CPSC
California Product Stewardship Council℠

The Legislative Process - How Does It Work And How Can I Get Involved?

IDCon 2024

Sponsored by WM

Presented By:
Doug Kobold
May 2, 2024

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Developing Bill Ideas

- Do you have a problem that needs to be solved?
- Is a statewide approach needed and how will it help?
- Who else may be interested?
- Who in the Capitol may be willing to champion this idea?

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What Are Legislative Advocates Looking for in a Bill?

- Strong narrative that includes **objective facts** and **data** to support the effort
- The estimated costs associated with compliance, implementation, and administration of the bill
- Other reasonable avenues attempted to fix the problem
- Strong author that:
  - Is knowledgeable in this policy area
  - Sits on policy committees relevant to bill
  - Showcases commitment to the bill

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Impact of Local Ordinances

Board of Supervisors

CONTINUED FROM

SECOND READING

- Local ordinances build political pressure
- Creates pressure on opposition
- Creates press and visibility
- Provides opportunity to pilot policies and programs
- SB 212 (Jackson, 2018) is a prime example

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The Legislative Process

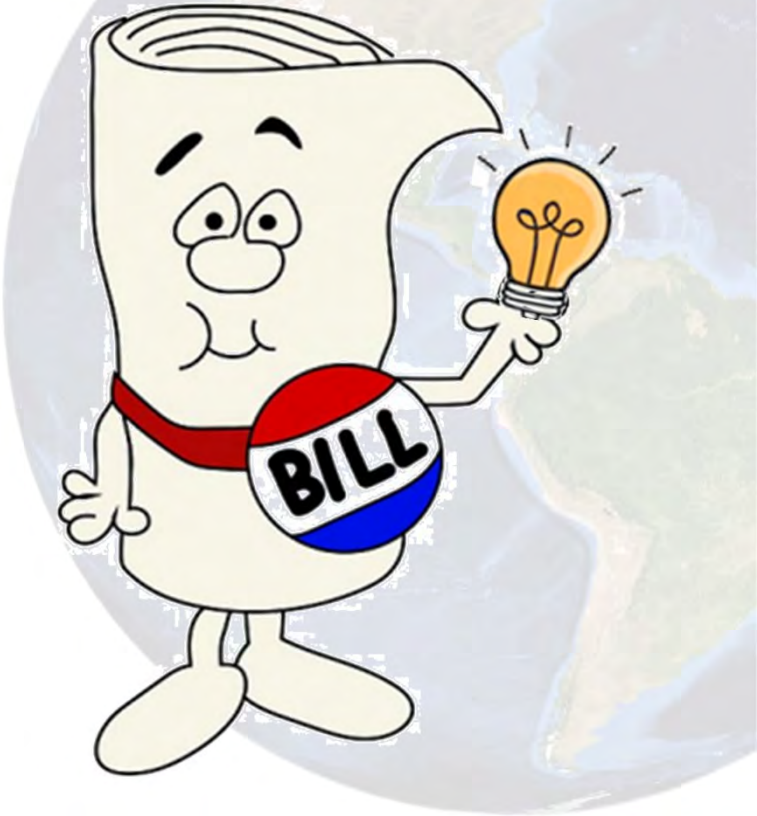
CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

What are Legislative Offices Looking for?

- What problem is the bill solving
- What impact it has on their district
- The sentiment the general public has on the issue
- If a similar bill has been previously introduced
- The support and opposition of the bill
- The amount of effort required to pass and implement the bill



