

2023 Fire Chiefs Leadership Seminar

December 13, 2023



LEAGUE OF
**CALIFORNIA
CITIES**

Strengthening California Cities
through Advocacy and Education

Understanding the Legislative Process

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Agenda

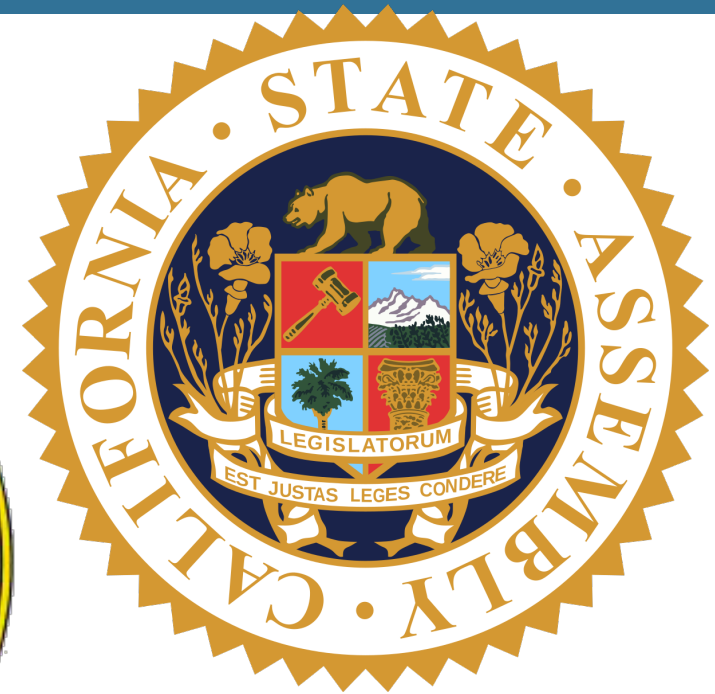
- Legislative Process
- Effective Lobbying
- 2024 Legislature: What to Expect
- Public Safety Policies

Our State Legislature

In California, the legislative body is called the State Legislature and is divided into two houses (bicameral) - the State Assembly and the State Senate.

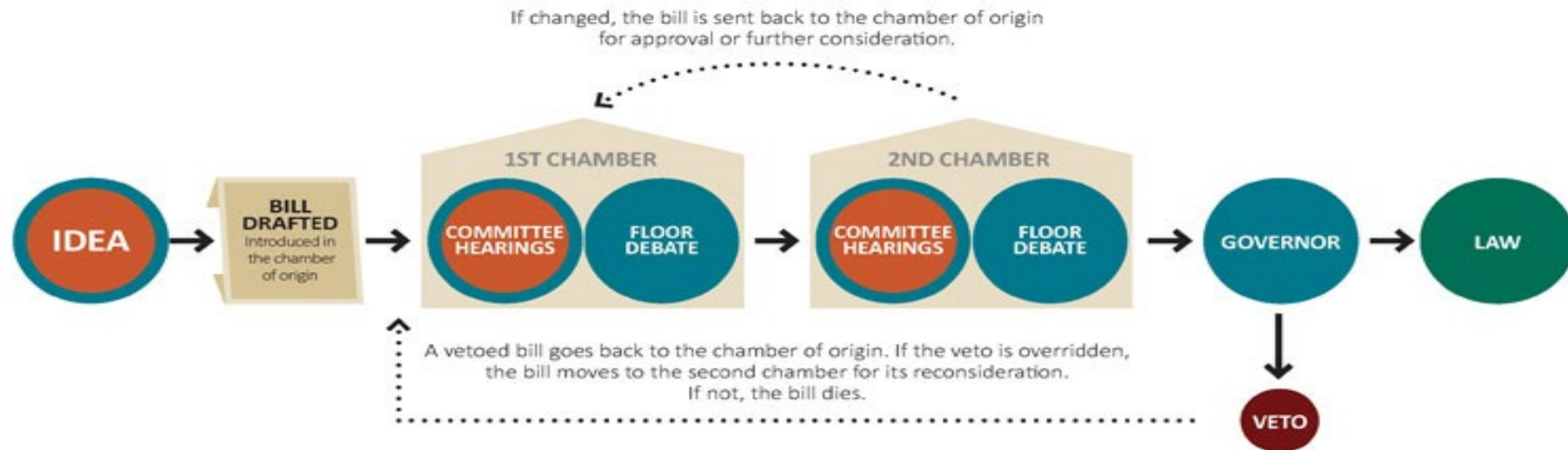
There are 40 members of the State Senate and 80 members of the State Assembly, for a total of 120 legislators.

