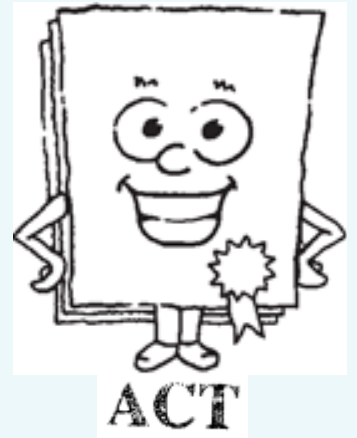


Governor's Timeline – 2021 Regular Session

Important Timelines (Final Step for a Bill to Become a Law)

If a bill successfully passes through both chambers of the Legislature, it needs to be presented to the Governor.*

The procedure for enactment, which is defined in [Article III, Section 16](#) of the Hawai'i State Constitution, varies depending on when the bill is delivered to the Governor and the Governor's subsequent action or inaction in considering the bill. (In computing the number of days designated below, the following days are excluded: Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and any days in which the Legislature is in recess prior to its adjournment.) The following information is based on adjournment *sine die* occurring on **April 29, 2021**.



- **If the bill is sent to the Governor on or before April 8, 2021** (10 or more days before adjournment of the Legislature *sine die*), then...
 - 1) If the Governor signs the bill within 10 days, the bill becomes law and is given an act number.
 - 2) If the Governor neither signs nor vetoes the bill within 10 days, the bill becomes law without the Governor's signature and is given an act number.
 - 3) If the Governor vetoes the bill within 10 days, the bill does not become law unless the Legislature reconsiders the bill before adjournment *sine die* and overrides the veto by a 2/3 vote in each chamber.

- **If the bill is sent to the Governor after April 8, 2021** (less than 10 days prior to adjournment *sine die*), then...
 - 1) If the Governor signs the bill by **July 6, 2021** (the 45th day after adjournment *sine die*), the bill becomes law and is given an act number.
 - 2) If the Governor neither signs nor vetoes the bill by **July 6, 2021** (the 45th day after adjournment *sine die*), the bill becomes law without the Governor's signature and is given an act number.
 - 3) If the Governor intends to veto the bill, the Governor must inform the Legislature by **June 21, 2021** (the 35th day after adjournment *sine die*) and deliver the veto by **July 6, 2021** (the 45th day after adjournment *sine die*). If the bill is vetoed, it will not become law unless the Legislature successfully overrides the veto in special session by a 2/3 vote in each chamber.** The Legislature must convene in special session at or before noon on **July 6, 2021**, to override the Governor's veto.

Note: The date that a bill goes into effect as law can be found in its last section.

* Unless it proposes a constitutional amendment, in which case it gets put on the ballot for the electorate to decide its fate.

** The legislature could also amend a bill to answer the governor's objections. For it to become law, a majority of the members in each chamber would be required to vote in favor of the amended bill, and the governor would then have 10 days to sign it.

Questions? The Public Access Room (PAR) is happy to help – 808/587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov.