

GET ACTIVE AT THE LEGISLATURE

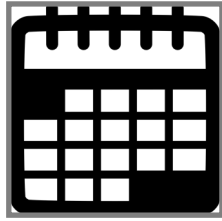
An occasional email brought to you by the Public Access Room (PAR)

OCTOBER 2021

Use the Interim to Prepare for Session



PAR Workshops



2022 Regular Session



Carryover Bills



Employment Opportunities

PAR Workshops: Our Wednesday Evening Series



The Public Access Room (PAR) is offering a series of online workshops on Wednesday evenings in preparation for the upcoming session. Workshops are an hour or less. Just click the RSVP button below to let us know which workshops you're interested in and we'll send you the Zoom meeting particulars. (You can also email par@capitol.hawaii.gov or call 808/587-0478.)

“Your Voice”: Wednesday, October 27, 5:00 p.m.

Overview of the legislature and how to add your voice to the process

“The Bill to Law Process”: Wednesday, November 3, 5:00 p.m.

Walk through the legislative process with an imaginary bill

“Using the Legislature Website’s Interactive Features”: Wednesday, November 10, 5:00 p.m.

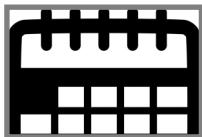
Testifying, tracking, signing up for hearing notices, and searching for bills

“Communicating with Legislators”: Wednesday, November 17, 5:00 p.m.

Tips on advocacy and communicating with lawmakers



2022 Regular Session: Just a Few Months Away!



As we enter the last quarter of the year, those involved with Hawaii’s legislative process are increasingly aware that Regular Session comes right on the heels of the new year — opening day is Wednesday, January 19, 2022. For advocates, that means it’s not too soon to be talking with lawmakers about what you’d like to see happen next session. The time is ripe for drafting bills! The bill introduction deadline is usually just a week after session starts.

Carryover Bills: Tips for Keeping an Eye on Them



Hawaii’s legislature operates on a biennial (two-year) cycle beginning in odd-numbered years. What that means is that in even-numbered years, like 2022, the session starts out with all the bills that didn’t move out of the legislature in the previous year still in the pipeline. These “carryover” bills will begin the new session wherever they left off the previous session. So, in addition to working on new bills that will be introduced, legislators can act on carryover bills if they so choose.

Although most often, no action is taken on carryover bills, you will want to know if one that you’re interested in starts moving. If you signed up to receive hearing notices for a bill last session, it remains on your hearing notification list — so if it does get scheduled for a hearing, you’ll be among the first to know. You may want to double check your list to make sure that it’s up to date. As far as your measure tracking goes, you may want to get a jump on next session by creating a new tracking list just for carryover bills. Label it (or rename the old one) “carryover bills.” Then create another list for “2022 bills,” which will keep track of newly introduced measures (empty for now). If one of the carryover bills does start moving, you can easily move it to the more active 2022 bills list. Need help? You know who to call! PAR is happy to walk you through it.

Employment Opportunities at the Capitol



Are you or someone you know up for a really interesting experience? Soon the Hawaii State Senate and House of Representatives will begin recruiting help for next year’s Regular Session. Session positions are temporary, full-time positions beginning in December or January and lasting until the end of session (late April/early May). A variety of positions will be available in lawmakers’ and legislative support offices. You can find more information on these opportunities by visiting the employment pages for:

the Senate (<https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sjobs.aspx>) and
the House (<https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hjobs.aspx>).

By the way, PAR will be seeking session help too! Working with us is a great opportunity to learn more about the lawmaking process and public participation. To submit your resume, or for more information, please contact us at par@capitol.hawaii.gov.