Assembly Members are elected or re-elected every two years, and one-half of Senators are elected or re-elected every two years. Term limits apply.



How Does a Bill Become a Law in California?

State Legislative Process



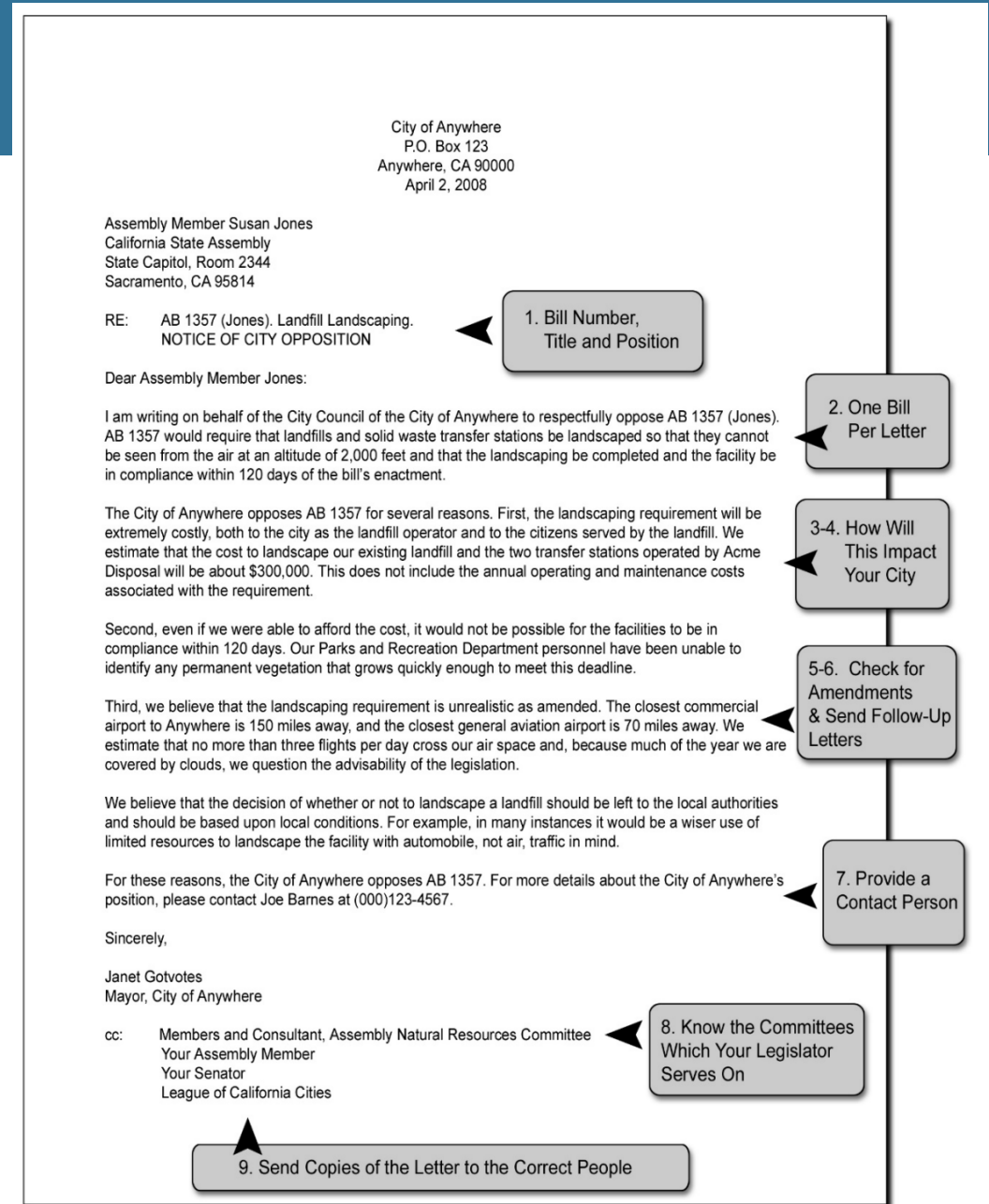
Get Involved

The colors indicate how the public can affect legislation at different points in the legislative process above:

