

# State Bar of California, Office of Governmental Affairs

## *The Sacramento Scene*

January 2002

**W**elcome to the first edition of the "Sacramento Scene," a newsletter published by the Office of Governmental Affairs for the information of members of State Bar Committees. We are trying to make this a weekly publication. We are interested to know what you think of this inaugural effort.

The purpose of the newsletter is to keep committee Legislative Chairs (and others) up-to-date on what is going on in the California State Legislature, and what it may mean to you.

We are using a bullet format that will focus upon such things as the legislative calendar, important legislative dates, the legislative process, and of course, the latest things going on in the capitol.

### **Legislature returns January 7, 2002**

The 80 members of the Assembly and the 40 members of the Senate return on January 7.

Because this is the second year of a two-year (2001-02) legislative session, the month of January will be devoted to hearing those bills introduced in 2001 that did *not* pass their

house of origin last year. For any such bills that do not clear their house of origin by January 31 will die by operation of the state Constitution.

Committee hearings will begin on Monday, and it is important to note that January 18 is the last day for policy committees (e.g., the Senate and Assembly Judiciary Committees) to hear and report bills to the appropriations committee fiscal bills introduced in their respective houses in 2001.

### **Key Legislative Dates for January**

#### **January 25:**

- Last day to submit bill requests to the Legislative Counsel – this is for drafting bills.
- Last day for any committee to hear and pass bills introduced in their respective houses that go to the Assembly or Senate floor (for all members to vote upon).

#### **January 31:**

- Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in 2001 in their house.

### **Legislative Information on the Internet**

If you want to see (via the internet) what is going on in the Assembly or the Senate, have a list of the members (with office address and telephone numbers) or check out the members on the Assembly or the Senate Judiciary Committee days, there are a number of sources. Many of these can be reached from the Office of Governmental Affairs web page at <http://www.calbar.org/govinfo.htm> (see the box on the right hand side of the page, which has live links to the various sites).

The key official source of legislative information are the "Daily Files" published each day by the Senate and Assembly. These can be seen via [www.Leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.Leginfo.ca.gov). This is the website maintained by the Legislative Counsel.

**A**gain, please let us know what you think of this newsletter, what it should contain, and any other comments or ideas you feel like sharing.

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