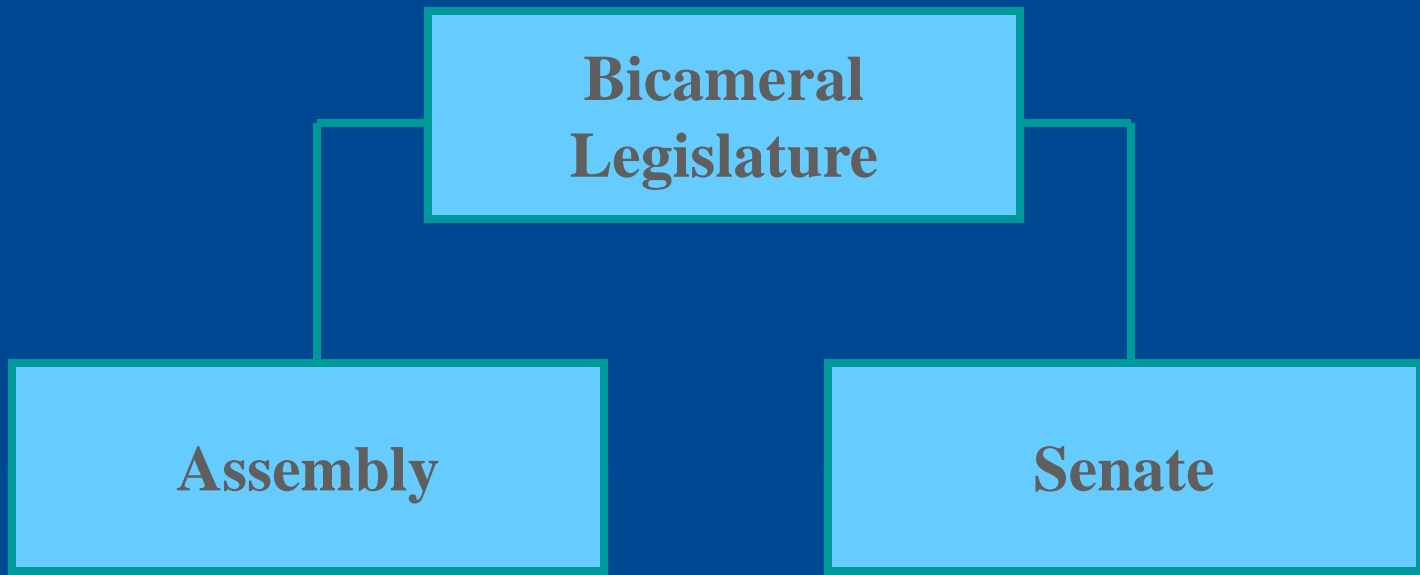


California Legislature



Diane Boyer-Vine, Legislative Counsel
Fred Messerer, Principal Deputy II

California Legislature



Assembly

- 80 Assembly Members
- Must be over 18 and U. S. Citizen
- Represent a district of approximately 465,000 citizens
- Elected every 2 years

Senate

- 40 Senators
- Must be over 18 and U. S. Citizen
- Represent a district of approximately 930,000 citizens
- Elected to a 4-year term
 - 20 Senators elected at each biennial election

Term Limits

- During his or her lifetime, each Senator or Member of the Assembly may serve no more than 12 years in the Legislature
- Can serve all of his or her time in one house or may split that time between the houses

Senate Legislative Offices

- **President
(Lieutenant
Governor)**
- **President pro
Tempore**
- **Floor Leaders**
- **Legislators**
- **Rules Committee**
- **Party Caucuses**
- **Secretary of the
Senate**
- **Sergeant at Arms**
- **Committee Staff
(Partisan)**
- **Member's Office
Staff (Partisan)**

Assembly

Legislative Offices

- **Speaker**
- **Speaker pro Tempore**
- **Floor leaders**
- **Legislators**
- **Rules Committee**
- **Party Caucuses**
- **Chief Clerk**
- **Sergeant at Arms**
- **Committee Staff (Partisan)**
- **Member's Office Staff (Partisan)**

Non-Partisan Professional Staff

- **Office of Legislative Counsel**
 - **Legislative Data Center**
 - **Legislative Counsel Bureau**
- **Legislative Analyst**
- **Bureau of State Audits**

