

## 2009 Legislative Calendar

Throughout the year, various actions may be necessary to aid in the passage or killing of a bill. As advocates, it is important to be aware of legislative deadlines and a bill's status so you can plan your advocacy efforts.

The legislative process can be fast paced. Amendments to legislation — or the very prospect of legislation — can change very quickly. Becoming familiar with the legislative calendar below can help you better understand the legislative process and help you advocate more effectively for your cause.

**January** — Bills are drafted and background information is gathered; legislators are asked to author bills; bills are introduced

**February** — Bills introduced

- February 27 — Deadline for bill introduction

**March** — Build support for bills

**April** — Policy committee hearings

- April 3 — Legislature recesses until April 12 (Legislators may be available in district offices for meetings)
- Support or opposition letters are usually due to the committee one week before the hearing in order to be listed in the committee analysis.

**May** — Policy and fiscal committee hearings; floor hearings

- Floor alerts (memos) can be sent to all legislators in the house of origin
- May 1 — Last day for policy committees to hear fiscal bills
- May 15 — Last day for policy committees to hear non-fiscal bills
- May 29 — Last day for fiscal committees to hear fiscal bills

**June** — Floor hearings; 2<sup>nd</sup> house policy committee hearings

- June 5 — Last day to pass bills out of house of origin
- June 15 — Budget bill must be passed by midnight

**July** — 2<sup>nd</sup> house policy and fiscal committee hearings

- July 10 — Last day for policy committees to hear bills
- July 17 — Legislature recesses until August 17 (Legislators may be available in district offices for meetings)

**August** — 2<sup>nd</sup> house fiscal committee and floor hearings

- Aug. 28 — Last day for fiscal committees to hear bills

**September** — Floor hearings; Bill passage

- Sept. 4 — Last day to amend a bill on the floor
- Sept. 11 — Last day for Legislature to pass bills

**October 11** — Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills

You can find extensive information on the status, text, or other details of a bill at [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov). Simply click on "Bill Information" and enter the bill number.