

2026 Legislative Overview



Department of Consumer
and Business Services

The legislative body

Oregon has a bicameral legislature

- 60 members of the House of Representatives, elected every two years.
- 30 members of the Senate, elected every four years.
- The speaker of the House and the president of the Senate preside over daily session, assign members, and appoint chairpersons and vice-chairpersons to standing committees.

2026 legislative process – short session

- 2026 session starts on Monday, Feb. 2
- First chamber deadline is Monday, Feb. 16
- Second chamber deadline is Thursday, Feb. 26
- Shorter session means faster timelines, not as many bills

2026 legislative process

Bills drop early January

- Read and review all bills
- Prioritize and assign bills
- Prepare for committee hearings

2026 legislative process

Committees start meeting

- Speaker and president assign bills to committee for hearing
- Some bills can be controversial
- Bills receive a public hearing and work session
- Committees move the bill along in the process

2026 legislative process

If the bill is voted out of committee, next steps:

- Move to another committee, or
- Move to the floor for a vote, and
- Move to the other chamber to start the process again.

2026 legislative session

MLAC's role in the legislative process

- Review legislation relating to workers' compensation
- Ask for additional clarification of the proposed legislation
- Make recommendations related to the legislation

MLAC can support, oppose, table a bill, or send to subcommittee. Once the MLAC vote is complete, MLAC can send a letter to the committee.

2026 legislative session calendar

2026 Session Deadlines Calendar

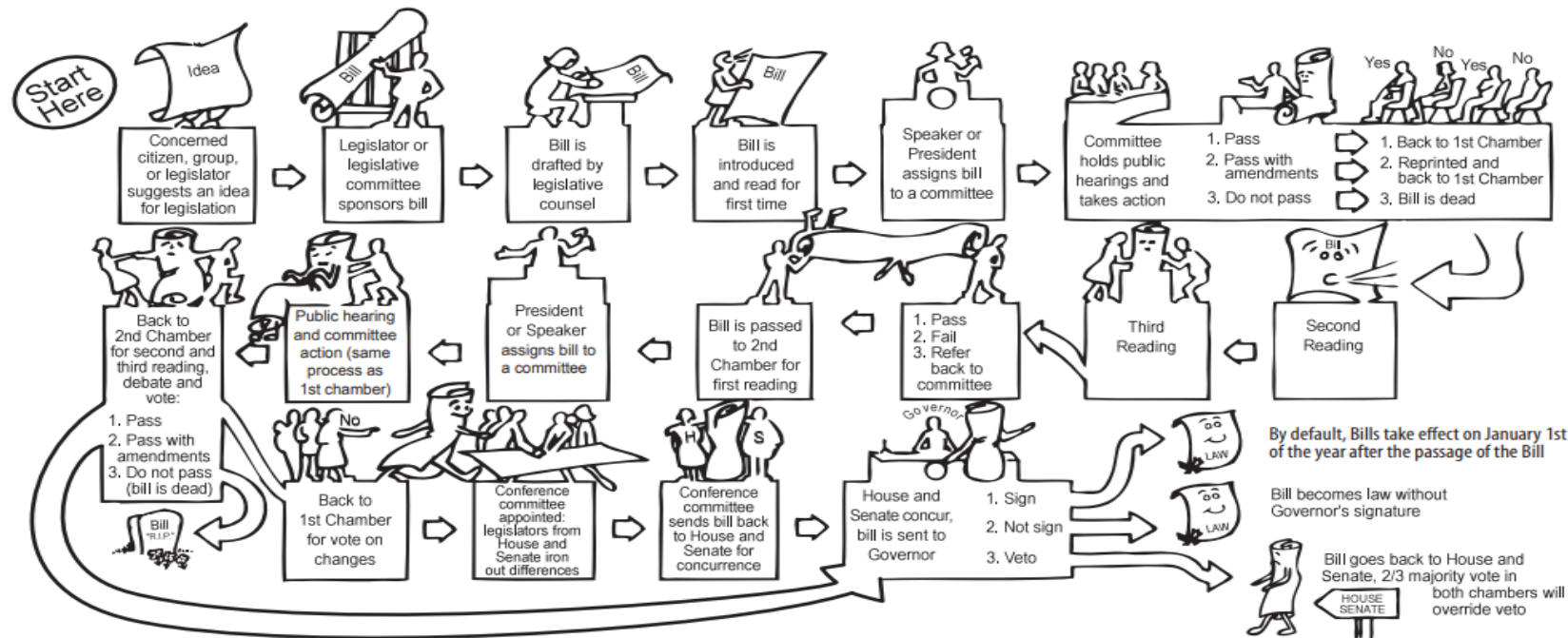
FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2 Session Convenes	3	4 Revenue Forecast	5	6	7
8	9 Post Work Session Deadline	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 1st Chamber Deadline	17	18	19	20 Post Work Session Deadline	21
22	23	24	25	26 2nd Chamber Deadline	27	28

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Filing Day	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

2026 legislative session

How an Idea Becomes Law

A simple view of the Oregon Legislative Process



The Oregon Legislative Assembly

The Oregon Legislative Assembly is state government's "board of directors." It is responsible for making laws dealing with Oregon's well-being, adopting the state's budget, and for setting public policy. The Legislative Assembly is made up of two bodies: the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Senate consists of 30 members elected for four-year terms. The House consists of 60 representatives elected for two-year terms. Each member of the legislature represents a district (an area determined by population). Every Oregonian is represented by one state Senator and one state Representative.

The legislature convenes annually in February at the State Capitol in Salem, but sessions may not exceed 160 days in odd-numbered years and 35 days in even-numbered years, unless extended by a two-thirds vote in each chamber. About 3,000 bills are considered in each odd-year session. Relying largely upon work done in committees, the legislature enacts about one-third of these bills into Law.