

Advocacy Training

Communicating for Change: Educating Policymakers

CAFA Asthma Summit June 15, 2022



CAFA Virtual Advocacy Day

- Training Today
- Confirm participation Next week
- Group by region Next week
- Group prep meetings By July 7th
- Virtual meetings By end of July



Knowing the Rules





Overview of California's Legislature



- Bicameral Legislature
- State Budget
- State Taxes
- Laws
- Oversight of State Government



California's Legislature



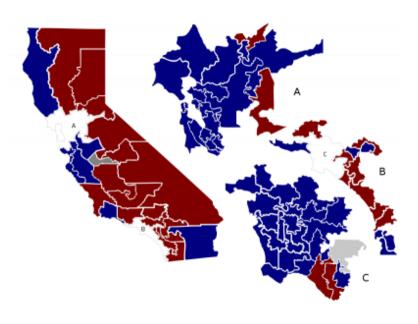
State Senate ("upper house")

- 40 members
- 4-year term (12 year max)
- Each district represents
 ~930,000 people
- 31 Democrats
- 9 Republicans
- 27 votes needed to break
 2/3 requirement



California's Legislature

State Assembly ("lower house")



- 80 members
- 2-year term (12 year max)
- Each district represents
 ~465,000 people
- 60 Democrats
- 19 Republicans
- 1 Independent
- 54 votes needed to break 2/3 requirement



Bill Idea



All <u>legislation</u> begins as an idea that can come from anyone including citizens and non-profit organizations. Industry lobbyists, state agencies and legislators can also come up with bill ideas.



FIND AN AUTHOR



An author is a legislator (Senator or Assembly Member) who agrees to take a bill idea to <u>Legislative Counsel</u> where it is drafted into an actual bill. The draft bill is returned to the Legislator for introduction. If the author is a Senator, the bill is introduced in <u>the Senate</u>. If the author is an Assembly Member, the bill is introduced in <u>the Assembly</u>.



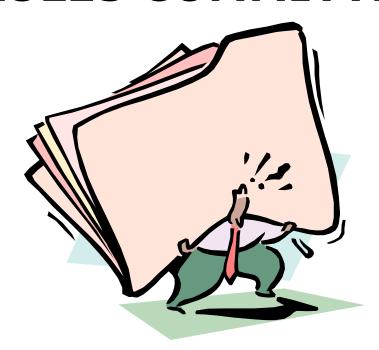
FIRST READING



The author reads the bill on the floor of the house of origin. The bill is assigned a number and title.



RULES COMMITTEE



The bill goes to the Assembly or Senate <u>Rules</u> Committee.



POLICY COMMITTEE(S)



The bill goes to one or more <u>policy</u> committees.



FISCAL COMMITTEE \$\$\$\$



The bill goes to the Senate or Assembly Appropriations Committee.



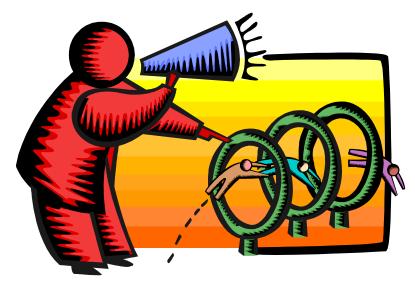
SECOND AND THIRD READING: FLOOR VOTE



The bill is read a second time on the floor of the house of origin and then assigned to third reading. The author presents the bill to the floor for a vote at the third reading.



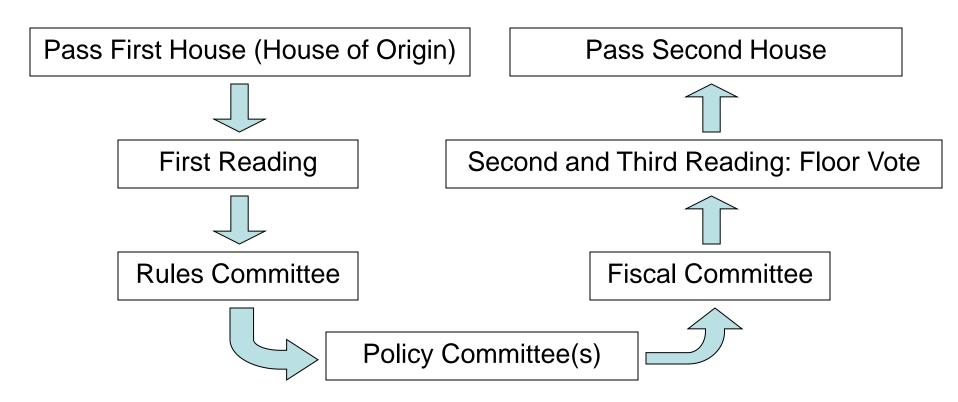
PASSES OUT OF HOUSE OF ORIGIN



The bill gets enough votes to pass out of the <u>first</u> <u>house</u>. The bill must repeat the entire process in the <u>second house</u>. If it is an Assembly bill it must go to <u>the Senate</u>. If it is a Senate bill it must go through <u>the Assembly</u> side.



