

Advocacy and Legislative Process

Legislative and Public Policy
Meeting

January 17, 2023



The Legislative Process

- ▶ The State Legislature has 80 Assembly Members and 40 Senate Members.
- ▶ There are four steps in the Legislative Process:
 - Step 1: **The idea.** Ideas for legislation come from different sources, but a member of the State Legislature is who champions the idea as a bill.
 - Step 2: **Assigning a bill number.** The idea is written into a bill and the Legislator introduces the bill to the public, this is when it is given a bill number.
 - Step 3: **Amendments.** The bill then goes to policy committees to be reviewed, improved with amendments and then voted on in a committee hearing.
 - Step 4: **Governor Signature.** If the bill passes all of the needed votes in the Senate and Assembly, it will go to the Governor to sign or veto. If he signs the bill it becomes law, if he vetoes the bill then the bill fails.

Rules to Remember

- ▶ 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 needs a fast decision.

How does SCDD Track State Legislation?

LPPC staff reviews all bills that are introduced, there are about 1,500 introduced each year. We add bills that are most important to the following lists:

- ▶ Support
 - ▶ Watch
 - ▶ Oppose
 - ▶ No Position
-
- ▶ If you see a bill that you think might be important please let us know.

Important Dates & What to Expect This Year

February 17th

Bill introduction deadline

June 15th

Budget deadline

March 30th – April 10th

Spring recess

July 14th – August 14th

Summer recess

Mid-March – 1st week in May

Committee season

September 14^h

Last day of 2023 Legislative session

June 2nd

House of origin deadline

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 when informing and advocating with elected officials.

If you want to talk to a legislator or their staff, please reach out to us first.



Questions?



HOW DO I FIND MY STATE LEGISLATOR? (1 / 2)

- ▶ California State Legislature:
<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>
(to track bills)
- ▶ California State Senate:
<https://www.senate.ca.gov/>
- ▶ California State Assembly:
<https://www.assembly.ca.gov/>
- ▶ Find Your California Legislator here:
http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators_and_districts.htm

HOW DO I FIND MY FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE? (2 / 2)

- ▶ U.S. Congress Official Website
<https://www.congress.gov/>
(to track bills and know daily activity)
- ▶ 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