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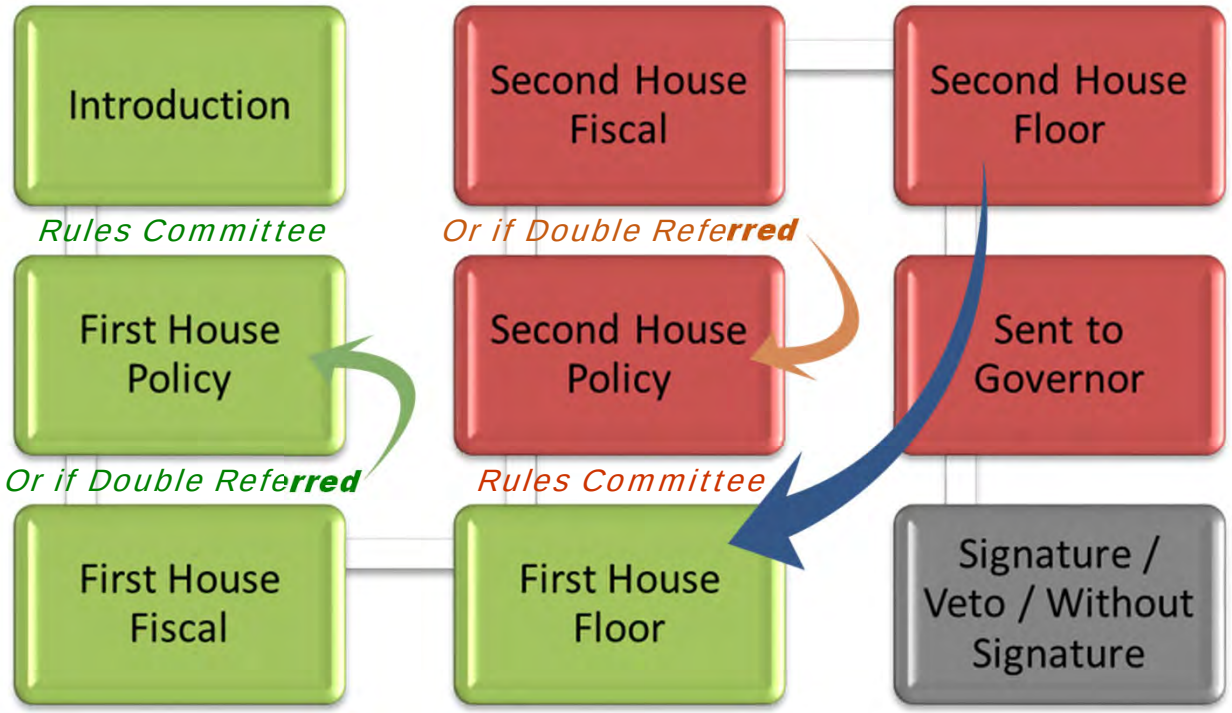
The Legislative Path of a Bill



2/3 vote in each house!

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Working with Committees

- Policy v. Fiscal Committees
- Committees specialize in specific policy areas
- Committee staff are subject matter experts that review bills assigned to the committee
- You can write a letter to the committee and testify (if invited to do so) during hearings to voice your expertise and position on a bill
- Committee information is available on the Senate (www.senate.ca.gov) and Assembly (www.assembly.ca.gov) websites
- Hearing dates and times are available in the daily file and Senate and Assembly Websites

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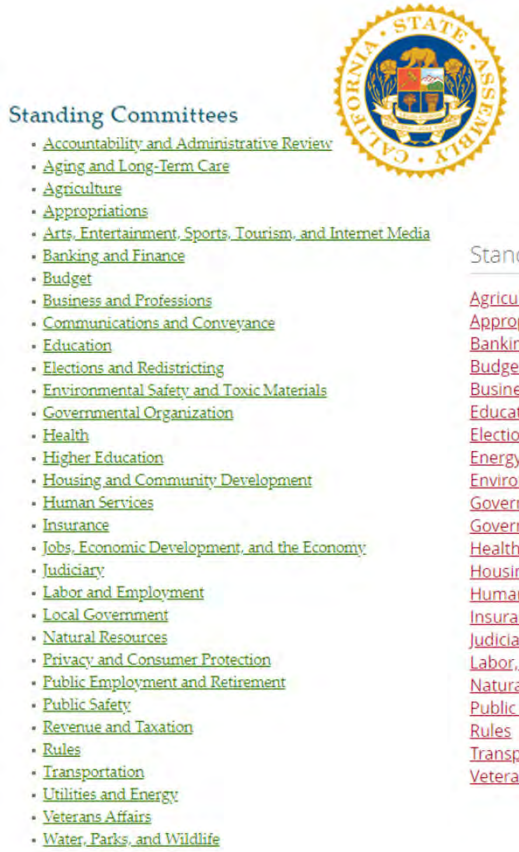
Glossary

- **Rules** – Assembly/Senate Committee on Rules
- **Approps** – Assembly/Senate Committee on Appropriations
- **ESTM** - Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials
- **Natural Resources** - Assembly Committee on Natural Resources
- **EQ** – Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
- **Water** – Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Water



