

**Public Works Officers Institute  
Monterey, CA**

**Friday  
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LEAGUE OF  
**CALIFORNIA  
CITIES**

Strengthening California Cities  
through Advocacy and Education

# **UNDERSTANDING THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS**

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Legislative Affairs, Lobbyist

# Cal Cities: Public Works Department Survey Results

## Most participated Public Works Department activities:

Webinars	59%
Monthly Calls	38%
Roundtables	21%
Policy Committees	14%
Other	10%
Statewide Committees	7%

## Top Priority Topics:

Local Streets and Roads: Maintenance and Rehabilitation	93%
Infrastructure	90%
Traffic Calming Measures and Street Safety	79%
Pavement Improvement	79%
Advanced Clean Fleet: Zev Public Fleets	62%
EV Charging Stations	62%

# Cal Cities: Public Works Department Survey



# Agenda

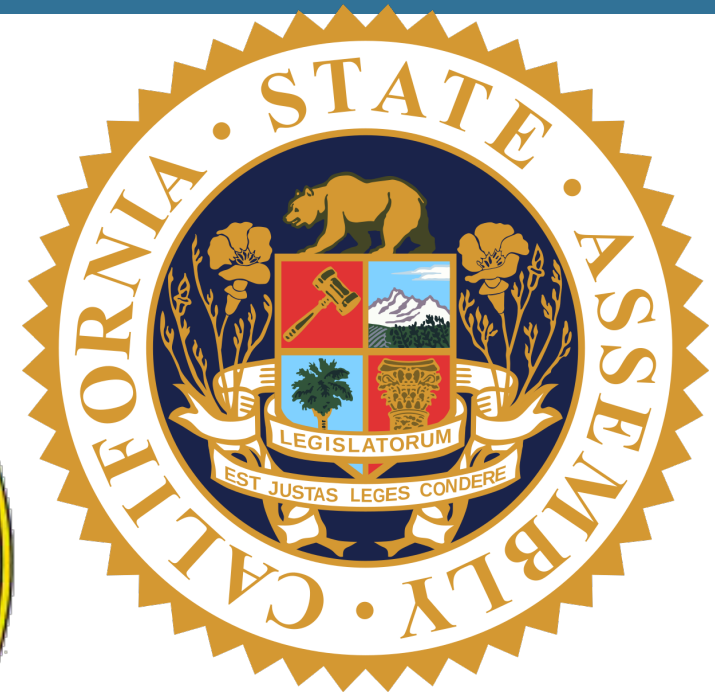
- Legislative Process
- Effective Lobbying
- 2024 Legislature: What to Expect

# 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.



# Our State Legislature

The Assembly has 33 standing committees, the Senate has 22. They range from agriculture to labor, public employment and retirement, and everything in between!

Both houses have budget subcommittees and a litany of special, select, joint and other committees.

