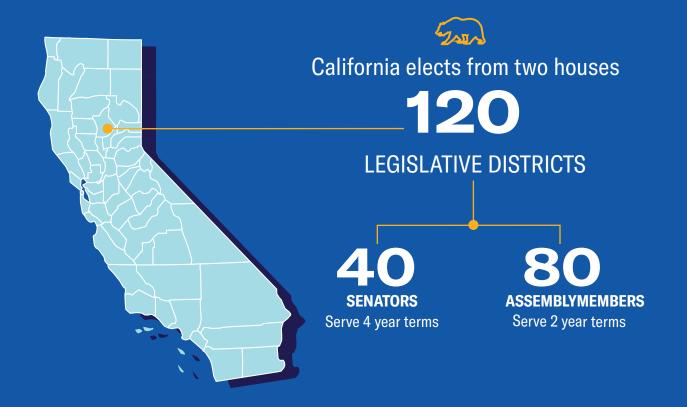
A Guide to the California Legislature

EXERCISE YOUR POWER WE THE PEOPLE

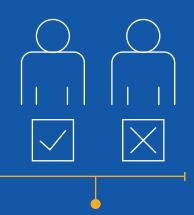
HOW THE LEGISLATURE WORKS



LEGISLATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR



Debating the merits of bills



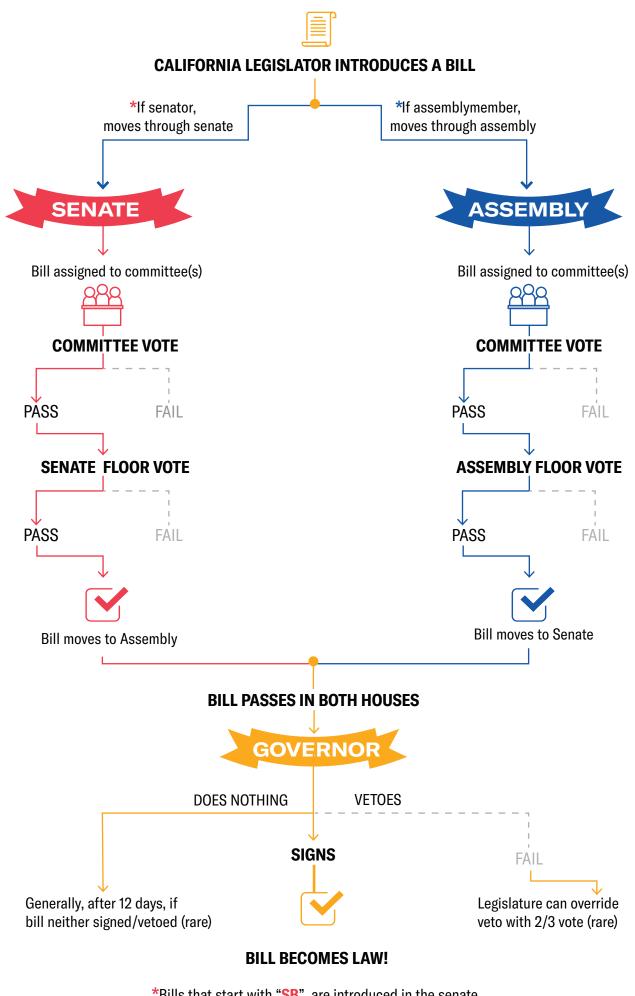
Voting to

introducing bills

Drafting &

pass or kill bills

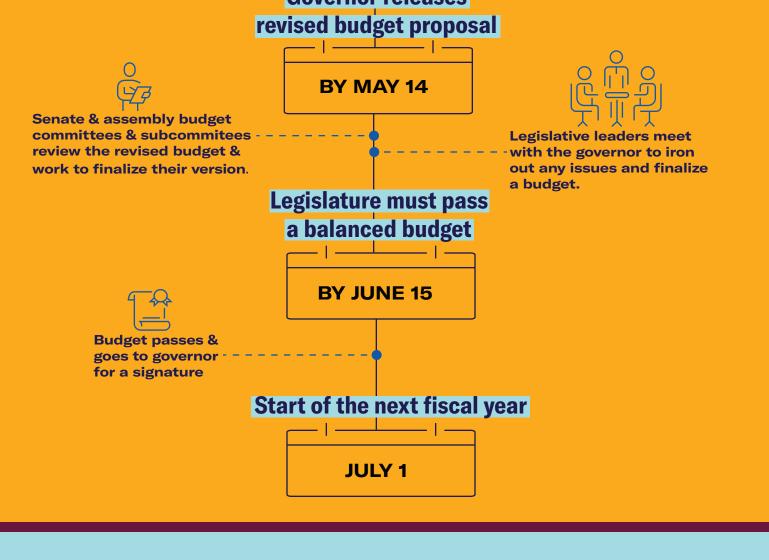
HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW



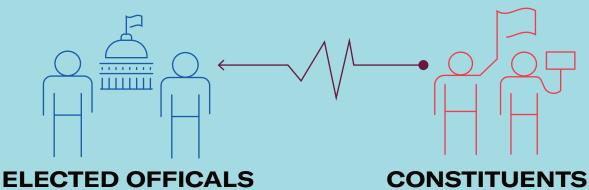
*Bills that start with "SB" are introduced in the senate *Bills that start with "AB" are introduced in the assembly

THE STATE BUDGET PROCESS

| | eleases propo next fiscal y | |
|-------|--------------------------------|--|
| BY J | ANUARY 10 | 0 (भूर |
| | • | Senate & assembly budget committees & - subcommitees review the gov.'s budget & craft their own version. |
| Gover | or roloasos | |



LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY



Legislators' job is to represent the interests of their constituents. That means they work for you.

RESEARCH YOUR LEGISLATOR

www.assembly.ca.gov/assemblymembers www.senate.ca.gov/senators

Not sure who your legislators are?

> www.findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov

Here's how you can contact them: CALL & WR E THEM (~) TIP 1 TIP 4 Know the name of Make it short your legislator. and sweet. 🕑 TIP 2 ✓) TIP 5 Plan out what you Tell a personal will say. Be prepared story, if you to provide your have one. home address.

 (\checkmark) TIP 3 **Remember to** mention the bill number & why you are contacting your legislator. (i.e. "Vote yes on SB xxxx!")

TIP 6

Frame the problem, solution, & action.

MEET THEM IN PERSON



STEP ONE Schedule your meeting.



STEP TWO Be flexible and patient.



STEP THREE Prepare, educate yourself, & establish a clear goal.



STEP FOUR Make a clear ask (i.e. "Vote yes on SB xxxx") & take notes.



STEP FIVE Follow up & say thank you!



CONNECT WITH YOUR **LEGISLATORS EARLY & OFTEN**

Make sure you sign up for our e-mail action alerts at aclu.org for timely opportunities to contact your legislators.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD.

Your participation strengthens our democracy.

