#### Public Works Officers Institute Monterey, CA

Friday March 15, 2024



Strengthening California Cities through Advocacy and Education

# UNDERSTANDING THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

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## Cal Cities: Public Works Department Survey Results

Most participated Public Works Department activities:	
Webinars	59%
Monthly Calls	38%
Roundtables	21%
Policy Committees	14%
Other	10%
Statewide Committees	7%

Top Priority Topics:	
Local Streets and Roads: Maintenance and Rehabilitation	93%
Infrastructure	90%
Traffic Calming Measures and Street Safety	79%
Pavement Improvement	79%
Advanced Clean Fleet: Zev Public Fleets	62%
EV Charging Stations	62%

## Cal Cities: Public Works Department Survey



## Agenda

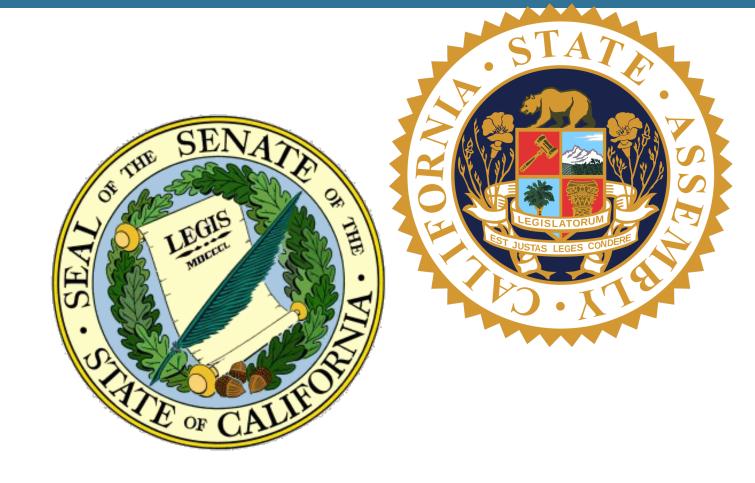
- Legislative Process
- Effective Lobbying
- 2024 Legislature: What to Expect

## Our State Legislature

In California, the legislative body is called the State Legislature and is divided into two houses (bicameral) - the State Assembly and the State Senate.

There are 40 members of the State Senate and 80 members of the State Assembly, for a total of 120 legislators.

Assembly Members are elected or re-elected every two years, and one-half of Senators are elected or re-elected every two years.
Term limits apply.



## Our State Legislature

The Assembly has 33 standing committees, the Senate has 22. They range from agriculture to labor, public employment and retirement, and everything in between!

Both houses have budget subcommittees and a litary of special, select, joint and other committees.

Committees play a critical role in the fate of a bill and how it is analyzed.



### How Does a Bill Become a Law in California?

#### THE LIFE CYCLE OF LEGISLATION From Idea into Law Policy or Appropriation CHAIRPERSON SECOND MEMBER. COMMITTEE ASSIGNS BILL TO COMMITTEE he heard h RULES AND MEMBERS TESTIFY: BILL AUTHOR NUMBERED, FIRST committee until 31st ASSEMBLY ASSIGNS BILLS TO COMMITTEE RECOMENDATIONS READING MEMBER READING, PRINTED day after introduction BILL AUTHOR READING CITIZENS CITIZENS COUNSEL WITH SENATE AMENDMENTS FOR NEEDED LEGISLATION FROM Citizens, Governor, Lobbyists LEGISLATURE HAS 60 DAYS THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE YES VETO ASSEMBLY RULES COMMITTEE VETO WITH 2/3 VOTE IN Although the procedure can become complicated, this chart shows the essential EACH HOUSE steps for passage of a bill. Typical committee actions are used to simplify charting the course of legislation. CONFERENCE REPORT Some bills require hearings by more than one committee, in which case a committee may re-refer the bill to another committee. For example, bills with monetary implications must be re-referred to the proper fiscal committee in each **GOVERNOR** House before they are sent to the second reading file and final action. SIGN ASSEMBLY and SENATE Adopt Conference Report → NO A bill may be amended at various times as it moves through the Houses. The bill must be reprinted each time an amendment is adopted by either house. All bill SUGGESTIONS F Agencies, C actions are printed in the DAILY FILES, JOURNALS and HISTORIES. If a bill is amended in the opposite House, it is returned to the House of Origin for \*Follow same procedures as in the Assembly concurrence in amendments. If House of Origin does not concur, a Conference Committee Report must then be adopted by each House before the bill can be **BECOMES LAW WITHOUT SIGNATURE** RETURN TO SENATE FLOOR COMMITTEE HEARING: COMMITTEE HEARING WITH ASSEMBLY AMENDME Policy or Appropriations CHAIRPERSON



