



California Homeschool Network

Strengthening the Voice of California Homeschoolers™

Grassroots Homeschool Advocacy For California Homeschoolers

Everything You Ever Needed To Know About California Government



2018 Edition

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Introduction

California has three statewide homeschool groups. Each one advocates for homeschoolers in Sacramento by watching legislation and policy that could affect homeschooling and by responding to threats to homeschool freedom. It may seem like Californians could sit back and let those three groups do all of the monitoring, but as we witnessed in April of 2018, when individual families get personally involved in a legislative battle by contacting their local representatives and travelling to Sacramento to stand as a witness before a policy committee, it can have a huge impact on the outcome of that bill.



When individual homeschool families monitor and discuss legislation with their representatives, they are exercising [grassroots advocacy](#). California Homeschool Network encourages grassroots advocacy by keeping families informed about legislation that could affect them, and by issuing action alerts when needed. Grassroots advocacy can be an effective tool to influence state law.

Your influence as a grassroots homeschool advocate can be even stronger if you visit your representatives regularly and develop meaningful relationships. Waiting until legislation that would affect homeschooling arises is a passive, reactive attitude. We encourage families to take an active, proactive attitude! Turn your advocacy trip to Sacramento into a fun and educational field trip for the whole family. This guide will provide advocacy information, some history and civics lessons, along with some field trip and planning ideas to make your trip both productive and enjoyable.

California Homeschool Network (CHN) was founded in 1994 by a statewide group of homeschooling families. We are an inclusive group which means we serve families that choose all homeschooling styles and from all religious and ethnic affiliations. We are an organization of energetic and dedicated homeschooling families working to preserve our own educational freedom and helping families provide an excellent education for their children.

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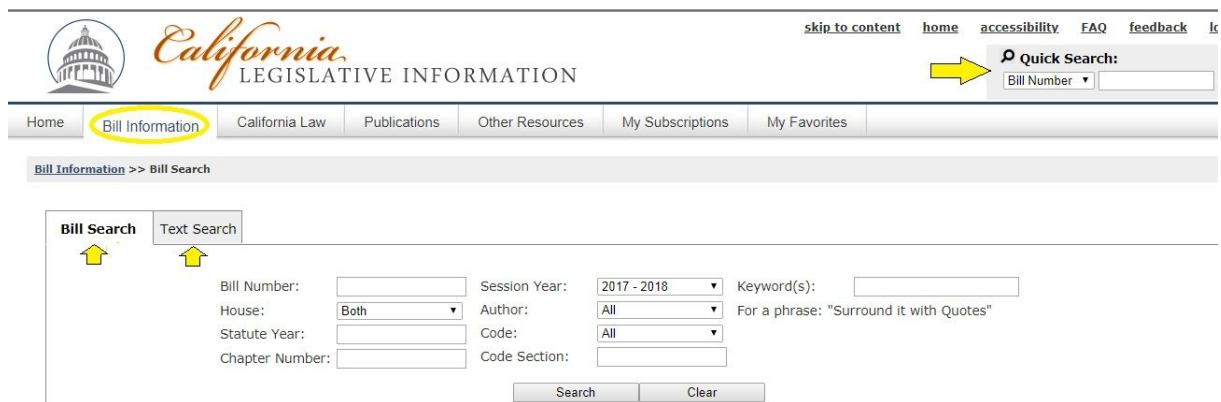
Understanding The Legislative Process

Let's start with a brief overview of how the legislative process works in California. Each legislative session is a two-year-long event. Bills can be introduced at the beginning of each year of the session, until the last week of February, and there is a big rush to get thousands of bills introduced in time. A bill is a proposed law that has been introduced by a Senator or Assembly Member. If a bill isn't quite ready by the deadline, a "spot bill" can be introduced instead to serve as a foot in the door for the bill to come. Then, after introduction, the spot bill can be amended to say what the legislator had in mind in the first place.

Anyone can come up with an idea for a new law, but only a Senator or Assembly Member can draft the idea into a bill and introduce it to the legislature. That representative then becomes the author of the bill, and other representatives can sign on as co-authors of the bill.

Finding Bills Online

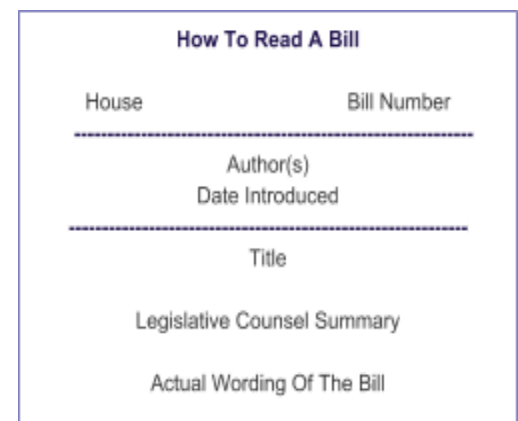
All bills introduced in both Houses can be found online. At the website <http://leginfo.ca.gov/>, click on the *Bill Information* tab. Next click on the *Bill Search* tab to search by bill number or author's name, or click on the *Text Search* tab to search for words or a phrase.



