



Coming Up: First Decking

It's Day 23 of the 2024 Legislative Session, and the House and Senate are now on a mandatory 5-day recess. That doesn't mean there's nothing happening at the Capitol, though! Committee hearings and decision making continue, with a deadline of March 1 to report bills out of their last committee in the originating chamber. In other news, next Wednesday the Public Access Room (PAR) will present the "Following the Budget" workshop over Zoom, and PAR now has an Instagram account you can follow.

First Decking Deadline to get out of all committees: **Friday, March 1**

There's been quite a drop in the number of bills that have a chance to move forward this session. About 45% of the bills have now been left behind because they failed to make the First Lateral deadline. For the [surviving bills](#), their next hurdle is to be scheduled for a hearing or decision making in their last committee, pass the committee vote, and be reported out in time.

For bills that were referred to more than one committee, the deadline to have the committee report and accompanying bill filed is the First Decking deadline on Friday, March 1.

For single referral bills (bills that only had one committee referral), the deadline gets moved up to give the bill ample time to be scheduled for their Second Reading.

- Senate single referral bills need to be reported out by Thursday, February 29.
- House single referral bills need to be reported out by Wednesday, February 28, unless they are single referral bills currently in Finance (FIN), in which case they have until Thursday, February 29. (Note: These deadlines do not appear on the calendar, but have been announced.)

If you have a bill that's in its last committee and it hasn't been scheduled, contact the committee chair to see if they're open to considering it. You may want to get others to speak up as well.

To view the legislation that has survived First Lateral, on the Legislature's website (capitol.hawaii.gov) use the drop-down menu under the "Laws & Research" tab to select "[Reports and Lists](#)." Then, scroll down to the section header "First Lateral" and select the [first link](#).



PAR Workshop on "Following the Budget"

Register below for this Zoom workshop or help us spread the word!

Following the Budget:

Learn how the State's Executive branch budget is created, the process the budget bill goes through, and how to access the information available.

Wednesday, February 28, 3:00 p.m.

[Register here](#)

(<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meeting=9172961020&from=invitation>)

Social Media. Follow PAR on social media for interesting posts and session information. You can find us on Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube.



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/publicaccessroom/>



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PublicAccessRoom>



Instagram: <https://www.youtube.com/@hawaii-public-access-room>

Your Office at the Capitol. The non-partisan Public Access Room is here to help answer your questions about the legislative process and how to participate.

Please call 808/587-0478 or email par@capitol.hawaii.gov us!

You can also come by the office (Room 401) to use a computer, recharge your phone or laptop, or watch hearings remotely. As always, there are also a wealth of handouts you can pick up.

We continue to look for ways to improve.

Let us know if you have an idea for a new resource we can provide!



Our mailing address is:

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[Add us to your address book](#)

Our website address is:

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