local governmental agencies, business firms, lobbyists, citizens.

DRAFTING

Formal copy of bill and "layman digest" prepared by Legislative Counsel.

INTRODUCTION

Bill submitted by Senator or Assembly member. Numbered and read first time. Referred to policy committee by Assembly or Senate Rules Committee. Printed.

II. ACTION IN HOUSE OF ORIGIN

COMMITTEE

Testimony taken from author, proponents and opponents. Typical actions: Do pass; amend and do pass; no action; hold in committee (kill); amend and re-refer to same committee; refer to another committee; send to interim study. Committee actions are reported to the floor. Bills with any fiscal implications, if approved by policy committee, are referred to Appropriations Committee.

SECOND READING

Bills given do-pass recommendations are read the second time on the floor and placed on the daily file (agenda) for debate on a subsequent day.

FLOOR DEBATE AND VOTE

Bills are read the third time and debated. A roll-call vote follows. For ordinary bills, 21 votes are needed in the Senate and 41 in the Assembly. For urgency bills and most appropriations measures, 27 and 54 votes are required. If these numbers are not reached, the bill is defeated. Any member may seek reconsideration and a second vote. If passed or passed with

amendments, the bill is sent to the second house.

III. ACTION IN SECOND HOUSE

READING

Bill is read the first time and referred to committee by the Assembly or Senate Rules Committee.

COMMITTEE

Procedures and possible actions are nearly identical to those in the first house.

SECOND READING

If cleared by committee, the bill is read a second time and placed on the daily file (agenda) for debate and vote.

FLOOR DEBATE AND VOTE

The procedure is identical to the first house. If a bill is passed without having been amended in the second house, it is sent to the Governor's desk. (Resolutions are sent to the Secretary of State's office.) If amended in the second house and passed, the measure returns to the house of origin for consideration of amendments.

IV. RESOLUTION OF TWO-HOUSE DIFFERENCES (if necessary)

CONCURRENCE

The house of origin decides whether to accept the second-house amendments. If the amendments are approved, the bill is sent to the governor. If the amendments are rejected, the bill is placed in the hands of a two-house conference committee composed of three Senators and three Assembly members.

CONFERENCE

If the conferees fail to agree, the bill dies. If the conferees present a recommendation for compromise (conference report), both houses vote on the report. If the report is adopted by both, the bill goes to the governor. If either house rejects the report, a second (and even third) conference committee may be formed.

V. THE GOVERNOR

SIGN OR VETO?

Within 12 days after receiving a bill, the governor may sign it into law, allow it to become law without his signature or veto it. Bill is sent to Secretary of State's office and given a chapter number. A vetoed bill returns to the house of origin for possible vote on overriding the veto. It requires a two-thirds majority of both houses to override. Urgency measures may become effective immediately after signing. Others usually take effect the following January 1st.

HOW TO OBTAIN COPIES OF LEGISLATION

We encourage members to establish a relationship with their local legislator's office. This process allows you to become more familiar with your legislator and their staff. They can provide copies of legislation to you.

The Internet address to access bills is www.leginfo.ca.gov

The Capital Bill Room also makes available a variety of legislative publications. Any member of the public may obtain individual copies of bills or resolutions by calling (916) 445-2323.

2005 CALENDAR

<i>January 3</i>	<i>Legislature Reconvenes</i>
<i>January 21</i>	<i>Last day to submit request to Legislative Counsel</i>
Feb 18	Last day to introduce bills
<i>March 17</i>	<i>Spring recess begins at end of this day's session</i>
March 29	Legislature reconvenes
<i>June 3</i>	<i>Last day for bills passed out of the house of origin</i>
<i>June 15</i>	<i>Last day for legislature to pass State Budget for FY 05/06</i>
<i>July 15</i>	<i>Summer recess begins at the end of this day's session</i>
<i>Aug 15</i>	<i>Legislature reconvenes</i>
Aug 31	Last day to pass any bill
Oct 9	Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills
Mon, Oct 24 - Fri, Oct 28	CLEARs Annual Training Conference

For more information, contact:

(Attach business card.)

OUR PURPOSE

The Legislative Committee represents and coordinates CLEARs, Inc. in an attempt to influence the course of legislation. The Committee is primarily concerned with legislation that is relevant to law enforcement record keeping and confidentiality. We draft legislation that corresponds with our organization's goals. We evaluate and act upon proposed legislation that affects how agencies do business. We analyze and recommend action to the membership for implementing chaptered legislation.

OUR GOALS

- Educate our members in the legislative process by providing timely and accurate information.
- Encourage members to be involved in the process.
- Market CLEARs, Inc. as a resource to legislators and agencies.
- Research problems in support services to initiate legislation.

LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR
<i>During an annual meeting at the State Capitol, CLEARs proudly recognizes the outstanding Legislator of the Year., someone committed to public safety in California .</i>

CLEARs



*California Law Enforcement
Association of Records
Supervisors*

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PROCESS
2005**