The screenshot shows the California Legislative Information website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: skip to content, home, accessibility, FAQ, feedback, and a language selector. Below this is a header with the California state seal and the text "California LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION". A yellow arrow points to a "Quick Search:" box with a "Bill Number" dropdown and a search input field. Below the header is a menu with tabs: Home, Bill Information (highlighted with a yellow circle), California Law, Publications, Other Resources, My Subscriptions, and My Favorites. Below the menu is a sub-menu with "Bill Information >> Bill Search". Below this is a search interface with two tabs: "Bill Search" (highlighted with a yellow arrow) and "Text Search" (highlighted with a yellow arrow). The "Bill Search" tab contains several search criteria: Bill Number (input field), House (dropdown menu with "Both" selected), Statute Year (input field), Chapter Number (input field), Session Year (dropdown menu with "2017 - 2018" selected), Author (dropdown menu with "All" selected), Code (dropdown menu with "All" selected), and Code Section (input field). There is also a "Keyword(s):" input field and a checkbox for "For a phrase: 'Surround it with Quotes'". At the bottom of the search interface are "Search" and "Clear" buttons.

From the menu, select *Bill Information*, then click on either the *Bill Search* or the *Text Search* tab and enter the search information. You may also search by bill number using the *Quick Search* box at the top of the page.

Senate bills start with **SB** and Assembly Bills start with **AB** followed by a number. Numbering starts fresh each legislative session, so bills introduced early in the two year session will have smaller numbers than bills introduced later. Approximately five thousand bills are introduced each year in the legislature with about a thousand of those reaching the governor's desk.



The diagram titled "How To Read A Bill" shows the structure of a bill. It is divided into sections by horizontal lines. The sections are: House, Bill Number, Author(s), Date Introduced, Title, Legislative Counsel Summary, and Actual Wording Of The Bill.

A Bill's Journey Through The Legislature

Once a senator or assembly member has decided to author a bill, it goes to the Legislative Council to be drafted into bill language, is **introduced** on the floor of the House to which the author belongs, and it is printed.

After it is introduced, each bill can be found online in the legislative database at <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>. This database includes the text of the bill along with the history, status, votes, and bill analysis. The database is updated daily during the week.

When a bill first appears on the Senate or Assembly Floor this is its **First Reading**. The bill next goes to the Rules Committee.

Committees

The **Rules Committee** refers the bill to one or more **Policy Committees** for study and a hearing which may take place no less than thirty days from the time the bill was introduced. If the bill requires funding to be spent, it must first pass through Policy Committees, and then the **Fiscal Committee**.

At the **Second Reading**, the House either approves or denies committee recommendations.

Committee hearings are open to the public, and you may testify for or against a bill. The committee may choose to **Pass** or **Defeat** the bill, or it may choose to **amend** the bill and re-refer to committee.

The committee chair may also refuse to allow a bill to be acted upon, so it is **Held In Committee**. Bills that fail to pass out of committee, but which the committee or author wish to discuss or amend further may be **Held Under Submission** or **Held Without Recommendation** or may be placed in the **inactive file**.

If a bill passes the policy committee(s) where it was assigned, it goes back to the Floor for the **Third Reading**, and it is ready for debate and vote. If the bill passes that House, it must start the whole process over again for the second House.

Policy Committees

Bills set for a committee hearing must appear in the Daily File for a minimum of four days before hearing, and another two days before a second committee hears the bill.

Once a hearing date is **Set**, an author may choose to delay or reschedule a hearing for a bill. A bill must be heard in committee by the Third Set or it is dead.

Every bill must pass both Houses.

Amendments

During this process, **amendments** may be made to the bill by the author, another member of the House, or by the committee. The author may also opt to withdraw or drop a bill, or a bill may be **Gutted and Amended**, meaning the original content will be completely replaced with language for a different bill.

Sometimes a bill passes the House of origin, but amendments are made in the second house. In those situations, if the house of origin agrees with amendments made by the second house, the bill is sent on to the Governor for signature. If not, a conference committee composed of three members each from the Assembly and Senate meets to work out a compromise which is reported to both houses for a vote. If amendments are made, the bill will need to go through **Engrossment**, meaning it will need to be assessed to make sure the wording is correct.

From Bill To Law

If the bill passes both Houses, the bill is **Enrolled** - sent to the Governor for action. The Governor has twelve days to act, and may:

- Sign the bill which creates a law that usually goes into effect on January 1st.
- Veto the bill. A vetoed bill can still be passed by a two-thirds vote in both houses.
- Or do nothing, in which case the bill becomes law without the governor's signature.

Once a bill successfully passes, it is assigned a Chapter Number and becomes law.

A visit to the Capitol can be a fun and educational field trip for the whole family!

