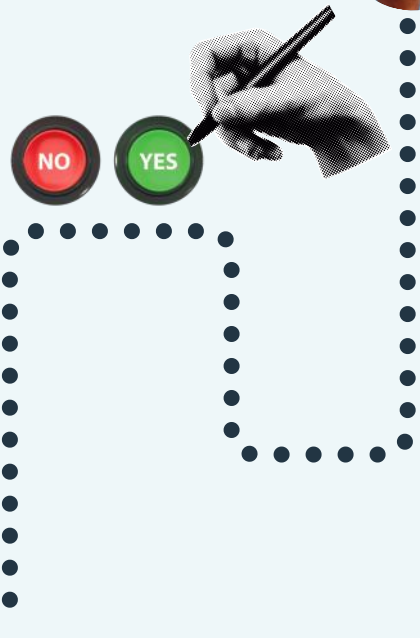


HOW DOES IT WORK?

LEGISLATURE

How the California state legislature process works and *how you can participate.*



CALIFORNIA'S LEGISLATIVE SESSION

STARTS HERE

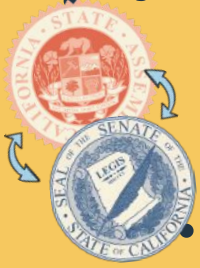


ENDS HERE

California legislators draft and amend state laws that impact the state and our communities.

A legislative session is two years, during which the two legislative bodies (the Assembly and Senate) consider new bills that must meet yearly deadlines to become laws.

If a bill clears the legislative process, it goes to the Governor's desk to be signed into law or vetoed.



THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

IDEAS INSPIRE ACTION



State legislators turn ideas into bills which are guided by community groups and leaders



BILL AUTHORIZING



The process begins in the house of the author of the bill. Bills must be passed in both houses.

Bills are authored and introduced by legislators in the house they serve in

BILL INTRODUCTION



**AB =
A BILL AUTHORED
IN THE ASSEMBLY**

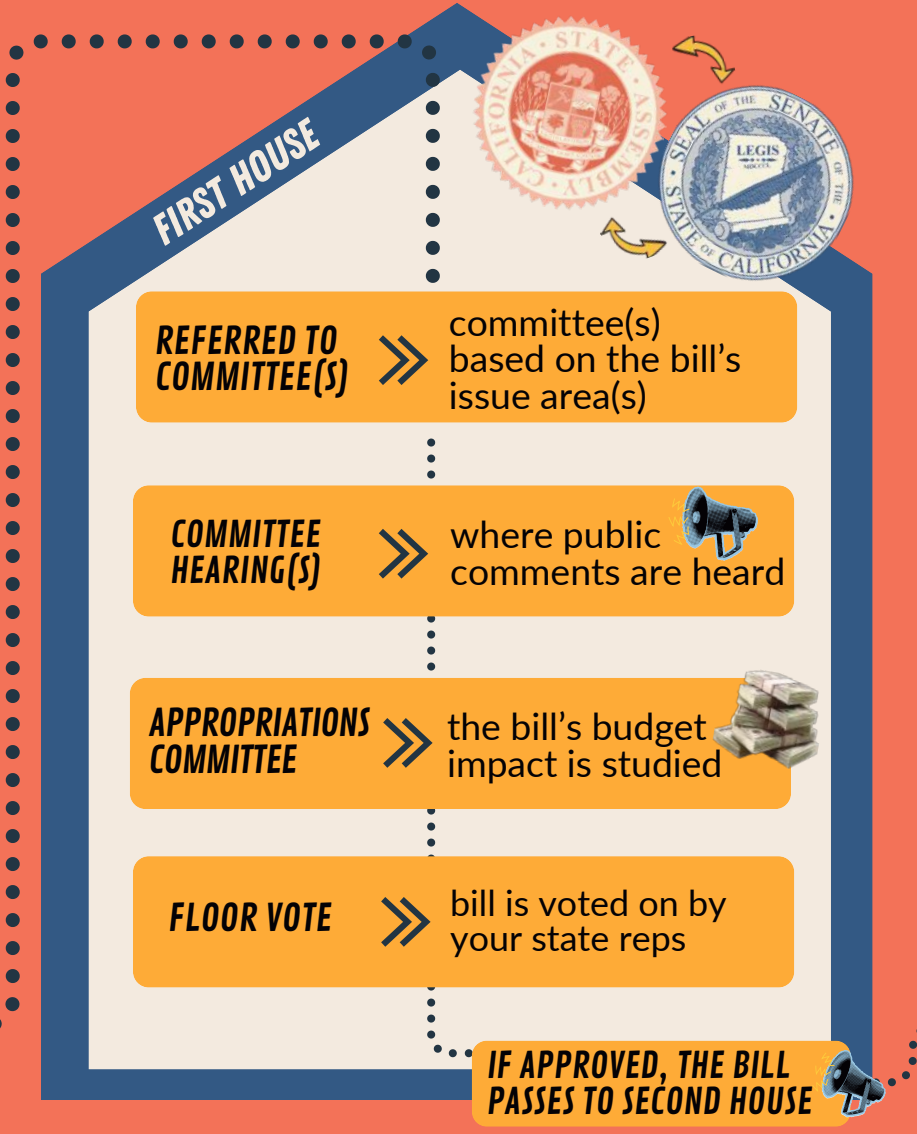


**SB =
A BILL AUTHORED
IN THE SENATE**



**Opportunities to get engaged by submitting a statement or attending bill hearings and asking your reps to support or oppose a bill*

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



**Opportunities to get engaged by submitting a statement or attending bill hearings and asking your reps to support or oppose a bill*

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



SECOND HOUSE



**REFERRED TO
COMMITTEE(S)**



COMMITTEE HEARING

**APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE**



FLOOR VOTE
second house votes



**Opportunities to get engaged by submitting a statement or attending bill hearings and asking your reps to support or oppose a bill*

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Both houses vote to agree on bill changes.

▲
**CONCURRENCE
VOTE**



**GOVERNOR'S
DESK** ▶



The bill gets signed into law or vetoed

▼
VETOED

A 2/3 vote
in each house is
needed to override
a veto.

TAKE ACTION



Connect with your state representatives by submitting public statements during bill hearings or asking them to support or oppose a bill

Find & contact your state legislators:
[CourageScore.org](https://www.CourageScore.org)

LAW



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Connecting with your state representatives helps you understand their role, where they stand on issues important to you, and how you can influence the policymaking process.

California State Senate
senate.ca.gov

California State Assembly
assembly.ca.gov

Find your state representative's official website. Learn about their day-to-day activities, get updates on legislation they're working on, and find out how to contact their offices if you need help with local or state services.

Here you can also find:

- Which committees your representative is a member of
- Committee hearing schedules
- Legislative calendars

TAKE ACTION



Read the bills in the legislative process, check on their progress, and see how your representative is working for you:

California State Legislature
leginfo.legislature.ca.gov

Free legislative tracker
legiscan.com

Contact our state lawmakers:

Find & contact your state legislators:
CourageScore.org

Contact the Governor's office:
gov.ca.gov/contact

This zine was created by Courage California Institute

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