Two Paths to Lawmaking

Initiative

- May proposed to the voters statutes and amendments to the California Constitution

Petition process

- Text of measure
- Certification of signatures
- Statutory initiative – 5% of votes for all candidates for Governor at the last gubernatorial election
- Constitutional initiative – 8% of votes for all candidates for Governor at the last gubernatorial election
- Secretary of State submits at next general election at least 131 days after measure qualifies

Legislative

- Legislature passes legislation



Legislative Sessions

- **Biennial Regular Session**
 - Starts the first Monday in December after the November general election
 - Ends on November 30th two years later
- **Extraordinary Session**
 - Upon call of the Governor

Interim Periods

- Organizational Recess (First Year)
 - From first Monday in December for about 30 days
- Spring Recess (First Year)
 - 10-day period around Easter
- Summer Recess (First Year)
 - 30-day period from mid-July to mid-August

Interim Periods

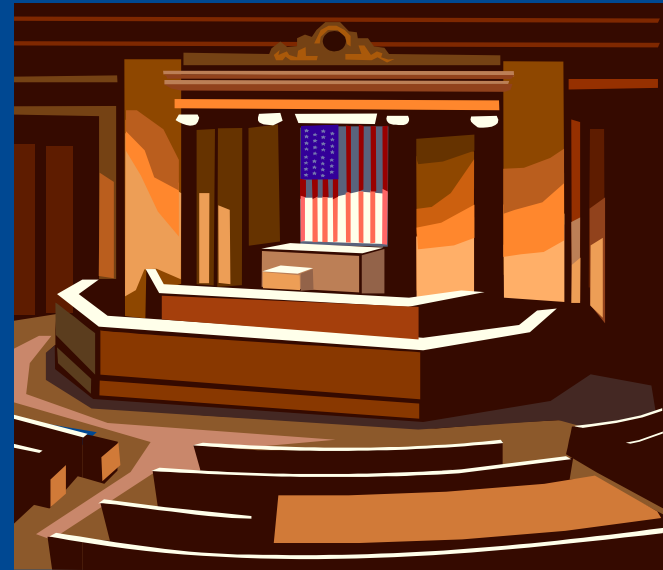
- Interim Study Recess
 - From mid-September to beginning of January
- Spring Recess (Second Year)
 - 10-day period around Easter
- Summer Recess (Second Year)
 - 30-day period from early July to early August

Interim Periods

- Last Day for Legislature to Meet
 - August 31st of second year
- Final Recess
 - September 1st to
November 30th of second year

The Bill Is Printed

- No action for 30 days after introducing and printing
- Rules Committee assigns bill to committee(s)
- Bills are assigned to policy committees according to subject area and may be assigned to a fiscal committee if the bill has a fiscal impact on the State or requires an expenditure of state funds



Introduced by Senator Evans
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Cook)

December 6, 2010

An act to amend Section 1050 of the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 10, as introduced, Evans. Military and veterans: Veterans' Home Allied Council.

Existing law establishes the Veterans' Home Allied Council pursuant to the constitution of the Allied Council, Veterans' Home of California, comprised of members of the home, as an advisory body to the Administrator of the Veterans' Home.

This bill would provide for the establishment of a Veterans' Home Allied Council for each veterans' home, and would additionally permit each council to represent veterans who reside in the veterans' home for which the council was established in matters before the Legislature if each council, in the course of providing that representation, complies with specified requirements, as prescribed.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1050 of the Military and Veterans Code
2 is amended to read:

Required Votes

- Most common Senate votes needed for passage
 - 21 votes (majority vote)
 - 27 votes (urgency, bond act, and some appropriations bills, all Senate Constitutional Amendments)
- Most common Assembly votes needed for passage
 - 41 votes (majority vote)
 - 54 votes (urgency, bond act, and some appropriations bills, all Assembly Constitutional Amendments)

Governor Has 12 Days to ...

- Sign bill
- Veto bill
- Allow bill to become law without signature



Governor Has 30 Days to ...

- Sign or veto a bill or allow a bill to become law if the bill is in the Governor's possession on the first day of the interim study recess or final recess



2013-14 Legislative Session

- 4,241 bills introduced
- 31 Constitutional amendments
- 528 resolutions