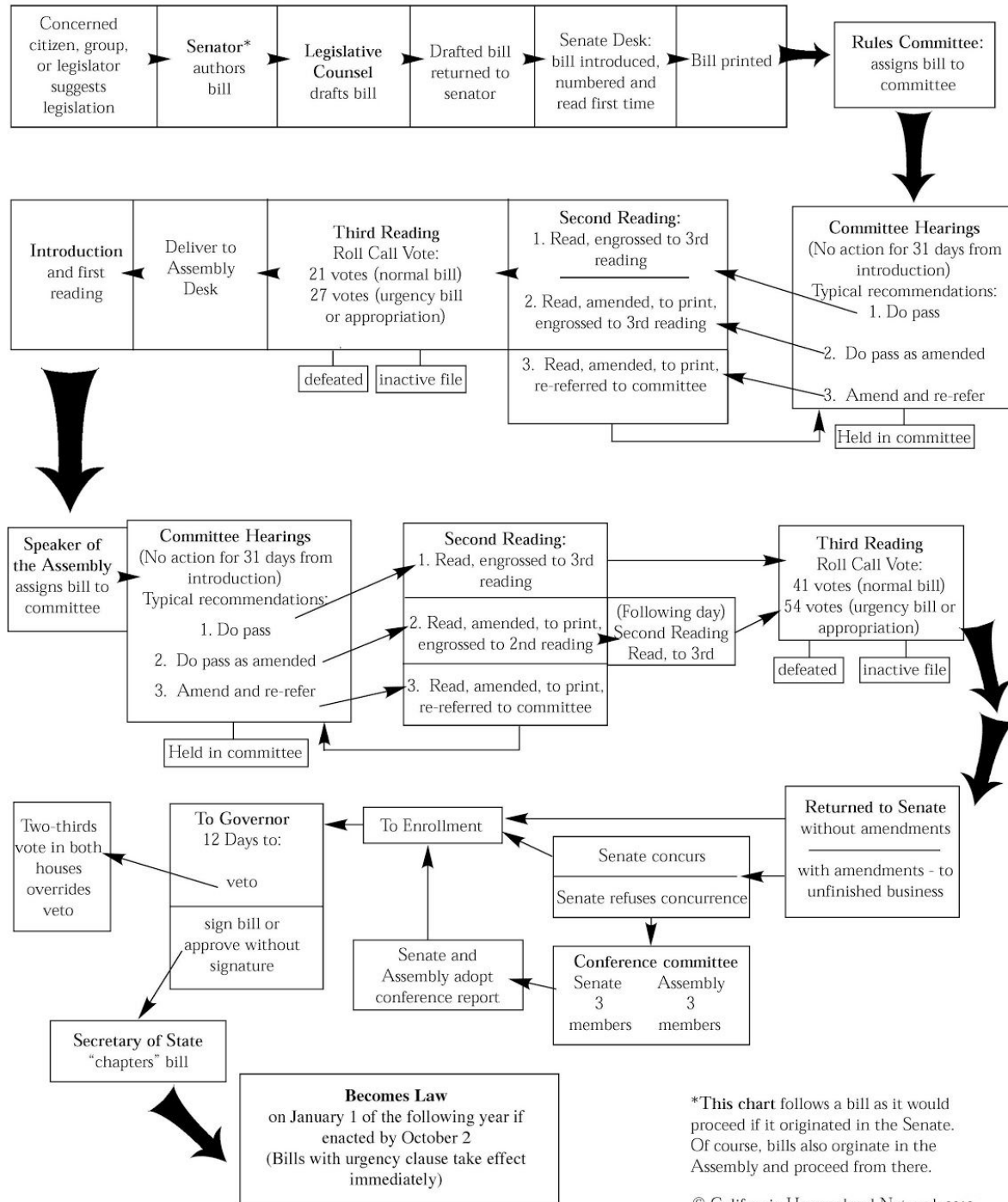


*Portraits of California's governors hang at the top of the stairwell
Between the Assembly and Senate chambers.*



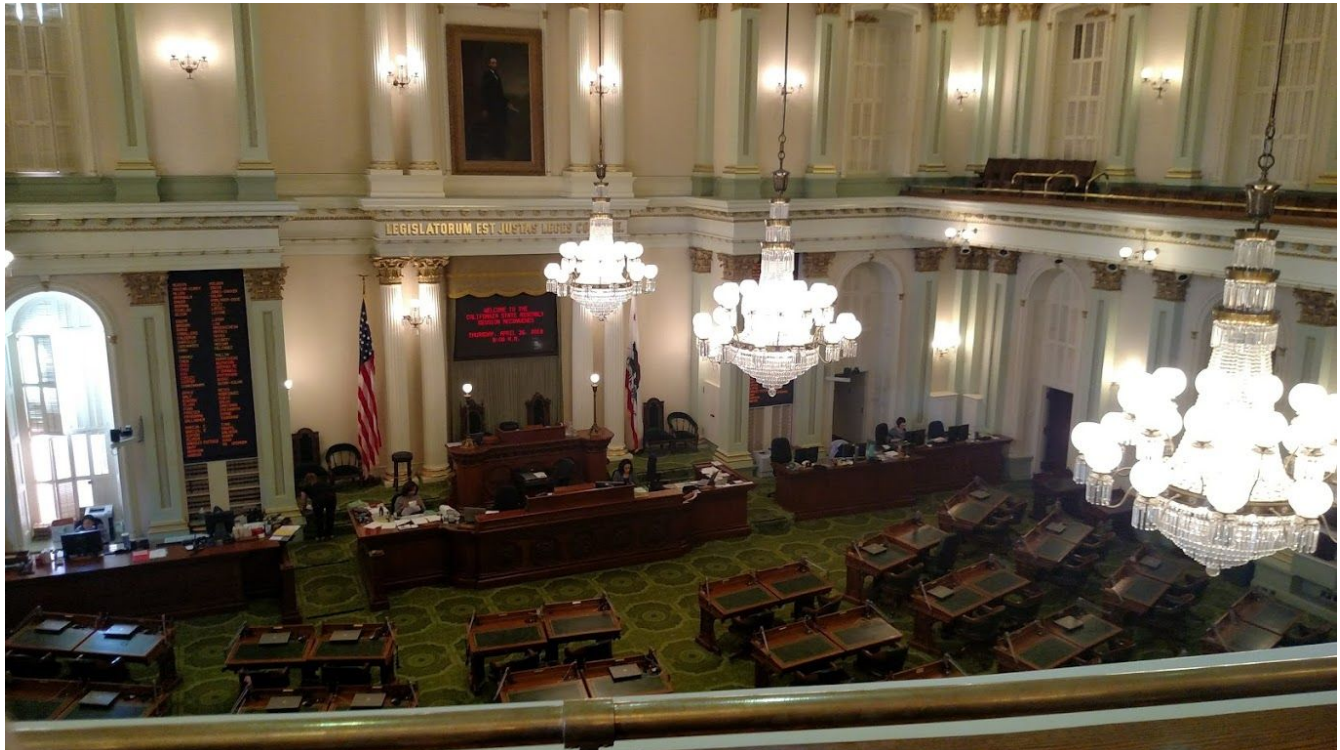
*Find the golden bear and you have
found the governor's office.*

