Welcome to the California Leads Conference

- The presentation will begin shortly.
- All participants will be muted upon entry.
- Live presentations will not be recorded.
- Please use the chat feature to direct questions to “All panelists.” When submitting questions, please do not include any personal information.
- Connecting to audio – “Call using computer” for audio to come through your computer speakers or use “Call in/Call me” feature.

CALHR California Leads

2021 Conference

The California Legislative Process

Mario Guerrero, *Deputy Director for Legislation*
Jodi LeFebre, *Legislative Coordinator*

Agenda

- Introductions
- Purpose for the training
- Legislative Overview
- Legislative Process
  - Policy Bills
  - Budget Bills
- Bill analysis
  - What it is
  - Do’s and Don’ts
- Questions

Purpose of this Training

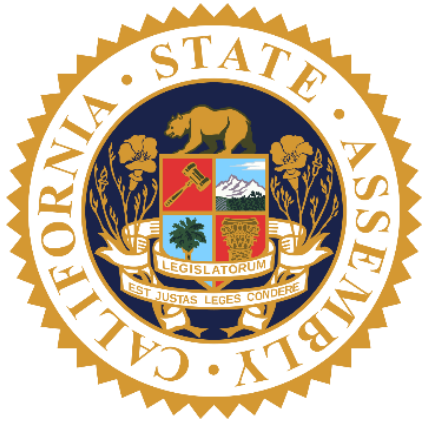
What this training is

- Overview of the legislative process
- Overview of the budgetary process
- Helpful tips for a bill analysis
- Helpful tips on how to track a bill

What it isn't

- A detailed bill analysis training

The California State Legislature



California Legislature

State Senate: 40 Members

State Assembly: 80 Members

Legislative Cycle: 2021-2022

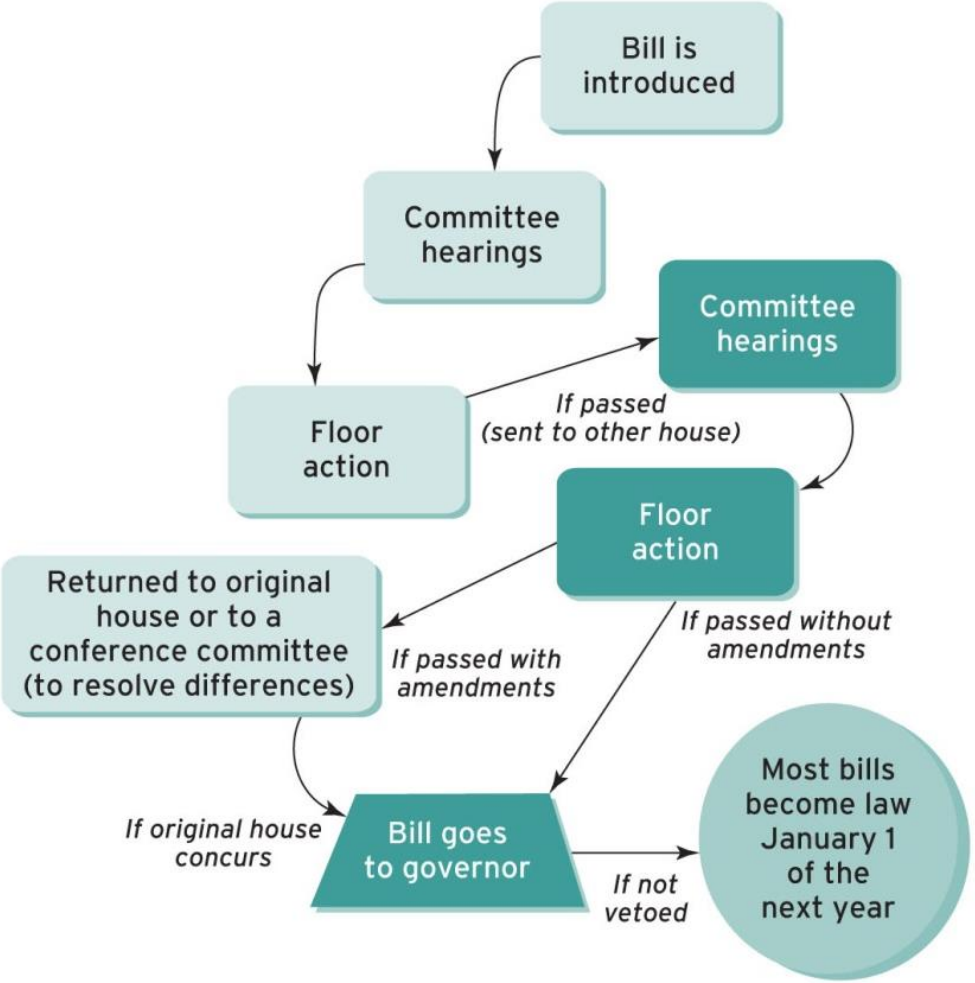
Legislature Convenes for Two-Year Cycles called “Sessions”

