

Policy and Public Affairs: Advocacy and Legislative Process

Legislative and Public Policy
Meeting

January 19, 2022




High Level Overview: Legislative Process

- ▶ The California State Legislature is made up of 80 Assembly Members and 40 Senate Members.
- ▶ There are three basic steps of the Legislative Process:
 - Step 1: **The idea.** Ideas for legislation can come from a variety of sources, but a member of the CA State Legislature must be the one to introduce the bill. The idea becomes a bill once introduced.
 - Step 2: **Assigning a bill number.** The idea is sent to the Legislative Counsel who drafts the idea into the proper format and returns it to the Member's office for introduction at which time it is given a bill number.
 - Step 3: **Amendments.** After a series of readings, hearings, changes (known as amendments), the bill will move from Committees to the Floor, and ultimately to the Executive Branch for the Governor to sign or veto. *Note: Bills are voted on at each stage of the process and can die at anytime.*

Legislative Reminders

- ▶ SCDD cannot work on policy issues that are not directly related to SCDD's approved state plan.
- ▶ SCDD also has Council approved legislative priority and platform documents that serve as the foundation for SCDD's policy activities.
- ▶ At times between meetings, SCDD's Chair uses delegated authority to take positions between Council meetings when timing necessitates an immediate decision.

How does SCDD Categorize State Legislation?

- ▶ Support (With or Without Amendments)
 - ▶ Watch
 - ▶ Oppose
 - ▶ No Position
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Important Dates & What to Expect in Year 2

January 31st

2-yr bill house of origin deadline

May 27th

House of origin deadline

February 18th

Bill introduction deadline

June 15th

Governor Budget deadline

April 7 – 18th

Spring recess

July

Summer recess

Mid-March – 1st week in May

Committee season

Aug 31st

End of 2-year session

Final Reminders: Regarding SCDD's Public Policy Operations

It is critical that staff, members of the Council, and its committees speak with one voice to all offices California when informing and advocating with elected officials.

Questions?



How Do I Find My Member? (1 / 2)

- ▶ Official website for information activities of the U.S. Congress is at <https://www.congress.gov/> (also to track bills and know daily proceedings)
- ▶ U.S. House of Representative's Directory: <https://www.house.gov/representatives>
- ▶ U.S. Senate Directory: https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm

How Do I Find My Member? (2 / 2)

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- ▶ California State Senate Directory:
<https://www.senate.ca.gov/>
- ▶ California State Assembly Directory:
<https://www.assembly.ca.gov/>
- ▶ Find Your Legislator is at:
http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators_and_districts.htm