Standing Committees

- Accountability and Administrative Review
- Aging and Long-Term Care
- Agriculture
- Appropriations
- Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media
- Banking and Finance
- Budget
- Business and Professions
- Communications and Conveyance
- Education
- Elections and Redistricting
- Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials
- Governmental Organization
- Health
- Higher Education
- Housing and Community Development
- Human Services
- Insurance
- Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy
- Judiciary
- Labor and Employment
- Local Government
- Natural Resources
- Privacy and Consumer Protection
- Public Employment and Retirement
- Public Safety
- Revenue and Taxation
- Rules
- Transportation
- Utilities and Energy
- Veterans Affairs
- Water, Parks, and Wildlife

Standing Committees

Agriculture
Appropriations
Banking and Financial Institutions
Budget and Fiscal Review
Business, Professions and Economic Development
Education
Elections and Constitutional Amendments
Energy, Utilities and Communications
Environmental Quality
Governance and Finance
Governmental Organization
Health
Housing
Human Services
Insurance
Judiciary
Labor, Public Employment and Retirement
Natural Resources and Water
Public Safety
Rules
Transportation
Veterans Affairs

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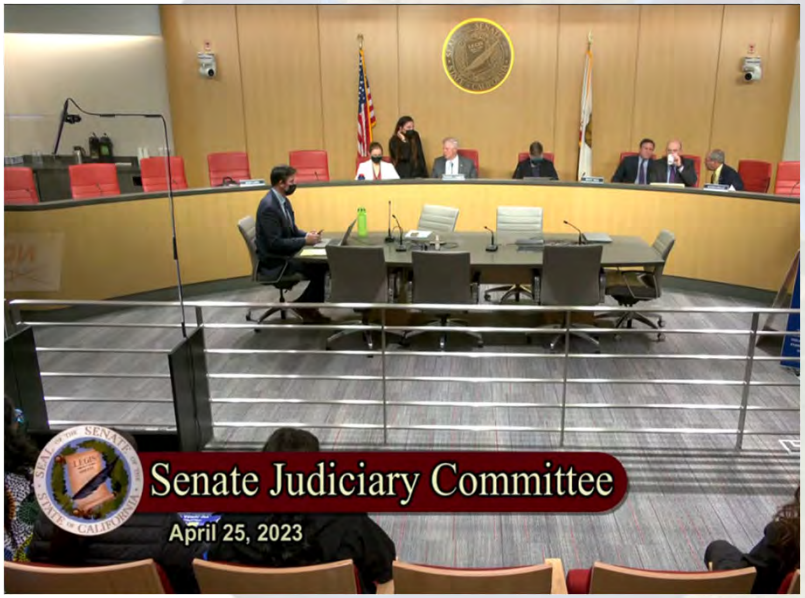
Committee Hearings

- Committee hearings are open to the public and a great opportunity to engage in the legislative process

- You can monitor hearings online or attend the hearing in person and provide testimony on a bill (“Me Too” testimony unless invited)

- Find out when a bill is scheduled to be heard by checking the committee website or Daily File



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Fiscal Committee

- The fiscal impact on the state of the bill will be determined by Appropriations Committee staff
- The bill is set for hearing
- If the costs of the bill is low, the bill is likely to be passed out without much discussion
- If the cost of the bill is high, it will be placed on the “suspense file” for consideration along with other fiscal bills and prioritized by the leadership

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Senate/Assembly Floor

- The author of the measure will present the bill and take questions from other members
- Occasionally, mirroring bills will run through both houses simultaneously (i.e., SB 1215 and AB 2440)
- Once approved, the measure is sent to the second house, where the Rules Committee will review it and assign it to a policy committee(s)
- Lobbyists “work the gate”
- The process repeats in the second house

