

Hi. This is Chris Micheli with the Sacramento governmental relations firm of Aprea & Micheli, and an adjunct professor at McGeorge School of Law. Today's podcast is a look at the 2019 California legislative session in review. In light of the fact that we have Democratic super majorities in both houses of the Legislature, and of course governor Gavin Newsom replace Governor Brown after eight years in office, I thought it might be interesting to take a look at some of the highlights and compare them to the last legislative session as a reference point.

The first is bill introductions. The bills introduced in the 2019 session included 792 Senate Bills, 1,833 Assembly Bills for a total of 2,625 bills introduced. Now, of these, 870 were signed into law, about 40% of them, and 172 bills were vetoed. From the 2018 session, there were 694 Senate Bills, which brought the 17-18 session total to 1,511 Senate Bills. Of those, 43%, 647, were signed into law, and 86 were vetoed, about 5.5%. On the Assembly side, there were 1,531 bills introduced in the 2018 session. The total number of ABs introduced in 17-18 legislative session was 3,264. Of those, 1,228, or 37.5% were signed into law, and 233 were vetoed, about 7% of the total.

Now let's look at bill authors. The highest number of bills authored by Senators in the 2019 session - and remember, they have a cap of 40 bills per two-year session - the highest ones were Kathleen Galgiani with 27, Ben Hueso with 26. Bob Hertzberg, Jim Nielsen and Anthony Portantino had 25 apiece, and Bill Dodd, Henry Stern and Scott Weiner had 24 apiece.

For the 17-18 legislative session, in terms of authors and number of bills, the most Senate Bills were by Senator Hill with 48, Senator Lara 35, 11 Senators introduced 40 bills; Galgiani, Glazer, Hernandez, Hertzberg, Leyva, Moorlach, Nguyen, Pan, Portantino, Stone, and Weiner. Then five Senators introduced 39 bills: Allen, Bradford, Jackson, Skinner and Stern.

In terms of the highest number of bills authored by Assemblymembers in the 2019 session - and remember they have a cap of 50 bills per two-year session - were Jim Frazier with 36, Autumn Burke 32, Lorena Gonzalez 31, Rob Bonta, Wendy Carrillo, Mark Levine and Evan Low had 30. Jacqui Irwin and Randy Voepel had 28 apiece.

For the 2017-18 legislative session, in terms of authors and number of bills on the Assembly side, Assemblyman Ting had 102 bills due to all the budget related measures that he carries.

Seven Assemblymembers introduced the maximum 50: Bloom, Bonta, Burke, Eduardo Garcia, Gonzalez, Levine and Rubio. Seven Assemblymembers have 49 bills: Arambula, Caballero, Limon, Low, Quirk, Santiago, and Wood. Then three Assemblymembers introduced 48 bills: Gipson, Irwin and O'Donnell.

In terms of bill referrals to committees, the Senate committees with the highest number of bills referred to them during the 2019 session, and this number is based on original committee referrals: Education which had 167, Health 150 bills, Public Safety 149, Judiciary 123, and Governance and Finance 120.

The Assembly committees with the highest number of bills referred to that committee in the 2019 session, again, based on original committee referrals was Public Safety 217, Health 202, Education 138, Transportation also 138, and Natural Resources 124.

Just by way of reference, looking at 2018 session, the committees with the highest numbers of original committee references on the Senate side; Education 313, Public Safety 288, Transportation and Housing 237, Health 226, Governance and Finance 223. Assembly committees with the highest number of bill referrals; Public Safety 384, Health 300, Education 260, Judiciary 247, and Transportation 233.

Thanks for joining today's podcast.