

California
Water
Conservancy

BILL TO LAW PROCESS

Steps Overview:

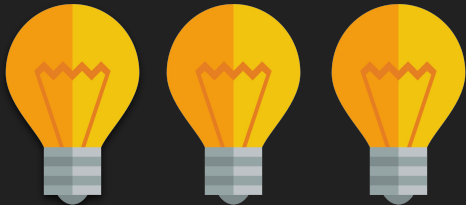
1. Idea proposal
2. 1st reading
3. Committee Hearings
4. Second Reading
5. Third Reading
6. 1-5 repeated in other house
7. Governor
8. Secretary of State



1. Idea Proposal

- Senator/Assembly member sends idea + language to **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL**
- Drafted + returned to author
- Bill Guidelines: One subject

Title summarizes contents



2. First Reading

- Printed
- 30 days for public review
- Bill number, author name, title presented
 - Full text not always read



3. Committee Hearings

- Bill ⇒ Committee (according to subject matter)
- Author presents bill + others testify in support/opposition
- Outcomes:
 - pass (majority vote) || amend + pass || defeat



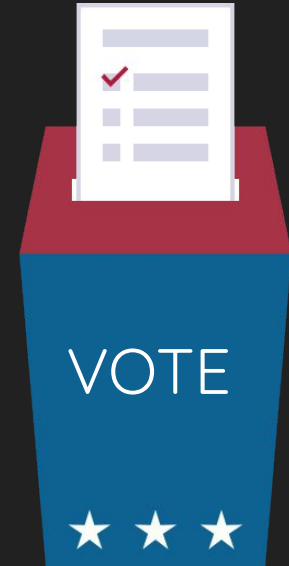
4. Second Reading

- No amendments:
 - sent to **Engrossing/Enrolling Office**
 - Read again in same house + put in reading file for 3rd reading
- Yes amendments:
 - Reprinted with ~~striketrough~~ for omitted parts and *italics* for added parts
 - Placed in **DAILY FILE** for 3rd reading



5. Third Reading

- Explained by author + discussed ⇒ VOTE
 - Senate
 - 27 votes for immediate/\$ bills
 - 21 votes for other bills
 - Assembly
 - 54 votes for immediate/\$ bills
 - 41 votes for other bills



6. Approval by other house

- Steps 1-5 repeated in other house
 - If other house amends bill ⇒ return to original house
- Agree: bill goes to governor
- Disagree: 2 house conference meeting
 - 3 Senate + 3 Assembly members form compromise



7. Governor

- Sign bill into law OR
- 12 days w/out action ⇒ automatically becomes law
- Veto
 - Legislature has 60 days to act
- Bill goes into effect 1/1 of next year



8. Secretary of State

- Governor approved bill stored in Secretary of State
 - Official record + law of state
 - Assigned chapter number
 - Stamped with **Great Seal of the State of CA**
- FINISHED!!