BILL AUTHOR

CITIZENS

READIN DEBATE

SENATOR

BY MEMBER,

NUMBERED, FIRST READING, PRINTED

COMMITTEE ASSIGNS BILL TO

COMMITTEE

until 31st day after

AND MEMBERS

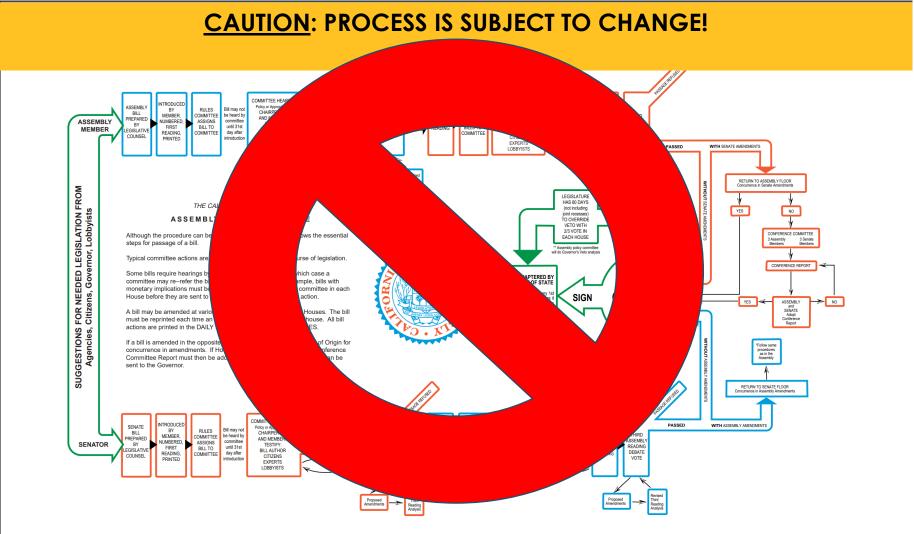
TESTIFY: BILL AUTHOR

CITIZENS

SECOND

BILL

### How Does a Bill Become a Law in California?





### Sample Position Letter

- Include the bill number, title, and your position in the subject line
- 2. One bill per letter
- State the facts
- Think about the message
- Check for amendments
- Send follow-up letters to appropriate committees as a bill Moves Along
- 7. Provide a contact
- Know the committees on which your legislator serves
- 9. Copy the correct people
- 10. Submit your letter to the California Legislative Position Letter Portal

City of Anywhere P.O. Box 123 Anywhere, CA 90000 April 2, 2008

Assembly Member Susan Jones California State Assembly State Capitol, Room 2344 Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 1357 (Jones), Landfill Landscaping, NOTICE OF CITY OPPOSITION

. Bill Number. Title and Position

Dear Assembly Member Jones:

I am writing on behalf of the City Council of the City of Anywhere to respectfully oppose AB 1357 (Jones). AB 1357 would require that landfills and solid waste transfer stations be landscaped so that they cannot be seen from the air at an altitude of 2,000 feet and that the landscaping be completed and the facility be in compliance within 120 days of the bill's enactment.

The City of Anywhere opposes AB 1357 for several reasons. First, the landscaping requirement will be extremely costly, both to the city as the landfill operator and to the citizens served by the landfill. We estimate that the cost to landscape our existing landfill and the two transfer stations operated by Acme Disposal will be about \$300,000. This does not include the annual operating and maintenance costs associated with the requirement.

Second, even if we were able to afford the cost, it would not be possible for the facilities to be in compliance within 120 days. Our Parks and Recreation Department personnel have been unable to identify any permanent vegetation that grows quickly enough to meet this deadline.

Third, we believe that the landscaping requirement is unrealistic as amended. The closest commercial airport to Anywhere is 150 miles away, and the closest general aviation airport is 70 miles away. We estimate that no more than three flights per day cross our air space and, because much of the year we are covered by clouds, we question the advisability of the legislation.

We believe that the decision of whether or not to landscape a landfill should be left to the local authorities and should be based upon local conditions. For example, in many instances it would be a wiser use of limited resources to landscape the facility with automobile, not air, traffic in mind.

For these reasons, the City of Anywhere opposes AB 1357. For more details about the City of Anywhere's position, please contact Joe Barnes at (000)123-4567.

