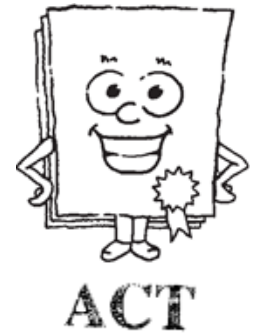


Governor's Timeline – 2026 Regular Session

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, defined in [Article III, Section 16](#) of the Hawai'i State Constitution, varies depending when the bill is delivered to the Governor and the Governor's subsequent action (or inaction) considering the bill.

The following information is based on adjournment *sine die* occurring on **May 8, 2026**. (In computing the number of days designated below, Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and recess days prior to the Legislature's adjournment are excluded.)



If the bill is sent to the Governor on or before April 21, 2026 (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 21, 2026 (less than 10 days prior to adjournment *sine die*), then...

1. If the Governor signs the bill by **July 15, 2026** (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 15, 2026** (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 30, 2026** (the 35th day after adjournment *sine die*) and deliver the veto by **July 15, 2026** (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 15, 2026**, to override the Governor's veto.
 - 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.

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

Exception to the above: A bill won't go to the Governor if it proposes a **constitutional amendment**. Instead, it will be put on the ballot for the electorate to decide its fate.