



# Guide Series

## Finding Legislation from the Current Legislative Session: California

### A. If you have a bill number:

The bills from each chamber are assigned a bill number in the order it was introduced. E.g., AB 1 or SB 1 for Assembly or Senate, respectively. The chamber designation and the numeral comprise the bill number. The bill number is retained during the amendment process and throughout the session. Every time a bill is amended, the entire bill is reprinted with added language in italic type and deleted language in strike-through in the paper and Legislative Counsel versions.

- **Online:**

- **Legislative Counsel of California:** <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/> > *Bill Information*
- **Westlaw:** *California Bill Tracking – Full Text.*
- **LexisNexis:** *CA Full-Text Bills*

### B. If you have a California Code section:

The *Table of Sections Affected* identifies bills that impact sections of the California Codes. Abbreviations are listed inside the front cover.

- **Online:**

- **Legislative Counsel of California:** <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/> > *Legislative Publications*
- **Westlaw:** Does not carry the *Table*.
- **LexisNexis:** Does not carry the *Table*.

- **Print:** The *Table* is in a file box with the *Legislative Index* located in the LRC California Room at KFC 12 .L47.

- The California Constitution appears at the beginning of the *Table*.
- Codes follow, and are arranged in alphabetical order; section numbers within each code are in numerical order (code section numbers containing decimal points are printed in a strictly numerical order and may not match the arrangement used in *West's* or *Deering's* Codes. )
- *Statutes Other Than Codes* follow the last Code section. These are uncodified laws and are cited by year and chapter.
- References to Budget items appear in a separate section following *Statutes Other Than Codes*.

After obtaining a bill number, refer to A, above, to locate the bill.

### C. If you are researching a subject:

The *Legislative Index* provides subject access to bills considered by the California Legislature. Subjects are listed alphabetically. References to bills follow the index entries.

- **Online:**

- **Legislative Counsel of California:** <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/index.html> > *Legislative Publications*
- **Westlaw:** Does not carry the *Index*. Construct search in *California Bill Tracking—Full Text*
- **LexisNexis:** Does not carry the *Index*. Construct search in *CA Full-Text Bills*

- **Print:** The *Index* is in a file box with the *Table of Sections Affected* located in the LRC California Room at KFC 12 .L47.

After obtaining a bill number, refer to A, above, to locate the bill.

### D. Determining the Status of Your Bill:

To determine whether your bill was enacted into law, vetoed, defeated or died in committee, check any of the following:

- **Online:**

- **Legislative Counsel of California:** <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/> > *Bill Information*
- **Westlaw:** *California Bill Tracking*
- **LexisNexis:** *CA Bill Tracking Reports*

- **Print:** Consult the *Daily History*, *Weekly History* and/or *Semi Final History*. The bill histories are arranged by bill number. They are held in file boxes located in the LRC California Room as follows:

- Assembly: KFC 6 .87
- Senate: KFC 6 .S46

### E. Bills Enacted into Law:

If a bill is enacted into law, it is given a new chronological numerical designation called a *chapter*. The enacted form can be found in the following sources:

- **Online:**

- **Legislative Counsel of California:** <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/> > *Bill Information*
- **Westlaw:** *California Legislative Service*
- **LexisNexis:** *CA – California Advance Legislative Service*

- **Print:** The *Statutes and Amendments to the Code* (LRC California KFC 25 .A25) are arranged by year, and within each year, in numerical order by chapter number. Chapters for the most recent years are in unbound, stapled pamphlets shelved at the end of the set.

Please contact a Reference Librarian for further assistance: [lrcrefer@sandiego.edu](mailto:lrcrefer@sandiego.edu) / 619-260-4612

**Note: Websites with the suffix .gov, .org or .com are accessible to anyone anywhere.  
Anyone physically present on campus may access ProQuest Congressional Publications.  
Only currently enrolled USD Law Faculty and Students may access Lexis and Westlaw for educational purposes.**