How A Bill Becomes A Law



A Brief Overview Of The California State Assembly

The California State Assembly is the largest of the two Houses. It has eighty assembly members, one from each assembly district. Each district is comprised of 490,000 Californians which means your assembly member represents only about half the number of people your Senator represents. The assembly chamber is decorated in greens and our assembly members face a portrait of Abraham Lincoln with the quote "*legislatorum est justas leges condere*" (It is the duty of legislators to pass just laws).



Assembly members are elected to two year terms and may serve up to three terms, a total of six years maximum in the Assembly if they are re-elected each term. Assembly members must be US citizens and live within their district. They maintain both a capitol and a local district office. Each representative may opt to run for Assembly or Senate each term, serving a maximum of twelve years total in the California legislature.

A list of all **California State Assembly Members** along with their contact information can be found online here:
<http://assembly.ca.gov/assemblymembers>

A map of the **California State Assembly districts** can be found online here:
http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/districts/assemblydistricts.html

A Brief Overview Of The California State Senate

California is divided into forty state senate districts with one senator representing each district. Each senator represents approximately 931,341 Californians. The senate chamber is decorated in reds and our senators face a portrait of George Washington with the quote “*senatoris est civitatis libertatem tueri*” (It is a senator's duty to protect the liberty of the people).



A senator is elected to a four year term and may serve a total of two terms, or eight years maximum in the Senate. Senators maintain a local district office as well as an office in the capitol. Senators must be US citizens and live within their district.

A list of all **California State Senators** along with their contact information can be found online here: <http://senate.ca.gov/senators>

A map of the **California State Senate districts** can be found online here:
http://www.legislature.ca.gov/Final_2013_2014_Senate_Map_v2.pdf

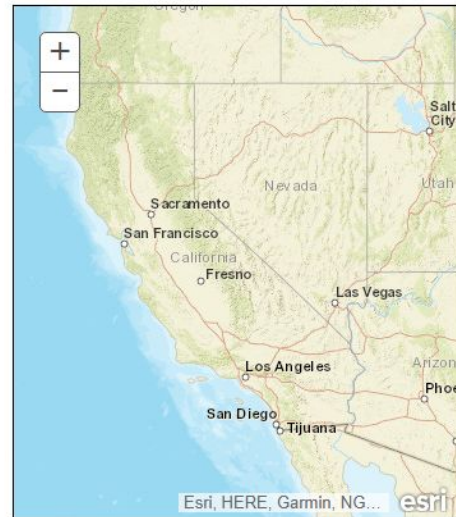
Identifying Your Representatives

It is the job of your Assembly Member and Senator to listen to you, the citizens of the state of California. Your knowledge and your opinions are important! To make contact with your representatives, you will need to identify the Assembly and Senate Districts in which you live and the individual elected to represent the residents of that district.

By entering your full street address at <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>, you can find your California state Assembly and Senate district numbers and the names of your representatives. Enter your street address, city and zip code in the appropriate boxes and click "Locate".

Find Your California Representative

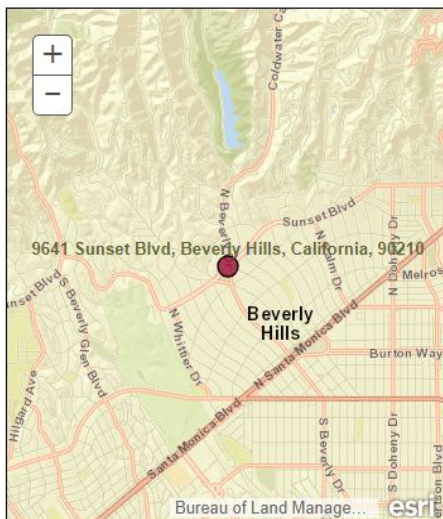
Street Address:
 City: Zip:



The California state legislature is **bicameral**, which means there are two houses, the Senate and the Assembly. When you enter your home address at the website above, you will see that you have one State Assembly Member and one State Senator. The number that corresponds to the Senate district and the Assembly District in which you live will also be listed.