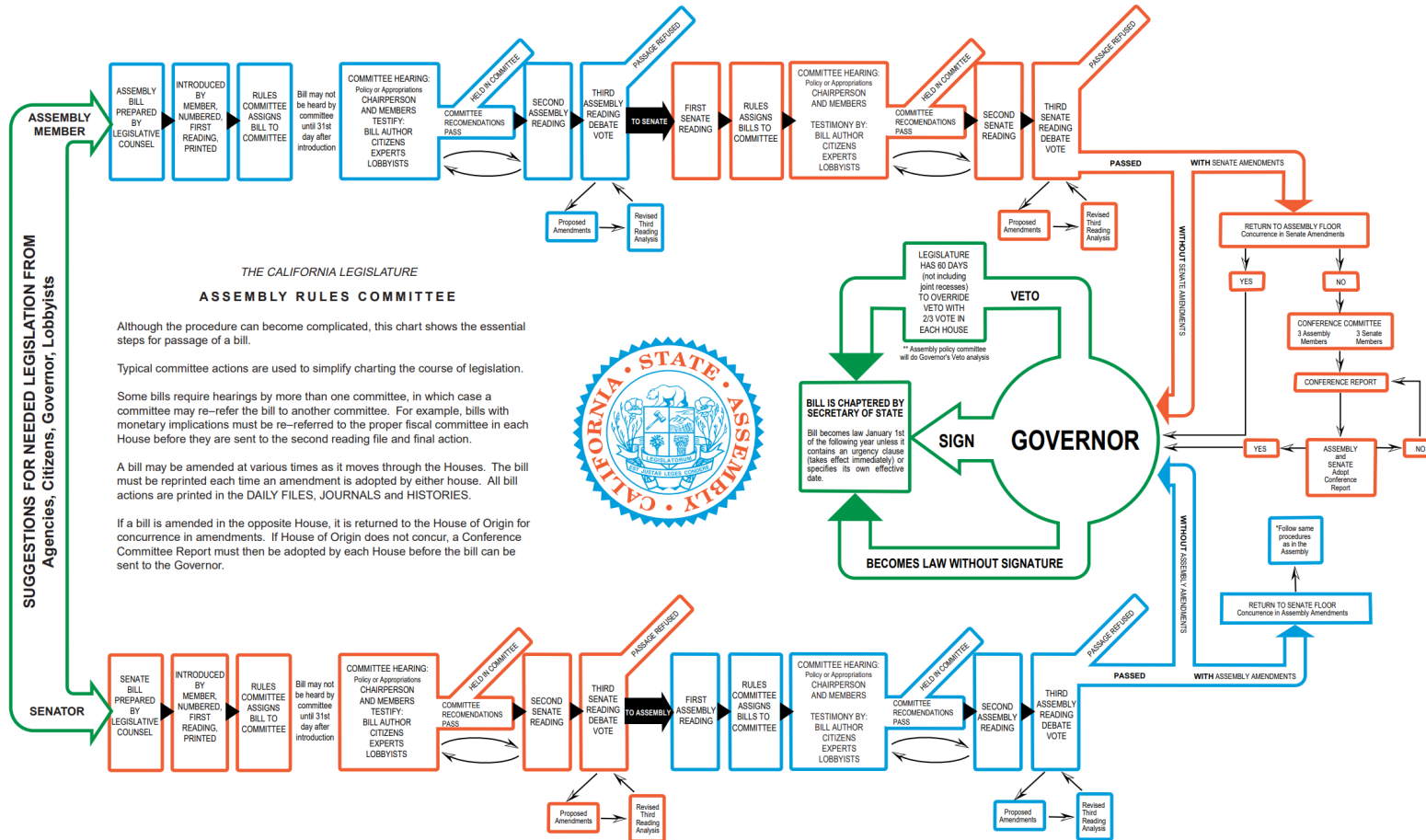
Committees play a critical role in the fate of a bill and how it is analyzed.





# How Does a Bill Become a Law in California?

## THE LIFE CYCLE OF LEGISLATION From Idea into Law



# How Does a Bill Become a Law in California?

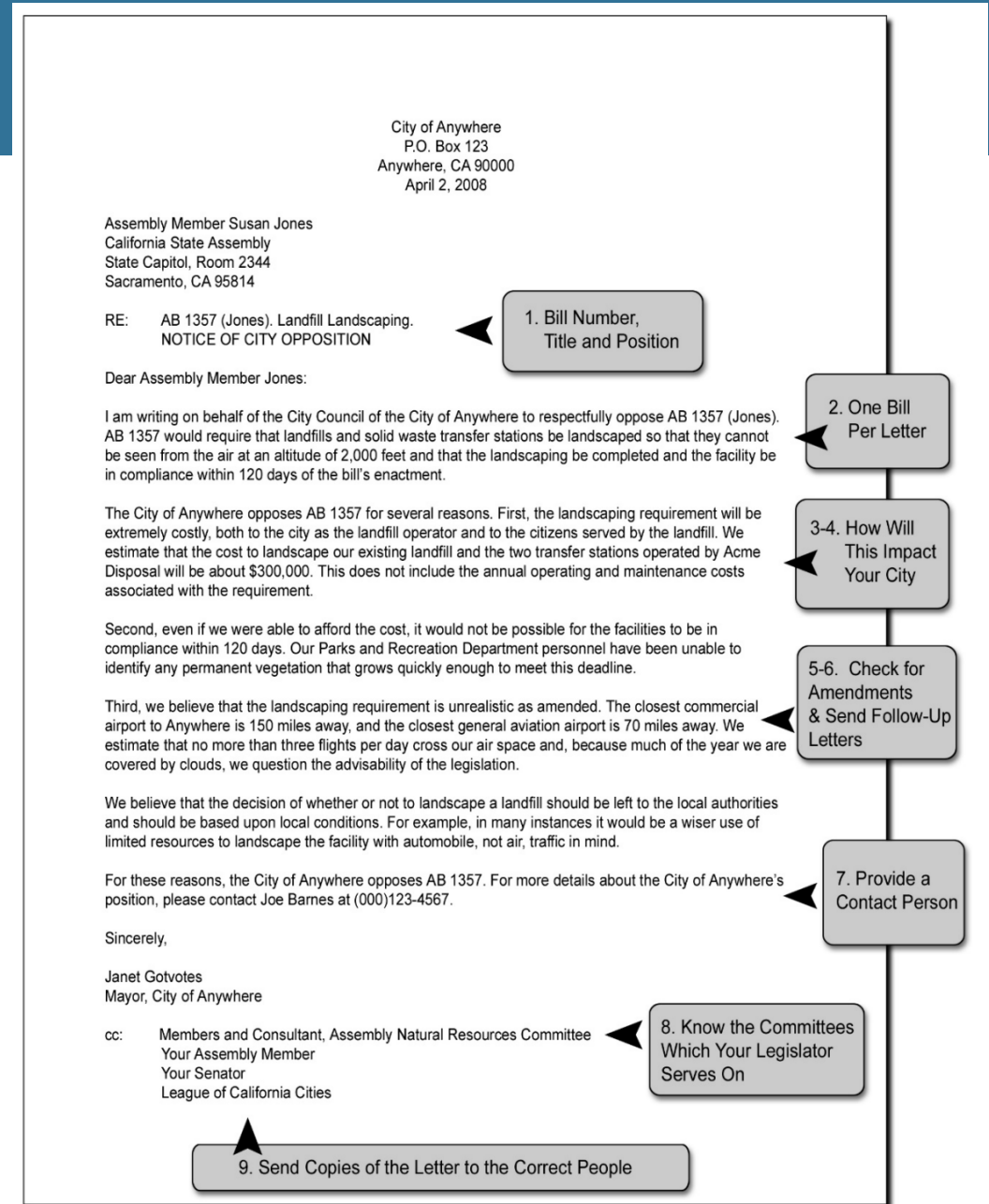
**CAUTION: PROCESS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE!**





