

FEBRUARY 2023

## Keeping Up With It All — Session's in Full Swing

### Asking for a Hearing



One of the advocacy steps that can easily be overlooked is asking for a hearing on a bill. The chair of the committee to which the bill is referred has the authority to schedule that bill for a hearing while the bill is before the committee. The [lateral and first decking deadlines](#) come up quickly, and if you don't want your bill to be left behind, you may want to get in touch with the appropriate chair's office.

It can be as simple as looking up the [chair's contact information](#), picking up the phone, and placing the call or sending an email. Have a sentence or two ready on why the bill is needed. The legislator may not be available, but often it's possible to speak with the [committee clerk](#) or [office manager](#).

Be aware that the chair has a number of things to consider when deciding to schedule a bill, including limited time slots to hold committee hearings, competing legislation, and the merits of the bill. Having trouble? Consider getting others to advocate, too! You may also reach out to the other members of the committee to see if they can help convince the chair that the bill deserves a hearing.

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## Keeping Up With the Legislature — A Mid-Session Training



With the 2023 Regular Session well under way, we'll take a look at how to stay on top of things. Hearing notices, committee reports, amended drafts, the decking deadline! We'll cover some tips to help keep it all in perspective, improve your advocacy efforts, and make your work this session a little easier.

We're offering this free Zoom training at three different dates/times. Plan on 45 minutes (with time for questions).

[Tuesday, February 14, 3:00 p.m.](#) [Register here](#)

[Wednesday, February 15, 12 noon](#) [Register here](#)

[Thursday, February 16, 6:00 p.m.](#) [Register here](#)

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## Recognizing Who's Who



With sixteen new representatives (and two more to be named for House Districts 16 & 37) and six new senators this year, there are a lot of new faces! Need a "cheat sheet"? We've got a few handouts with everyone's pictures. Pick up our [maps booklet](#), the [House](#) or [Senate](#) "Pictures & Profiles" handout, or posters of the legislators for your wall. We've even made some flash cards to help you learn, but you'll have to come into our office to play with them — they took quite a bit of work to produce! Let us know if you prefer any of the resources as .pdf or Word documents.

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## PAR's Session Staff



We are pleased to have two Assistant Researchers working with us this session!

Andy Eickholt has over 15 years of experience as a corporate and academic librarian. Originally from Kansas, she has had the opportunity to move around quite a bit and most recently lived in Cambridge, England for two and a half years before moving permanently to Oahu in early 2022. Andy enjoys participating in book clubs as well as volunteering. Before coming to PAR, she volunteered for a local organization that provides services to houseless populations, and she continues to volunteer at the Honolulu Zoo in her spare time.

Liz Khuu loves assisting people and enjoys the stories people share with her. She is looking forward to helping you as you navigate the legislative process and get involved. Liz has previously worked in both public and academic libraries, and has outstanding customer service skills.

If you're at the Capitol, stop by the office (room 401) and say hello!