Street Address:
 City: Zip:

Enter your California address and click the locate button to find your State Senate and Assembly representatives.



State Assembly (District 50)

[Assembly Member Richard Bloom](#)-DEM

State Senate (District 26)

[Senator Benjamin Allen](#)-DEM

If you live at the Beverly Hills Hotel in Beverly Hills, California 90210, your State Assembly Member is Richard Bloom in District 50 and your State Senator is Benjamin Allen in District 26.

Contacting Your Representatives

Once you determine who your local representatives are, you may want to familiarize yourself with their positions, follow their announcements, correspond with them, and meet with them in-person.

Websites

Reading through your representatives' websites can give you an idea of what topics currently hold their attention.

- Each representative lists their contact information on their website which includes both their Sacramento office and their local district office.
- Most will have a news page with information on the bills they have authored or co-authored.

Social Media

Many representatives now have Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter accounts. Following these accounts can keep you apprised of where they intend to make an appearance, what topics currently hold their interest, and which bills they introduce. It will give you an opportunity to provide instant feedback to your representative by liking or commenting on their posts.

Community Outreach Events

Many websites also have local community outreach events listed. These include events where the representative will be speaking, open office hours, and coffee shop meet-ups. Make a plan to attend these regularly. You will usually have an opportunity to speak directly with your representative at these events.

Correspondence

You could send a letter or an email letting your representative know you are a constituent of their district and a homeschooler, and you would like them to support homeschooling without unnecessary government intervention. A letter may be mailed or emailed, although most representatives now say they prefer email. Some representatives have an email form directly on their website you may use to submit your letter.

For **mail**, you may address the letter to either their District or Capitol office (address is usually found on their website)

For **email**, fill out the email form on their website or address:

To your Senator: firstname.lastname@senate.ca.gov

To your Assembly Member:

firstname.lastname@asm.ca.gov

Write separate letters to each representative

Keep your letter brief and the subject simple,
addressing only a single topic or bill in each letter



The California state flag began as the Bear Flag which was first raised in the city of Sonoma, in 1846 by citizens declaring their independence from Mexican rule. The grizzly bear was already an iconic emblem of California at that time, and the red star represented unity with the state of Texas which was also declaring independence.



Sample Letters To Representatives

Below is a sample letter introducing yourself and asking for general support.

Date

Senator Smith:

We are a homeschooling family within your district, and we are writing to ask that you support maintaining our educational freedom.

California families currently have both public and private legal options to homeschool their children, and these options have served our families well for over fifty years. Studies consistently show that homeschoolers test well above their peers academically and excel socially. Adults who were homeschooled hold a myriad of jobs across the state, and homeschoolers are welcomed into a wide variety of colleges and careers.

Ensuring California remains a state with many different choices for educating our children is vital to meeting the diverse needs of our children.

Thank you,

Your full name, address and contact information

Do Not Copy and Paste. Use your own words.

Below is a sample letter specifically concerning a bill.

Date

Senator Smith:

I am writing to ask that you oppose SB 1234 authored by Senator Doe.

SB 1234 would impose unnecessary regulations on private homeschoolers by requiring they participate in standardized testing.

- *Private school students are not required to participate in standardized testing*
- *Standardized tests are proven ineffective at ascertaining overall skill level of individual students (website of study)*
- *Studies of homeschool students consistently show those who test achieve scores significantly higher than their public school peers, so there is no achievement deficit that needs to be monitored and addressed (websites of studies)*

For all of these reasons, I ask that you oppose SB 1234. A response with your position on the bill would be appreciated.

Thank you,

Your full name, address and contact information

Don't forget bill number and if you support or oppose

Action Alerts From CHN

If legislation is pending that would affect homeschooling, CHN may put out an [action alert](#) informing families and listing some things YOU could do to help such as contacting your representatives.

Action alerts from CHN are usually posted to members-only forums along with public forums so that all homeschoolers receive notification. CHN is bound by its mission to protect the fundamental right of the family to educate its children in the manner it deems appropriate without regulation or interference. Therefore CHN focuses specifically on legislation which may pose a threat to homeschooling. Other organizations that issue action alerts may have a different focus or agenda, but you can rest assured that all action alerts from CHN will concern homeschooling.

ACTION ALERTS

Are often posted on the Facebook Pages of the three state-wide homeschool groups

California Homeschool Network
<https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaHomeschoolNetwork/>

Christian Home Educators of California
<https://www.facebook.com/CHEAofCA/>

Homeschool Association of California
<https://www.facebook.com/homeschoolassociationofcalifornia/>

Read the alert carefully as soon as you see it

CHN alerts homeschoolers when pending legislation may affect their right to homeschool so that they may understand what is pending and their options as informed citizens. Action alerts are often time-sensitive.

You may be asked to consider:

- sending an email
- filling out the email form on a website
- making a phone call
- attending a rally

Instructions are usually very specific with detailed information about the situation and all of the names, addresses and phone numbers you will need included.