Ways to Contact Legislators	Legislature's website	Letters	Emails	Social media	Phone calls	Town halls	Face-to-face meeting
Ways to Participate	Learn the process	View livestream of hearing or floor session	Attend Committee hearing/floor session	Committee testimony	Contact your legislator		

Sample Position Letter

1. Include the bill number, title, and your position in the subject line
2. One bill per letter
3. State the facts
4. Think about the message
5. Check for amendments
6. Send follow-up letters to appropriate committees as a bill Moves Along
7. Provide a contact
8. Know the committees on which your legislator serves
9. Copy the correct people
10. Submit your letter to the California Legislative Position Letter Portal



10 Tips for Cities Lobbying the California Legislature

1. Become engaged in the state level political process by appointing a legislative liaison within your city to track key legislation and work with your regional public affairs manager. Visit the Cal Cities regional division webpage to locate contact information for your regional public affairs manager.
2. Use Cal Cities as a resource. Visit the Cal Cities advocacy page to access Cal Cities priority bills, city sample support and opposition letters, legislative contacts, and use our online bill search feature to track bills' progress.
3. Read and subscribe to the Cal Cities Advocate, Cal Cities' online newsletter, to stay current on important legislation and stories.
4. Develop relationships with your Senate and Assembly representatives as well as their Capitol and district office staff. Make sure to look up who your local state elected official is.
5. Get to know members of your local press and educate them on legislative issues affecting your city.

10 Tips for Cities Lobbying the California Legislature

6. Understand how state decisions impact your department and city's budget by attending Cal Cities educational conferences, policy committee and department meetings, and regional division events.
7. Build networks and collaborate with other stakeholders, such as non-profits, businesses, or your county, in your community on key legislative issues.
8. Organize an internal process within your department for developing and proposing changes to both state and federal laws that will help your city.
9. Adopt local policies on legislation that enable your city to react quickly to the legislative process and respond to Cal Cities action alerts.
10. Write letters on legislation featured in the Cal Cities Advocate. City sample support and opposition letters can be found using the Cal Cities bill search feature and entering the bill number or bill author.

Testimony Tips

- Be prepared
- Be flexible
- Be concise
- Be polite and respectful
- Speak to the facts and how the bill will affect your community/job responsibilities
- Be prepared to answer questions about your testimony
- Communicate with author's office and Cal Cities staff



2024: What to Expect

- Election Year
- Budget Deficit
- CBRT
- Public Safety Policies

QUESTIONS?

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Public Safety

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Agenda

- 2023 Recap
- Major Legislation from 2023
- 2024 Outlook

Emergency Services and Preparedness

AB 40 (Rodriguez) Emergency Medical Services.

This measure requires every local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agency, by July 1, 2024, to develop a standard not to exceed 30 minutes, 90% of the time, for ambulance patient offload time and report the standardized time to the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA). By no later than December 31, 2024, EMSA must develop and implement an audit tool to improve the data accuracy of transfer of care with validation from hospitals and local EMS agencies.

Fentanyl

AB 33 (Bains) Fentanyl Misuse and Overdose Prevention Task Force. Chapter 887, Statutes of 2023 (Urgency)

This measure establishes a Fentanyl Misuse and Overdose Prevention Task Force to bring together critical stakeholders to coordinate an effective response to the Fentanyl crisis in our state.

AB 701 (Villapudua) Controlled Substances: Fentanyl. Chapter 540, Statutes of 2023

This measure would add fentanyl to the list of enumerated controlled substances that are eligible for sentence enhancements when a defendant is found with a large quantity in their possession.

Fentanyl

AB 1027 (Petrie-Norris) Social Media Platforms: Drug Safety Policies. Chapter 824, Statutes of 2023

This measure requires social media platforms to disclose their drug safety policies and maintain records that violated a policy and the username of the violating account at issue for a period of 90 days.

Fentanyl

AB 1166 (Bains) Liability for Opioid Antagonist Administration. Chapter 97, Statutes of 2023

This measure provides that a person who renders emergency treatment at the scene of an opioid overdose or suspected opioid overdose by administering an opioid antagonist, is not liable for civil damages resulting from an act or omission.

2024 Outlook

- New Assembly Public Safety Chair – Assembly Member Kevin McCarty (Sacramento).
- Continue to sponsor AB 1168 (Bennett) on EMS.
- Public Safety is one of Cal Cities top priorities especially on the issues of Fentanyl and Retail Theft.

QUESTIONS?

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