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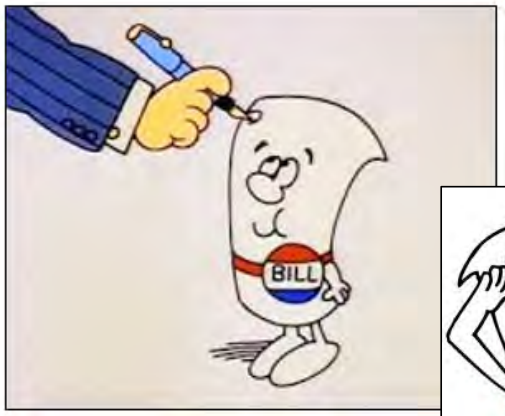
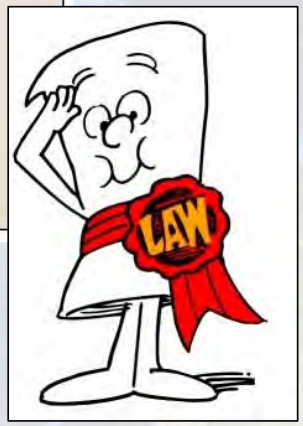
Governor's Desk

- Once both houses have approved the same version of the bill, it is presented to the Governor
- The Governor has 12 business days to consider the bill
- He must take an affirmative action on the bill:
  - If he signs the bill, it becomes law
  - If he returns the bill to the legislature without his signature, it is vetoed
  - If he does nothing, it will become law without his signature (very rare)
- A Veto can be overridden
  - Requires 2/3 vote in each house





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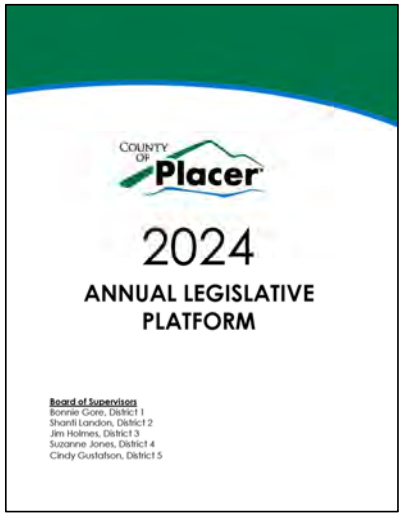
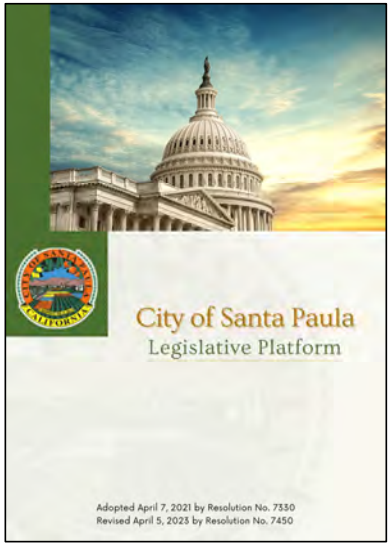
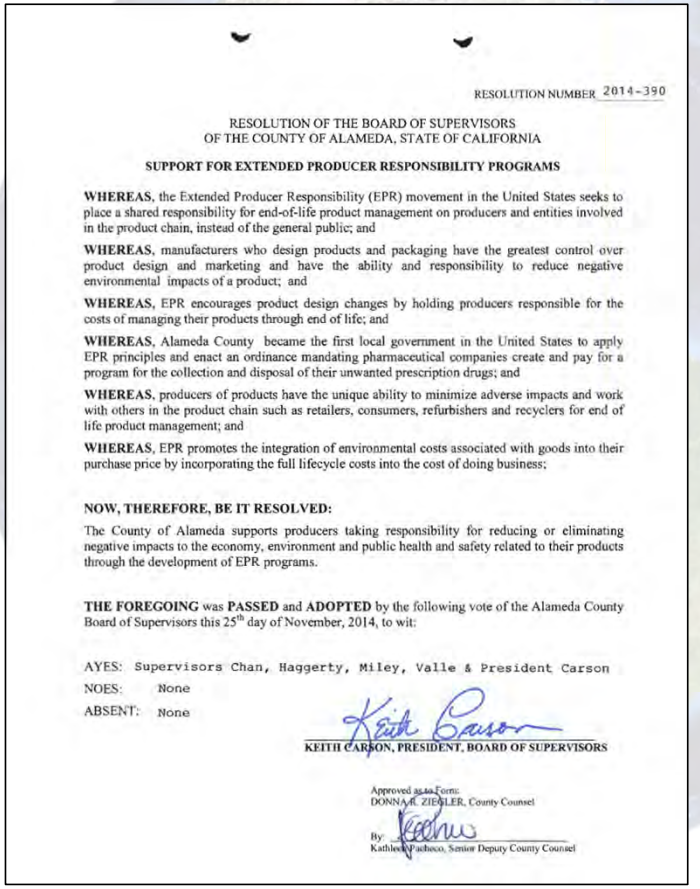
Other Things To Think About!

