



# ***Advocacy***

**From local action to systems change**

**February 2, 2017**

**Contra Costa County**

**A presentation by:**

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The Western Center on Law & Poverty



# Who is an Advocate?

**Being Present**

**Listening**

**Documenting the Problem**

**Story Telling**

**Identifying a Solution**

**Asking for Help**



# Formal Advocacy

**Individual**

**Administrative**

**Public Opinion - Press**

**Legislative: State & Federal**

**Budget: State & Federal**

**Litigate**



# State Legislative Advocacy





# **First House of Legislature**



**First Reading/Introduction**

**Policy Committee(s) Hearing(s)**

**Fiscal Committee - Appropriations**

**Floor - Second and Third Readings**

**Vote on Floor of First House**



# **Second House of Legislature**



**Policy Committee(s) Hearing(s)**

**Fiscal Committee - Appropriations**

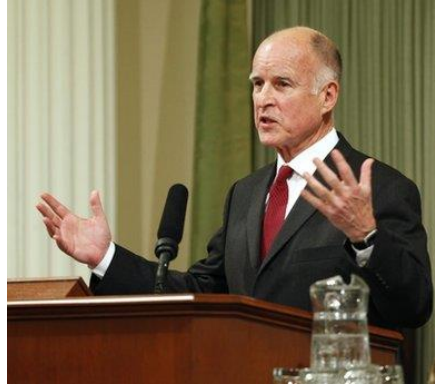
**Floor - Second and Third Readings**

**Vote on Floor of Second House**

**If Amended in the Second House – Back for Concurrence**



# Governor's Action



Governor  
has 12\* days to:

**SIGN**

**Chaptered into Law**

**APPROVE WITHOUT  
SIGNING**

**Chaptered into Law**

**VETO**

**Can be overridden w/ 2/3 of  
Legislature or try again  
next year**

\*Exception: For bills passed at the end of a legislative session, the governor generally has 30 days to sign or veto.



# **Congress & The President**



**Committee(s) Hearing(s) - Comments**

**Floor Speeches**

**Site Visits – Town Halls**

**Echo Chamber in Media – Social, Print, Radio, Etc.**





# Congress & The President

CG  
ROLL  
CALL

## 2017 Congressional Calendar



- Both chambers in session
- Both chambers in recess
- Senate only in session
- House only in session

### January

M	T	W	T	F
1 New Year's Day	2 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16 MLK Day	17	18	19	20 Inauguration Day
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30
31				

### February

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28
29	30			

### March

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31		



# **Participate in Legislative Advocacy**

**Make Calls**

**Write Letters and Thank You Cards**

**Invite Site Visits – Bring Your Office to Theirs**

**Attend a Legislative Day of Action**

**Attend Elected Official Events**

**Build a Relationship**



# Today's Advocacy

## Federal Advocacy

**What:** Protect & Strengthen CalFresh & SNAP

**Who:** Your Members of Congress

**What Next:** Sign a National Sign On Letter

## State Advocacy

**What:** End the Asset Test in CalWORKs

**Who:** Budget Chair People

**What Next:** Sign up as a member of California Asset Building Coalition for Updates

**Story Collection!!** Collect stories of SNAP recipients and people who could benefit from Asset Test Repeal.



# Online Resources

- <http://leginfo.ca.gov> Bill texts & Analyses from 1993 to present. <http://www.wclp.org>  
<http://www.afj.org/our-work/issues/bolder-advocacy>
- <https://www.congress.gov/resources/display/content/Calendars+and+Schedules>
- [http://www.legislature.ca.gov/the\\_state\\_legislature/calendar\\_and\\_schedules/calendar\\_schedules.html](http://www.legislature.ca.gov/the_state_legislature/calendar_and_schedules/calendar_schedules.html)



***Thank You!***

**Discussion**

**Questions and Observations**

**Western Center on Law & Poverty**

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