Wash, Rinse, Repeat in the Second House





RESOLUTION OF DIFFERNCES



If the bill is <u>amended</u> in the second house, it must go back to the <u>house of origin</u> for <u>concurrence</u>. If agreement cannot be reached the bill must go to a committee made up of Senators and Assembly Members to resolve differences.



BILL GOES TO GOVERNOR



The bill is signed into law or <u>vetoed</u> by the Governor. A governor's veto can be overridden by a two-thirds vote in both houses.



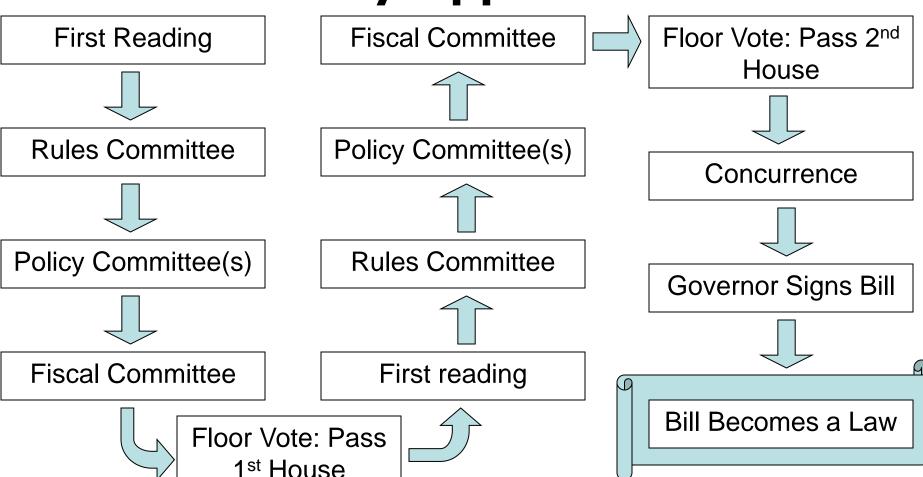
BILL BECOMES LAW



The bill is written into the <u>California Code</u> and becomes a law or statute.



Advocacy Opportunities





Influencing Regulations and Legislation



Influencing Regulations and Legislation – Part 1



Write the decision-maker



• Call the decision-maker's office



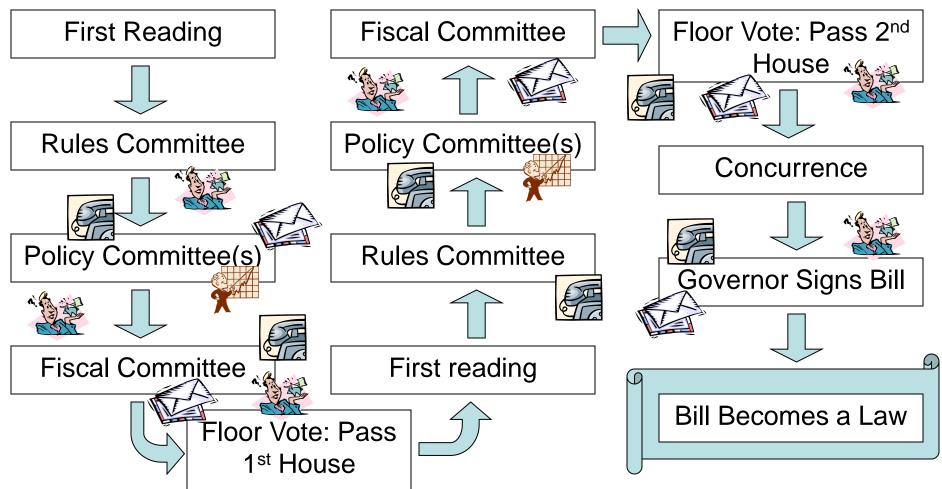
Meet with the decision-maker



 Testify at regulatory or legislative hearings



Advocacy Opportunities





Meeting with Legislators: Keys to Success

- Be prepared
 - Well-scripted
 - Concise
- Be nice/respectful with all staff
- Have good stories especially indistrict messages
- Develop a personal connection
 - Find common ground and build relationship from there • Have an ask
- Demonstrate your expertise

- Create opportunities for follow up
 - Become a "go-to" expert for the office
- Leave something behind
 - Business cards
 - One-pager
 - Fact sheets
 - Reports
- Don't lie
- Follow up



Meeting with Legislators: Structure

- Identify a lead/facilitator
- Introductions
- Summary of group who are you/what do you care about/what do you have expertise in
- Down to details
 - Personal stories
 - Legislation/Education
 - Why it is important
 - What you want them to do (your "ask")
- Discussion/questions
- Thank you and wrap up (identify any follow up)