

Hi, this is Chris Micheli with the Sacramento governmental relations firm of Aprea & Micheli and an adjunct professor at McGeorge School of Law in its Capital Lawyering program. Thanks for joining today's podcast to provide a summary of 2018 bill actions by Governor Jerry Brown in his last year in office.

While the 2018 legislative session concludes sine die on November 30th, for all practical purposes the session ended on September 30, which represented the last day by the constitution for Governor Brown to act on all the bills sent to his desk in those final weeks of the legislative session.

He actually acted on bills every month of the year - from January with just one bill through September where he acted on 941 bills. So there were well over 1,000 bills that reached his desk. The exact number? 1,217 of those bills.

Now, this year, the 2018 session that began in early January and concluded by the constitution on August 31 dealt with 2,225 bills were introduced between the two houses of the Legislature. The Senate introduced 694 bills in 2018. The Assembly introduced 1,531 bills.

Of those 1,217 that made it down, 55% of the bills introduced made it to the Governor's desk and 45% of the bills introduced - again that 2,225 number - got signed into law while a mere 9% of the bills that were introduced got vetoed. Of course, of the 1,217 bills a certain number were signed and vetoed.

The Governor this year vetoed 201 bills, which represents 16.5% - the highest he's ever done. Let's look a little closer at those bills the Governor signed and vetoed this year. Again, the magical number was 1,217. 1,217 reached his desk.

Of those, 1,016 were signed which represented 83.5% of the bills that reached his desk in 2018 were signed. Now, of interest is the makeup of those bills between the two houses and those that were authored by Democrats vs. Republicans. Let's take a look at those numbers for both the signed and vetoed bills.

So of the signed bills, 65% of them were Assembly bills, and 79% of those AB's were authored by Democrats and only 14% of the AB's that were signed by the Governor were authored by Republicans. Now that means the remaining 7% of the AB's were committee bills. They were authored by a committee rather than a Democrat or Republican legislator.

Of the 1,016 bills that were signed, 35% of the signed bills were Senate bills, and of those 77% of the SB's signed were authored by Democrats while 13% of the SB's signed were offered by Republicans and the remaining 10% of the SB's signed were committee bills.

Let's turn to the vetoed bills. There were 201 of them this year. That's a 16.5% veto rate. Now, of those 201 vetoed bills, 74% of the vetoed bills were AB's, and of those 84% of the AB's vetoed were authored by Democrat legislators, while 13% of the AB's vetoed were authored by Republicans. And the remaining 3% of the AB's vetoed were authored by committees.

26% of the vetoed bills were Senate Bills, and of those 94% of them were authored by Democrats and just 6% of the SB's were authored by Republicans. There were no committee bills on the Senate side that were vetoed.

And just in conclusion, during the last 8 years that Governor Brown has served in office dealing with legislation, he's received a low number of 875 bills - his actually occurred in his first year in office - to a high water mark this year - his last year in office - of 1,217 bills. In terms of his veto rate, his lowest was 10.7% which occurred in his third year in office. His highest was again this year, his last year in office, of 16.5%.

I hope you enjoyed this podcast. A little overview of gubernatorial actions from the 2018 legislative session. Thanks for joining.