Do not cut and paste

CHN aims to inform members and assist them in making their voices heard, but your representatives want to hear from YOU in your own words. YOUR opinion counts!

Planning An Effective Visit To The District Or Capitol Office

Since both the Assembly and Senate chambers are in session on Mondays and Thursdays, many representatives stay at their Capitol Office in Sacramento through the weekdays and return to their District Office from Thursday afternoon through the weekend.



Visiting Your Representative At Their District Office

Best Time To Visit At
The District Office:

Thursday
Afternoon-Friday

Although you may casually stop by a local [district office](#) to drop off a flyer, these visits are usually set up as an appointment. Calling in advance to set up an appointment will ensure either the representative themselves or an appropriate member of their staff is available to meet with you.

You may feel you wish to speak directly with the representative, but don't discount the value of a meeting with a staff member. Meeting with the Education Liaison, for example, is a great way to share information about homeschooling and let the office know there are local homeschool constituents they can call on if they have questions.



The California state seal features the goddess of wisdom Minerva (aka Athena) who represents the state itself. Minerva was said to have sprung from the head of her father fully formed. Similarly, California entered the union as a state without going through the process most other states encountered. Minerva sits with a grizzly bear and agriculture at her feet and a gold miner and busy harbor in the background. The Greek word Eureka translates to "I found it" and is associated with the Gold Rush.

Visiting Your Representative At Their Capitol Office

Best Time To Visit At The Capitol Office:

Monday - Thursday

A visit to the [Capitol Office](#) may be unscheduled, but if you want to make sure the representative or an appropriate staff member is available, an appointment is recommended. Both chambers, the Senate and Assembly, are in session most Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings, so representatives will not be available during those hours, but their offices are usually open and staff members available. Senators and Assembly Members serving on committees will also be unavailable on the days and times when their committees are meeting.

You may visit both your own representatives and representatives from other areas of the state. A directory of office numbers can be found in the lobby of the East Wing of the Capitol building near the elevators. Advocates often choose a floor and walk office introducing themselves to each representative's staff and passing out prepared flyers.

We Are Hungry!

When visiting the Capitol, lunch and snacks can be purchased in the basement of the building and on the sixth floor or at many cafes within walking distance of the Capitol building.

The cupola inside the Capitol dome. California's Capitol was in the cities of Monterey, Pueblo de San Jose, Vallejo and Benicia before settling in Sacramento in 1854.



Know Before You Go

If you are driving, parking for the Capitol is available in garages and metered parking on surrounding streets. There are multiple entrances to the building, so you can park on any side and be near an entrance.

If you are flying, Sacramento Airport is about 15 minutes away by bus, taxi or car service (Uber and Lyft).

Security Check Points: When visiting the Capitol, you will need to pass through security to enter the building which includes metal detectors and x-ray examination of all purses and backpacks. Adults may be asked to provide identification. Large bags are not permitted in the building.

Strollers and cameras may be brought into the building, but are not allowed in the Galleries (the viewing areas for the Assembly and Senate chambers).

What Should I Say?

Introduce yourself and explain, briefly, why you are visiting.

- If you are visiting to introduce yourself as a homeschooling family, simply let them know you homeschool and would like their support to help keep homeschooling free from unnecessary regulations. Be prepared to answer questions about your reasons for homeschooling and curriculum and methods you use. Questions are often asked about socialization, teaching subjects you are not adept in, and college.
- If you are in support or opposition to a bill, know the bill number and author. State how the bill affects you, and ask your representative for their support and advice. Do your homework before you go! Know what the bill says and how it would impact homeschooling. Don't be afraid to ask your representative their position on a bill. They may not have decided whether to support or oppose yet. Ask your representative for advice on what steps you should take next.

Encourage your children to speak if they are comfortable doing so, and be sure to thank them for their time as you leave.

Always leave a bill position statement or an advocacy flyer or letter behind to help your representative remember why you visited and provide contact information in case they need further information.

Capitol Highlights

The building is open weekdays 7:30-6 and weekends 9-5 (use the N street entrance on weekends).

Entrance to the building and museum exhibits is free, but you must pass through a security checkpoint.

The Rotunda -Separates the building's Senate (southern) and Assembly (northern) sections.

The Capitol Museum -Historic offices and rooms occupy the west wing on the main floor of the Capitol. You may visit them yourself, or sign up in the museum tour office in the basement for hourly docent led tours of the building. The basement also offers historic films shown daily, a gift shop, restaurant and coffee shop. Maps and educational brochures are also available from the museum.

Representatives' Offices -Most offices are located in the east wing. A building directory outside the elevator doors lists each representative and their office number.

Capitol Park -Monuments and memorials for many significant events can be found throughout the Capitol grounds with most concentrated on the East Lawn, including Veterans' Memorials, Civil War Grove, World Peace Rose Garden, monuments to Firefighters and Police Officers, and a statue of Junipero Serra.

The Governor's Office -Look for the life size Golden Bear that sits outside the office.

What To Expect If You Visit The Assembly Or Senate While In Session

When the Senate and Assembly are in session, legislators are required to be present and to check-in to be added to the roll call for attendance. A quorum, more than half of the entire body, must be present in order for business to be conducted.