7. Provide a Contact Person

Sincerely,

Janet Gotvotes Mayor, City of Anywhere

Members and Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources Committee Your Assembly Member Your Senator

League of California Cities

8. Know the Committees Which Your Legislator Serves On

9. Send Copies of the Letter to the Correct People

2. One Bill

3-4. How Will

5-6. Check for

Amendments

Letters

& Send Follow-Up

Per Letter

This Impact

Your City

## 10 Tips for Cities Lobbying the California Legislature

- 1. Become engaged in the state level political process by appointing a legislative liaison within your city to track key legislation and work with your regional public affairs manager. Visit the Cal Cities regional division webpage to locate contact information for your regional public affairs manager.
- 2. Use Cal Cities as a resource. Visit the Cal Cities advocacy page to access Cal Cities priority bills, city sample support and opposition letters, legislative contacts, and use our online bill search feature to track bills' progress.
- 3. Read and subscribe to the Cal Cities Advocate, Cal Cities' online newsletter, to stay current on important legislation and stories.
- 4. Develop relationships with your Senate and Assembly representatives as well as their Capitol and district office staff. Make sure to look up who your local state elected official is.
- 5. Get to know members of your local press and educate them on legislative issues affecting your city.



@calcities

## 10 Tips for Cities Lobbying the California Legislature

- 6. Understand how state decisions impact your department and city's budget by attending Cal Cities educational conferences, policy committee and department meetings, and regional division events.
- 7. Build networks and collaborate with other stakeholders, such as non-profits, businesses, or your county, in your community on key legislative issues.
- 8. Organize an internal process within your department for developing and proposing changes to both state and federal laws that will help your city.
- Adopt local policies on legislation that enable your city to react quickly to the legislative process and respond to Cal Cities action alerts.
- 10. Write letters on legislation featured in the Cal Cities Advocate. City sample support and opposition letters can be found using the Cal Cities bill search feature and entering the bill number or bill author.



## **Testimony Tips**

- Be prepared
- Be flexible
- Be concise
- Be polite and respectful
- Speak to the facts and how the bill will affect your community/job responsibilities
- Be prepared to answer questions about your testimony
- Communicate with author's office and Cal Cities staff



## 2024: What to Expect

- Election Year
- Budget Deficit
- CBRT
- Public Works Policies

## Transportation

## **SB 915 (Cortese)** Autonomous Vehicles: Local Control and Increased Public Safety.

This measure would require an autonomous vehicle (AV) service to obtain approval for local service by the adoption of a local ordinance or resolution. Also, would require and the establishment of an override system accessible by local law enforcement and first responders in case of an emergency.

Cal Cities Position: Co-Sponsor

AB 1777 (Ting) Autonomous Vehicles.
Intent Language.
AB 1786 (Rodriguez) Autonomous Vehicles.

Intent Language.

## Transportation – Advanced Clean Fleets

#### AB 2418 (Patterson) Federal Pre-emption.

This measure allow the federal emissions standards to preempt CA's more restrictive requirements.

#### AB 2626 (Dixon) 10-Year Delay.

This measure would allow local government a 10-year delay.

#### AB 3219 (Sanchez) Price Caps.

This measure would establish price caps on the retail sale of ZEVs.

## Transportation – Advanced Clean Fleets

#### **SB 1393 (Niello)** Appeals Advisory Committee.

This measure would establish an Appeals Advisory Committee to review appeals of denied requests for exemptions.

#### AB 2266 (Petrie-Norris) Voucher Incentives.

This measure would require the state board to authorize a voucher to be used for the acquisition of any zero-emission vehicle.

## Transportation

SB 947 (Seyarto) Department of Transportation: Project design changes. This measure would make the Department of Transportation responsible for additional costs after the project is included in the state transportation improvement program or the state highway operation and protection program.

## Permitting

## SB 1418 (Archuletta) Hydrogen-Fueling Stations: Administrative Approval.

This measure would extend the sunset of the existing requirement for local municipalities to administratively approve applications to install hydrogen0fueling stations. Also, this measure would require the adoption of an ordinance that creates an expedited, streamlined permitting process for hydrogen-fueling stations by 2025.

Cal Cities Position: Oppose Unless Amended

## Permitting

#### AB 2559 (Petrie-Norris) EVCS Permitting: Reporting.

This measure requires GO-Biz to develop on their website a reporting platform where EVSPs can log any issues they are having with a local jurisdiction so GO-Biz can begin to identify the root cause of the permitting delay or denial.

**Cal Cities Position**: Concerns

## Electric Bicycles

#### AB 2744 (McCarty) Bicycle Lanes: Right Turns.

This measure prohibits the addition of a right-turn or travel lane within 20 feet of a marked or unmarked crosswalk where there is not already a dedicated and marked right-turn or travel lane, and would prohibit vehicles from using this 20-foot area for right turns unless the area is already marked as a dedicated right-turn lane before January 1, 2025.

Cal Cities Position: Opposed.

#### Broadband

#### AB 2708 (Patterson, J.) Digital Equity Franchising Act.

This measure would expand the annual report generated by the Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy to include the total cost to complete the statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network, the total available funding for the statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network, and the projected completion date for the statewide open-access middle-mile broadband network.

# QUESTIONS?

#### **Damon Conklin**

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