# 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 Works Policies

# Transportation

## **[SB 915 \(Cortese\)](#) Autonomous Vehicles: Local Control and Increased Public Safety.**

This measure would require an autonomous vehicle (AV) service to obtain approval for local service by the adoption of a local ordinance or resolution. Also, would require and the establishment of an override system accessible by local law enforcement and first responders in case of an emergency.

**Cal Cities Position:** Co-Sponsor

## **[AB 1777 \(Ting\)](#) Autonomous Vehicles.**

Intent Language.

## **[AB 1786 \(Rodriguez\)](#) Autonomous Vehicles.**

Intent Language.



# Transportation – Advanced Clean Fleets

## **AB 2418 (Patterson) Federal Pre-emption.**

This measure allow the federal emissions standards to preempt CA's more restrictive requirements.

## **AB 2626 (Dixon) 10-Year Delay.**

This measure would allow local government a 10-year delay.

## **AB 3219 (Sanchez) Price Caps.**

This measure would establish price caps on the retail sale of ZEVs.

**Cal Cities Position:** Support

# Transportation – Advanced Clean Fleets

## **SB 1393 (Niello) Appeals Advisory Committee.**

This measure would establish an Appeals Advisory Committee to review appeals of denied requests for exemptions.

## **AB 2266 (Petrie-Norris) Voucher Incentives.**

This measure would require the state board to authorize a voucher to be used for the acquisition of any zero-emission vehicle.

**Cal Cities Position:** Support

# Transportation

**SB 947 (Seyarto) Department of Transportation: Project design changes.** This measure would make the Department of Transportation responsible for additional costs after the project is included in the state transportation improvement program or the state highway operation and protection program.

**Cal Cities Position:** Support

# Permitting

## **SB 1418 (Archuleta) Hydrogen-Fueling Stations: Administrative Approval.**

This measure would extend the sunset of the existing requirement for local municipalities to administratively approve applications to install hydrogen-fueling stations. Also, this measure would require the adoption of an ordinance that creates an expedited, streamlined permitting process for hydrogen-fueling stations by 2025.

**Cal Cities Position:** Oppose Unless Amended

# Permitting

## **AB 2559 (Petrie-Norris) EVCS Permitting: Reporting.**

This measure requires GO-Biz to develop on their website a reporting platform where EVSPs can log any issues they are having with a local jurisdiction so GO-Biz can begin to identify the root cause of the permitting delay or denial.

**Cal Cities Position:** Concerns

# Electric Bicycles

## **AB 2744 (McCarty) Bicycle Lanes: Right Turns.**

This measure prohibits the addition of a right-turn or travel lane within 20 feet of a marked or unmarked crosswalk where there is not already a dedicated and marked right-turn or travel lane, and would prohibit vehicles from using this 20-foot area for right turns unless the area is already marked as a dedicated right-turn lane before January 1, 2025.

**Cal Cities Position:** Opposed.



# Broadband

## **AB 2708 (Patterson, J.) Digital Equity Franchising Act.**

This measure would expand the annual report generated by the Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy to include the total cost to complete the statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network, the total available funding for the statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network, and the projected completion date for the statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network.

**Cal Cities Position:** Support

# QUESTIONS?

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