Odd years are first year of session

Bills must meet certain deadlines to move forward

Large or difficult legislation can take the full two years

Legislative Process



Sample Legislative Session - 2015

Legislative Standing Committees Senate (1/2)

- Agriculture
- Appropriations
- Banking and Financial Institutions
- Budget and Fiscal Review
- Business, Professions and Economic Development
- Education
- Elections and Constitutional Amendments
- Energy, Utilities, and Communications
- Environmental Quality
- Governance and Finance
- Governmental Organization

Legislative Standing Committees Senate (2/2)

- Health
- Human Services
- Insurance
- Judiciary
- Labor and Industrial Relations
- Natural Resources and Water
- Public Employment and Retirement
- Public Safety
- Rules
- Transportation and Housing
- Veterans Affairs

Legislative Standing Committees Assembly (1/2)

- Accountability and Administrative Review
- Aging and Long-Term Care
- Agriculture
- Appropriations
- Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media
- Banking and Finance
- Budget
- Business, Professions
- Education
- Elections and Redistricting
- Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials
- Governmental Organization
- Health
- Higher Education
- Housing and Community Development
- Human Services

Legislative Standing Committees Assembly (2/2)

- Insurance
- Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy
- Judiciary
- Labor and Employment
- Local Government
- Natural Resources
- Privacy and Consumer Protection
- Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security
- Public Safety
- Revenue and Taxation
- Rules
- Transportation
- Utilities and Commerce
- Veterans Affairs
- Water, Parks, and Wildlife

Budget Bills

Budget Process

Role of:

- Departments
- Department of Finance
- Governor
- Legislative Analyst's Office
- Legislature

Navigating the State Budget Process

Each year the Governor and Legislature work to craft the state's spending plan. While the January-to-June period gets the most attention, the process of developing the budget is an ongoing enterprise, giving Californians ample opportunity to stay engaged and involved year-round.

The Governor

The Governor has the lead role in developing the state budget. Each year the Governor proposes a spending plan, which is introduced as the budget bill in the Legislature. The Governor can sign or veto the budget bill passed by legislators as well as other bills in the budget package that make policy changes related to the budget. The Governor can also reduce or eliminate individual appropriations using the line-item veto.

The Legislature

The Legislature – made up of the Assembly and Senate – reviews the Governor's proposed budget and crafts its own version of the spending plan. The Legislature can maintain, modify, or reject the Governor's proposals, with review occurring through each house's budget committee and related subcommittees. The Legislature must pass the budget bill, but not other bills in the budget package, by June 15. The Legislature can override a Governor's veto by a two-thirds vote of each house.

The Public

The public has various opportunities for input during the budget process. Members of the public can meet with officials from the Governor's administration and with legislators and their staffs, testify before budget committees and subcommittees, and write letters of support and opposition. Through individual engagement or as part of coalitions, members of the public can express their budget priorities and areas of concern.