After roll call, the presiding officer will Call The Absentees meaning the names of those who did not state they were present will be called.

A Call Of The House means the chamber doors will be locked and any absentees will be brought in, by arrest if necessary!

The Senate usually meets on Mondays at 2 pm and Thursdays at 9 am in the Senate Chamber in Sacramento, and the public is welcome to sit in the Gallery (the balcony) and watch the proceedings on the Senate Floor. Senators vote by voice during the proceedings, with the vote tally announced at the end of each vote.

The Assembly usually meets at 1 pm on Mondays and 9 am on Thursdays in the Assembly Chamber in Sacramento, and the public is welcome to sit in the Gallery and watch the proceedings on the Assembly Floor. Assembly Members vote by pushing the buttons on their desk during the proceedings. Each Assembly Member carries a unique key that must be inserted in order for their voting buttons to operate. Votes are announced on an electronic board on the Assembly Floor.

If you find yourself in Sacramento on a day when the Senate and Assembly are not in session, you can still visit the galleries to get a nice view of the chambers or sign up for a tour at the Capitol Museum Office.

Who Is In Charge?

Senate

California's lieutenant governor serves as the President of the Senate, but only for the purposes of casting a vote. The Senate is lead by the President Pro Tempore who is chosen each legislative session by the sitting Senators.

Assembly

The majority party in the Assembly nominates a Speaker who is then approved by the full Assembly. The Speaker serves as the leader of the house, assigning committee members and chairs and controlling the flow of legislation. Each party also chooses its own leader called the majority and minority leader.

What To Expect If You Attend A Committee Hearing

On Monday afternoons, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, Senators and Assembly Members are often in committee hearings. You may attend committee hearings by checking the Senate or Assembly Daily File for information on time and room number for the hearing.

You may testify in support or in opposition of any bill by attending the hearing for that bill and standing when the committee asks if anyone is present who supports or opposes the bill. If you plan to testify, notify the author of the bill before you arrive. If you cannot attend in person, you may also submit a letter to the committee stating your position by visiting the committee's website and filling out the email form.

Senate Committees: <http://senate.ca.gov/committees>

Assembly Committees: <http://assembly.ca.gov/committees>

Where To Find Daily Information, Live Video Feeds And Archives

The [Daily File](#) is the agenda of each day's business. It will tell you which bills are eligible for floor action that day, and will include dates and agendas for each committee meeting. You can find both the Senate and Assembly Daily Files online here:

Senate Daily File: <http://senate.ca.gov/dailyfile>

Assembly Daily File: <http://assembly.ca.gov/dailyfile>

At the end of the day, the [Daily Journal](#) is published. It is a summary of the business that was actually transacted in each house for the day. Bill introductions, roll call votes, parliamentary motions, messages from the other house or from the governor, and any other official actions that took place that day will be listed in the Daily Journal. Each house records a Daily Journal online here:

Senate Daily Journal: <http://senate.ca.gov/dailyjournals>

Assembly Daily Journal: <http://clerk.assembly.ca.gov/daily-journals>

Each house also maintains both [Daily and Weekly Histories](#) which include information on chaptered and vetoed Bills.

Senate Daily and Weekly Histories: <http://senate.ca.gov/content/senate-histories>

Assembly Daily Histories: <http://clerk.assembly.ca.gov/content/daily-history>

Assembly Weekly Histories: <http://clerk.assembly.ca.gov/weekly-histories>

Floor sessions and regularly scheduled committee hearings can be viewed live on the California Channel available at www.calchannel.com. Both Houses also maintain video [Archives](#) online for Floor Sessions and Committee Hearings.

Senate media archives: <http://senate.ca.gov/media-archive>

Assembly media archives: <http://assembly.ca.gov/audioandtv>

Following The Legislative Calendar

The California legislative session lasts for two years and begins in even numbered years following a November election.

December

A legislative session officially begins on the first Monday in December in even numbered years, but meetings in December are for organizational purpose. The legislature convenes on the following first Monday in January (unless it falls on January 1st) to begin work on the two year session.

January and February

In January and up until the end of the third week of February, bills to be heard in that calendar year may be introduced in each House. Sometimes a “spot bill” will be introduced which will have little substance, but will serve to create a bill before the deadline which will be written at a later date.

March, April and May

In March and April, committees hold hearings for bills in each House. If a bill has a fiscal impact, it must be out of committee by the 1st of May. If it does not have a fiscal impact, it must be out of committee by the beginning of the second week of May. Bills are heard in fiscal committee through the month of May. By the last week of May, all bills must go to the Floor for a vote.

June, July and August

The March through May process is repeated in the other House. In June and July, committees hold hearing for bills that have passed the other House. If a bill has a fiscal impact, it must be out of committee by the 1st of August. If it does not have a fiscal impact, it must be out of committee by the beginning of the second week of August. bills are heard in fiscal committee through the month of August. By the last week of August, all bills must go to the Floor for a vote.

September

Each House holds Floor sessions. bills must pass the second House and be at the Governor’s desk by the second week in September.

October

Bills must be acted upon by the Governor before October 1st. These bills become law on the following January 1st.

November

In even numbered years, elections are held on the first Tuesday of November. Adjournment Sine Die (final adjournment) is at midnight on November 30th in even numbered years.

