

Hi, this is Chris Micheli, a principal at the Sacramento governmental relations firm of Aprea & Micheli, and an adjunct professor in McGeorge's Capital Lawyering program.

Today's podcast is a look at California's legislative publications. There are a number of publications that are regularly used by the California Legislature and those who work in and around California's state capitol. Of note is that several of these publications are specified in the California Government Code, in Article I, starting with Section 9700. And this section, from 9700 to 9708, generally deals with legislative publications.

As an overarching provision, all printing for the Legislature and the individual houses is governed by the respective rules of the Senate and the Assembly, as well as the Joint Rules of the two houses. The Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the Assembly are charged with printing all of the legislative bills, resolutions, constitutional amendments that are proposed by their respective members.

All of the legislative printing is done by the State Printing Office, or SPO, which is required by statute to print all of the laws, including initiative measures, as well as any other printing that is ordered by either the Senate or the Assembly. Now, by statute, the officers of the Assembly must appear on the front of all Assembly publications. There is no statutory requirement for the officers of the Senate. However, the same procedure is used in that house.

So, Article II, which is Sections 9720 to 9724, deals with the Daily Journals of the Assembly and Senate. These two must be published by the State Printing Office. At least one copy of each Daily Journal of the Assembly and Senate must be authenticated. And after the final adjournment of the Legislature, the Journals for the entire session are bound and provided to the Secretary of State's office.

In Article III, which is Sections 9740 to 9744, these deal with the Legislative Manual. The Senate Secretary and the Assembly Chief Clerk must compile a Legislative Manual, or handbook, in December of each even-numbered year. The Legislative Manual includes state officers, members, and officers of both houses, lists of committees, rules of both houses, as well as the Joint Rules and other information that is deemed to be of use to legislators. This manual is provided to each legislator and elected state officer, as well as libraries throughout the state.

Article IV, which encompasses Sections 9760 to 9768, deals with the preparation and printing of statutes. When a law is signed by the Governor, the State Printing Office must be notified of the law's enactment. Then the SPO prints a sufficient number of copies of the law, as well as any resolutions. Legislative Counsel provides the SPO with any new or revised codes which are then printed in a bound volume called The Statutes in that legislative session. The Department of General Services, DGS, directs the preparation of the statutes after the legislative session has concluded.

Preparation of The Statutes includes making an index and a statutory record. The date of approval as well as the effective date of each act must be prefixed to the text of the statute in these books. Pursuant to the Government Code, the beginning of each volume of The Statutes

must include specified information. Existing law also requires The Statutes to be bound in law, buckram binding. Isn't that interesting that they specify the type of binding?

Anyways, in Article V, which encompasses Section 9790 to 9792, this deals with the distribution of statutes in legislative publications. DGS, the Department of General Services, must maintain a bill filing room for the Assembly and the Senate to use which is currently found in the basement in the old section of California's state capitol; and they must file all bills, resolutions, journals, and other documents as specified. DGS must also distribute copies of laws, resolutions, and journals to specified elected officials and libraries throughout the state. All other copies are sold to members of the public.

In Article VI, which just has Section 9795, deals with agency reports to the Legislature. Any reports required or requested by law that are submitted by a state or local agency to the Legislature, must be submitted as a printed copy to the Senate Secretary, as an electronic copy to the Assembly Chief Clerk, and as an electronic or printed copy to the Legislative Counsel. Each report must contain a one-page Executive Summary of the report. Legislative Counsel must make available a list of the reports submitted by state and local agencies and these state agency reports must be downloadable from the state agency's internet website.

In terms of other legislative publications there are a number of them with similar versions in the Senate and the Assembly. The Senate Daily File is the agenda for all Senate business for each legislative day. Agendas for policy committee meetings, along with what measures are eligible for floor actions are listed in the Daily File. Also included are policy committee memberships, the number of measures introduced, deadlines, and the session's schedule among other things.

The Assembly Daily File contains the officers of the Assembly, the order of business, the tentative schedule for the legislative session, as well as the bills that are scheduled to be heard on the floor and during committee hearings. There are also Daily File publications for Extraordinary, or Special, Sessions once those are convened.

The Senate Daily Journal is the official record of business for the State Senate, and it's published on a daily basis. The Journal lists all bill introductions, parliamentary motions, roll call votes - in the policy committees and on the Senate Floor - any official action taken by the body is recorded in that Senate Daily Journal. Similarly, the Assembly Daily Journal is the official record of business that's been transacted in the State Assembly on a daily basis. This publication shows all roll call votes, notes parliamentary motions, lists bill introductions and records any other official actions taken by the State Assembly.

The Senate History shows all actions taken on measures from the start of the legislative session. It contains detailed actions on Governor appointments requiring Senate confirmation. The History is a source for several useful charts, such as tracking the number of bill limits, the number of chaptered bills, and the number of vetoed bills. So too, the Assembly History is a publication that gives a comprehensive list of all actions taken on every bill in that house. It's published in weekly volumes by the Assembly. Legislation dating back to 1850 can be used using the Assembly Chief Clerk's archive publication feature.

Next is the Legislative Index and the Table of Code Sections Affected from the prior sessions. There are final editions of the Legislative Index which provides a subject matter index of all legislative measures for the current legislative session. The Table of Code Sections Affected provides an index of each section of the California Constitution, the codes, and the uncodified laws that are affected by measures that were introduced by measures introduced in that particular legislative year. This is available from 1999-2000's session through the 2016-17 legislative session.

The Statutory Record provides an index of each section of the California Constitution, the codes, and the uncodified laws that are affected by measures enacted by the Legislature or passed by the voters. The Statutory Record indicates the year and the chapter or proposition number of the affecting measure. And it's cumulative for a ten year period. This Statutory Record is published in the Summary Digest by the Legislative Counsel.

Next is the New Laws Report, which is a list of all bills enacted in the calendar year during the regular session of the Legislature. This list in the New Laws Report identifies the bill and chapter number, the lead author, and the subject matter of the measure.

Next is the Legislative Handbook, which contains the biographies of all current legislators and legislative officers, the committee names and memberships, the Assembly Rules, the Senate Rules, and the Joint Rules, as well as the state's officers, accredited press representatives, legislative sessions, and even an exhaustive list of the Governors of California. It's published at least once every two-year session, pursuant to the requirement of the Government Code.

The California Legislature is a document that's an in depth introduction to the legislative process and state government here in the state of California. This heavily illustrated book is an excellent resource for students, for lobbyists, state employees, and the public generally. Topics include the state's history, constitutional and election law, term limits, state emblems, legislative procedures, discussions of the Executive and Judicial Branches, and even a legislative glossary.

And the last publication is called Agency Reports, which provides a list of reports by various state and local agencies that are required or requested to be submitted to the Legislature, the Governor, or both. These are maintained pursuant to the Government Code.

I hope you've enjoyed this look at California's legislative publications. Hope you'll join on the next one.