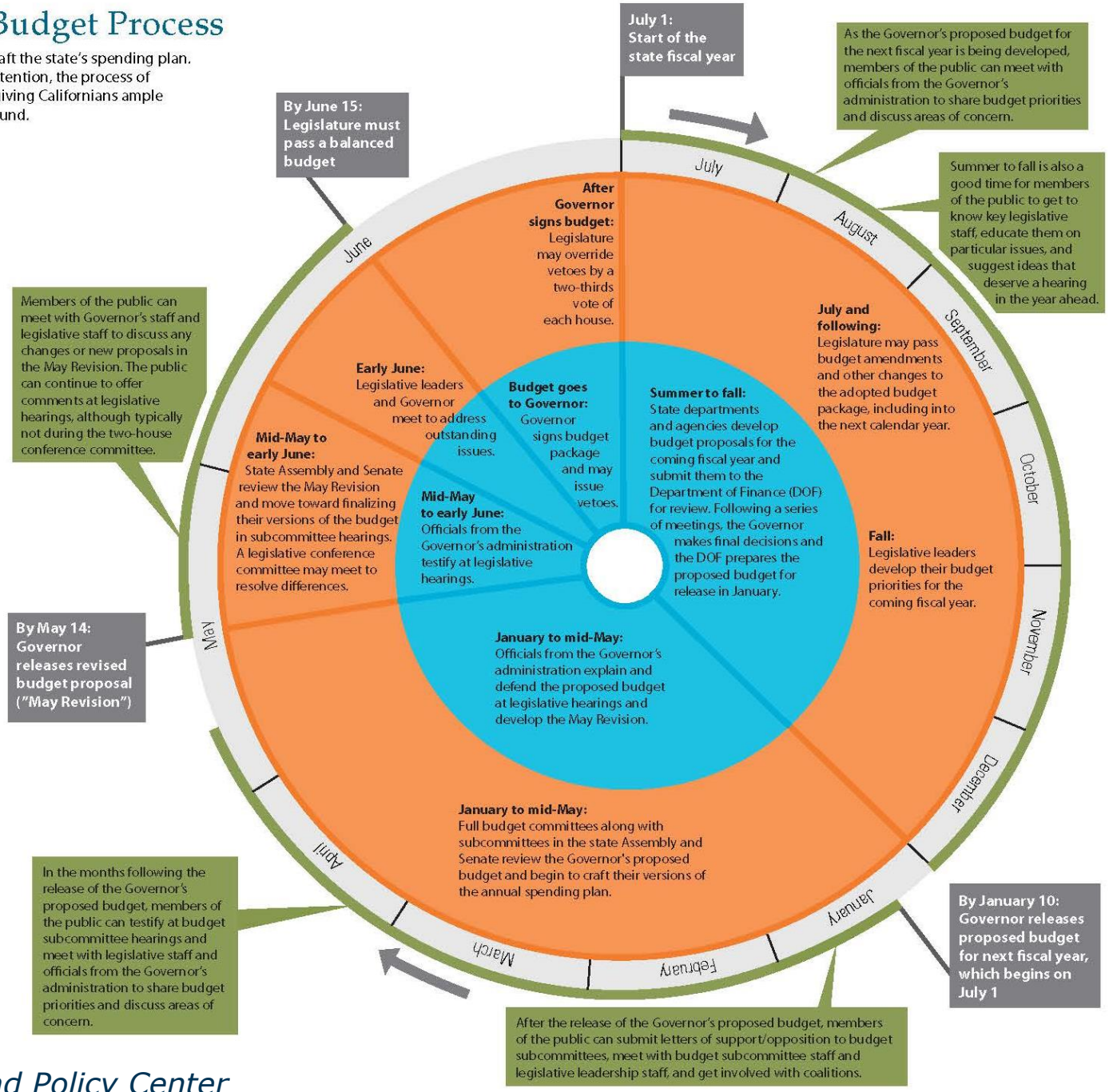
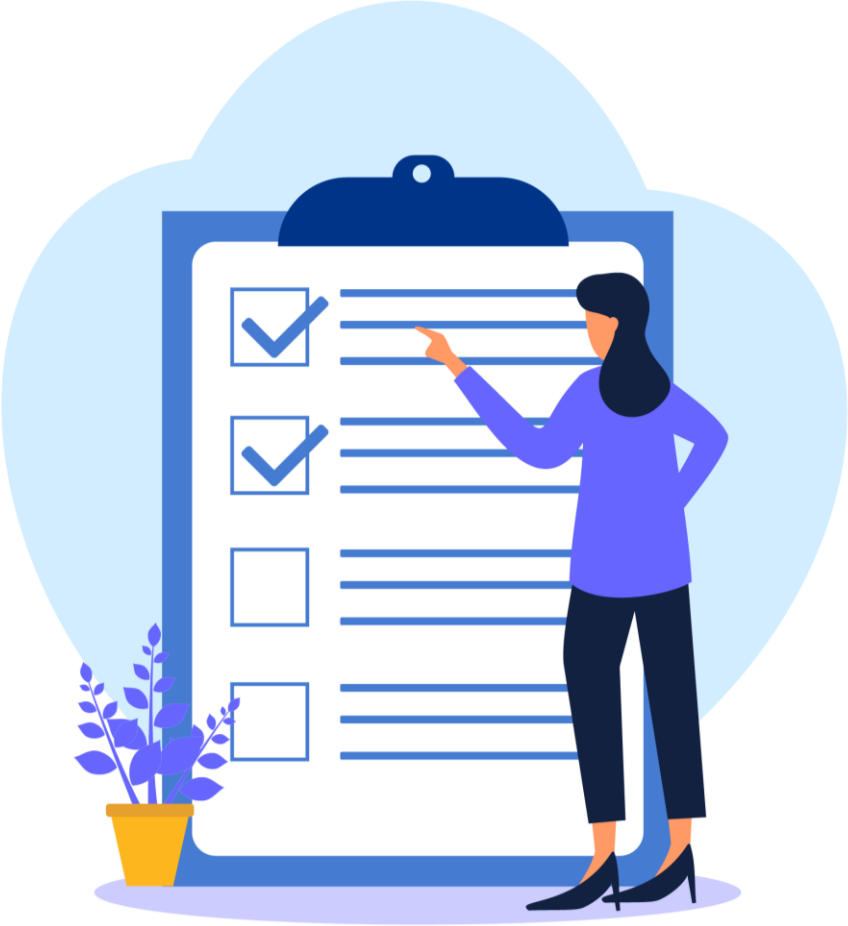