Local Resolutions & Platforms

- Local resolutions may be needed to sign coalition letters.
  - Resolutions authorize certain advocacy positions in advance.
  - Authority can be delegated to certain positions within the organization.
- Get certain policy areas into your legislative platform.







RESOLUTION NUMBER 2014-390

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SUPPORT FOR EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) movement in the United States seeks to place a shared responsibility for end-of-life product management on producers and entities involved in the product chain, instead of the general public; and

WHEREAS, manufacturers who design products and packaging have the greatest control over product design and marketing and have the ability and responsibility to reduce negative environmental impacts of a product; and

WHEREAS, EPR encourages product design changes by holding producers responsible for the costs of managing their products through end of life; and

WHEREAS, Alameda County became the first local government in the United States to apply EPR principles and enact an ordinance mandating pharmaceutical companies create and pay for a program for the collection and disposal of their unwanted prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS, producers of products have the unique ability to minimize adverse impacts and work with others in the product chain such as retailers, consumers, refurbishers and recyclers for end of life product management; and

WHEREAS, EPR promotes the integration of environmental costs associated with goods into their purchase price by incorporating the full lifecycle costs into the cost of doing business;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The County of Alameda supports producers taking responsibility for reducing or eliminating negative impacts to the economy, environment and public health and safety related to their products through the development of EPR programs.

THE FOREGOING was **PASSED** and **ADOPTED** by the following vote of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors this 25th day of November, 2014, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Chan, Haggerty, Miley, Valle & President Carson
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

KEITH CARSON, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Approved as to Form:
DONNA R. ZIEGLER, County Counsel
By:
Kathleen Pacheco, Senior Deputy County Counsel

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Coalition Building

Supporting Organizations

- Coalitions are crucial when supporting or opposing a bill. A coalition provides….
  - A louder voice
  - Greater resources
  - Increased visibility
  - More accountability

- When trying to build a coalition, ask yourself a couple simple questions
  - Who else does this bill affect?
  - Who have I/we worked with before?

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Negotiating with Your Opposition

Current 2023/24 Legislative Session

Now in the 2nd Year

- 2023 Statues went into effect 1/1/2024
- Legislature reconvened 1/3/2024
  - 1st House Policy Committees Deadline 4/26/24 (Fiscal Bills)
    - 1st House Policy Committees Deadline 5/3/24 (Non-Fiscal Bills)
      - 1st House Fiscal Committees Deadline 5/17/24 (Fiscal Bills)
        - 1st House Deadline 5/24/24 (Fiscal Bills)
        - Budget Deadline 6/15/24
        - Summer Recess 7/4/24 – 8/4/24
        - Bill Passage Deadline 8/31/24

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Resources

- LegInfo: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/home.xhtml
- Find your state legislators: http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/
- CA Senate: https://www.senate.ca.gov/
- CA Assembly: https://www.assembly.ca.gov/
- Daily File (legislative schedule, printed daily during legislative session):
  - Senate: https://www.senate.ca.gov/dailyfile
  - Assembly: https://www.assembly.ca.gov/dailyfile/pdfpublications
- Rough&Tumble: https://www.rtumble.com/
- CalMatters: https://calmatters.org/
- The Capitol Morning Report: https://capitolmr.com/
- State of CA Department Finance:
  - Legislative Analyses: http://www.dof.ca.gov/Legislative_analyses/
  - Budget trailer bill Language: https://esd.dof.ca.gov/dofpublic/trailerBill.html
- Position letter Portal (for submitting letters to committees):
  - https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/

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CPSC's Product Campaigns

Refuel Your Fun & $ave!
Created in 2015

Statewide Textile Recovery Advisory Committee
Created in 2020

Don't Rush To Flush
Created in 2016

D R Cubed
Created in 2021

Make The Electronic Marine Flare Switch
Created in 2023

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Connect with CPSC!

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