Detailed calendars and deadlines for each House:

Senate Calendar: <http://senate.ca.gov/calendar>

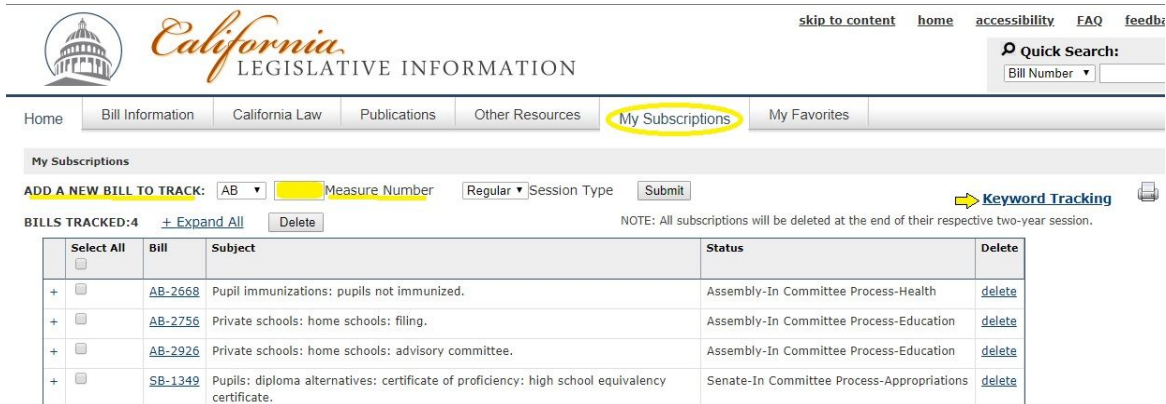
Assembly Calendar: <http://assembly.ca.gov/legislative deadlines>

Tracking Legislation That Could Affect Homeschooling

CHN monitors legislation that could affect homeschooling and posts relevant information on its forums, but you can track legislation yourself using the legislature's online database.

Tracking Bills

At the website <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>, click on the *My Subscriptions* tab. If you have not already set up a subscription account, you will need to do that. An email address and password will be required. There is no fee. If you already have a subscription account, you will be prompted to sign in.



California LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

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My Subscriptions

ADD A NEW BILL TO TRACK: AB Measure Number Regular Session Type Submit

BILLS TRACKED: 4 + Expand All Delete

NOTE: All subscriptions will be deleted at the end of their respective two-year session.

Select All	Bill	Subject	Status	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	AB-2668	Pupil immunizations: pupils not immunized.	Assembly-In Committee Process-Health	delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	AB-2756	Private schools: home schools: filing.	Assembly-In Committee Process-Education	delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	AB-2926	Private schools: home schools: advisory committee.	Assembly-In Committee Process-Education	delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	SB-1349	Pupils: diploma alternatives: certificate of proficiency: high school equivalency certificate.	Senate-In Committee Process-Appropriations	delete

Click on the *My Subscriptions* tab. To set up *Bill Tracking* choose a bill you would like to track and choose which changes you would like to be notified of. To set up *Keyword Tracking* click on the link on the top right and enter keywords.

Following Reputable Sources That Track Legislation

There are quite a few education interest groups that already track legislation and can be good sources of information. The three California statewide groups, California Homeschool Network, Christian Home Educators' Association of California and Homeschool Association of California all maintain legislation watch pages, as do Private and Home Educators Association of California, HSLDA, the California Teachers' Association, and California Charter Schools Association.

California Homeschool Network Activity Page



CALIFORNIA POPPY
CALIFORNIA STATE FLOWER

Capitol Architecture Word Scramble

LCOPUA

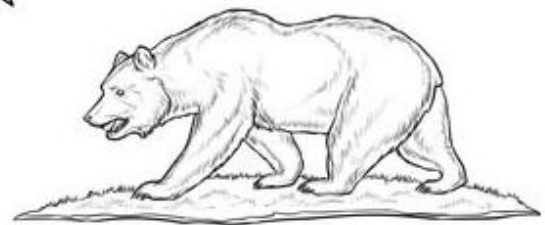
AGELB

NDURQTA

AENXN

NEMZZEAIN

MEDO



Look for these words

LEGISLATIVE
EXECUTIVE
JUDICIAL
SACRAMENTO
ARCHITECT
CONSTRUCTION
BUTLER
COMMISSIONERS
DOWNEY
GOVERNMENT
PROJECT
DISPUTE
PLANS
BRANCHES

Capitol Building

RSNJJLAICIDUJVUNK
BLATPROJECTFLDGWN
RCPNAQGOVERNMENTC
CMOSACRAMENTOENIZ
NOKCONSTRUCTIONND
PTMWLSPWYXSJZUTAT
PSCMEEDXEEBYUBWLE
LBWEIVGIXXNKGDPEY
AVLSTSIISQCWZNOWE
NQIFEISTSPTUOWVVR
SLUATSHIULUATDKFR
AYWBEWACOCATIMEDO
SVGHIPFERNETPCIS
FTPBACKZTVAEXIABXC
AWKTYWBWUJJREVAKB
JCVZRELTUBCXSEFVJ
NJCXFLLEHNCNARBYS