Photo courtesy of [California Budget and Policy Center]

Bill Analysis

What is a Bill Analysis

- Audience
- Review the intent of the bill
- Review the actual impact of the bill
- Review the politics of the bill



Bill Analysis Do’s and Don’ts

Do’s

- Get a fact sheet
- Track the bill
- Get legal and financial impacts per your department/agency process

Don’ts

- Assume the reason for the bill
- Take the author’s intent as what the language accomplishes.

California LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

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Quick Search: Bill Number | AB1 or ab 1 or ABX1 | go

Home | Bill Information | California Law | Publications | Other Resources | My Subscriptions | My Favorites

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Bill Search | Text Search | Advanced Search

Bill Number:	AB1 or ab 1 or ABx1-1	Session Year:	2021 - 2022	Keyword(s):	
House:	Both	Author:	All	For a phrase: "Surround it with Quotes"	
Statute Year:		Code:	All		
Chapter Number:		Code Section:			

Search | Clear

Bills Returned: 0

Helpful Websites/Resources

- Assembly Website
- Attorneys
- Author's Office
- Daily File
- Daily History
- Daily Journal
- Department Legislative Office
- Department of Finance Website
- Departmental Policies, Procedures, Training
- Existing Laws, Rules, Regulations
- Fact Sheet
- Google
- Legal Digest
- Legislative Analyst Office Website
- Lexus Nexus
- Locals, federals & Other State's
- National Coalition of State Legislators
- Prior Files/Bills/Analysis
- Program Experts/SMEs
- Senate Website
- State Library
- The WEB
- West Law, Law Library

Key Websites

- California Legislative Information
- California State Senate
- California State Assembly
- Office of the Governor Gavin Newsom

"The only stupid question is the question that is never asked."
— Ramon Bautista

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