THE LIFE CYCLE OF LEGISLATION
From Idea into Law

Although the procedure can become complicated, this chart shows the essential steps for passage of a bill.

Typical committee actions are used to simplify charting the course of legislation.

Some bills require hearings by more than one committee, in which case a committee may re-refer the bill to another committee. For example, bills with monetary implications must be re-referred to the proper fiscal committee in each House before they are sent to the second reading file and final action.

A bill may be amended at various times as it moves through the Houses. The bill must be reprinted each time an amendment is adopted by either house. All bill actions are printed in the DAILY FILES, JOURNALS and HISTORIES.

If a bill is amended in the opposite House, it is returned to the House of Origin for concurrence in amendments. If House of Origin does not concur, a Conference Committee Report must then be adopted by each House before the bill can be sent to the Governor.

LEGISLATURE HAS 60 DAYS (not including joint recesses) TO OVERRIDE VETO WITH 2/3 VOTE IN EACH HOUSE

RETURN TO ASSEMBLY FLOOR

RETURN TO SENATE FLOOR

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE (Assembly & Senate Members)

CONFERENCE REPORT

FOLLOW SAME PROCEDURES AS IN THE ASSEMBLY

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE VOTES

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

CONSISTORY CALL

RETURN TO Senate FLOOR

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RETURN TO Assembly FLOOR

Concurrence in Senate Amendments

VETO

SIGN

GOVERNOR

BILL IS CHAPTERED BY SECRETARY OF STATE

Bill becomes law January 1st of the following year unless it contains an urgency clause or specifies its own effective date.

SUGGESTIONS FOR NEEDED LEGISLATION FROM

Agencies, Citizens, Governor, Lobbyists

ASSEMBLY RULES COMMITTEE

THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

ASSEMBLY MEMBER

INTRODUCED BY MEMBER, NUMBERED, FIRST READING, PRINTED

RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS BILL TO COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE HEARING: Policy, Appropriations, Chairperson and Members

TESTIFY: Bill Author, Citizens, Experts, Lobbyists

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: PASSED

FIRST ASSEMBLY READING

RETURN TO ASSEMBLY FLOOR

Bill may be heard by committee the day after introduction

SECOND ASSEMBLY READING

COMMITTEE HEARING: Policy, Appropriations, Chairperson and Members

TESTIFY: Bill Author, Citizens, Experts, Lobbyists

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: PASSED

SECOND ASSEMBLY READING

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