

THE 2012 SESSION CALENDAR

Note: On the 60 session days (days when members convene in their respective chambers), the session day count appears in a box on the lower-right, like this. >>># ■ = bills ■ = resolutions ■ = budget

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
JANUARY		17	18 Opening Day	19	20 Non-Admin. Bill Package Cutoff	21
22	23 State-of-the-State Address & Admin. Bill Package Cutoff	24 Recess #1	25 Bill Intro Cutoff	26 Recess #2	27	28
29	30	31 Grants / Subsidies Cutoff				
FEBRUARY			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Triple referral filing	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 First Lateral filing	17 First Lateral	18
19	20 Presidents' Day	21	22	23 Mandatory 5-Day Recess Begins	24	25
26	27	28	29 Mandatory 5-Day Recess Ends			
MARCH				1	2 First Decking	3
4	5 Recess #3	6	7 Recess #4	8 First Crossover	9	10
11	12 Budget Decking	13	14 Budget Crossover & Subst. Resolution Cutoff	15 Triple referral filing	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Second Lateral Filing	23 Second Lateral	24
25	26 Kuhio Day	27	28	29 Recess #5	30 First Lateral (Senate Concurrent Resolutions)	31
APRIL						
1	2	3 First Lateral (House Concurrent Resolutions)	4	5 Second Decking	6 Good Friday	7
8	9 Recess #6	10	11 Recess #7	12 Second Crossover & Disagree	13 First Crossover (Concurrent Resolutions)	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Constitutional Amendments	21
22	23 Second Crossover (Concurrent Resolutions)	24	25	26 Final Decking (Non-Fiscal Bills)	27 Final Decking (Fiscal Bills)	28
29	30 Recess #8					
MAY		1	2 Recess #9	3 Adjournment <i>Sine</i> <i>Die</i> (Session pau!)	4	5

THE 2012 SESSION CALENDAR A GUIDE TO THE DEADLINES

JAN 18 OPENING DAY – Hawaii’s constitution mandates that the regular legislative session starts at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday of January.

JAN 20 LAST DAY TO INTRODUCE ALL NON-ADMINISTRATION BILL PACKAGES – Bills bundled together by common interest groups and accepted and labeled as a package by the clerks.

JAN 23 STATE-OF-THE-STATE ADDRESS – The Governor’s annual address to the assembled joint legislature. The address presents an opportunity for the Governor to report on affairs of state, and to put forth recommendations and initiatives. Many visitors come to the Capitol to hear the Governor’s speech and witness the proceedings from the gallery (accessible on the ground floor/atrium level).

& LAST DAY TO INTRODUCE ADMINISTRATION BILL PACKAGE – This is what is known as the “Governor’s Package.” The bills are prepared by executive branch agencies for consideration by the legislature, and are introduced on behalf of the executive branch by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. (“BR” will appear after the introducers’ names, as the legislation is being introduced, “by request.”)

JAN 25 LAST DAY TO INTRODUCE BILLS – A bill is “introduced” when it has been filed with the House or Senate Clerk, who gives it a number (with an HB or SB prefix) and then puts it on the calendar for First Reading by the chamber. After First Reading, it is given its committee referrals which specify which committees must hear and pass the measure for it to succeed. Only legislators may introduce bills. [Note: At introduction, each bill is given a “Bill Status” webpage that can be accessed via the Legislature’s website (www.capitol.hawaii.gov) and used to track all the measure’s activity.]

JAN 31 LAST DAY FOR ORGANIZATIONS TO SUBMIT GRANT AND SUBSIDY REQUESTS – “Grant” refers to an award of appropriated state funds by the legislature to a specified recipient to support activities that benefit the community. Also known as “Grant-in-Aid.” “Subsidy” refers to a similar award to a recipient to reduce the costs incurred in providing a service to members of the public.

FEB 9 TRIPLE REFERRAL FILING – All bills referred to three or more committees must be in their second-to-last committee by this date. (Note: A referral to a joint committee counts as one committee referral.) This deadline allows ample time for successful bills to make their way to the last committee in their originating chamber by the First Lateral deadline.

FEB 17 FIRST LATERAL (BILLS) – All bills referred to more than one committee (i.e., those with multiple referrals) must move to their final committee in the originating chamber by this day.

FEB 23-29 MANDATORY 5-DAY RECESS – Hawaii’s Constitution mandates a 5 day recess between the 20th and 40th days of the regular session. Neither the House of Representatives nor the Senate convene or assemble formally in chamber on recess days. Committee hearings do take place, however.

MAR 2 FIRST DECKING FOR NON-FISCAL BILLS – All bills under consideration for crossover to the other chamber must be submitted to the clerk of the originating chamber in their final form at least 48 hours prior to third reading. This “decking” ensures an opportunity for final review by the chamber’s members before being asked to vote on the third reading. Note: A bill must pass three readings in each chamber before being enrolled to the governor.

MAR 8 FIRST CROSSOVER – Deadline for bills to pass third reading in order to move (or “crossover”) to the other chamber. If successful, House bills are sent to the Senate and Senate bills are sent to the House for further consideration.

MAR 12 BUDGET DECKING – Deadline for submitting the spending plan developed by the Governor which estimates expenditures for the fiscal year or biennium and the proposed means of financing these expenditures.

MAR 14 BUDGET CROSSOVER – Last day for third reading of budget bills in order to move to the other chamber.

& LAST DAY TO INTRODUCE SUBSTANTIVE RESOLUTIONS – Resolutions are legislative measures which may request action of a government entity or state the legislature’s position on an issue. They don’t have the force and effect of law, require only one reading in chamber, and are not enrolled to the Governor.

MAR 15 TRIPLE REFERRAL FILING – All bills referred to three or more committees must be in their second-to-last committee in the non-originating chamber by this date. (Note: A referral to a joint committee counts as one committee referral.) This deadline allows ample time for successful bills to make their way to their last committee by the Second Lateral deadline.

MAR 23 SECOND LATERAL – All bills with multiple referrals must move to their final referral committee in the non-originating chamber by this date.

MAR 30 & APR 3 FIRST LATERAL FOR CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS (MAR 30 FOR SCRs AND APR 3 FOR HCRs) – Concurrent resolutions require adoption in each chamber and are used to state the official position of the Legislature on an issue, or to request action formally without having to mandate it by law. All concurrent resolutions with multiple referrals must move to their final committee by this date.

APR 5 SECOND DECKING – Deadline for submitting bills that have been amended by the non-originating chamber to the clerk of that chamber. This allows for delivery of the amended bills in their final form to the chamber’s members at least 48 hours prior to third reading.

APR 12 SECOND CROSSOVER – Deadline for bills to pass third reading in their non-originating chamber in order to “cross back” to the originating chamber.

& LAST DAY FOR THE ORIGINATING BODY TO DISAGREE WITH BILL AMENDMENTS – If the Senate and House disagree on a bill, members from each chamber meet in a “conference” committee to work out their differences.

APR 13 FIRST CROSSOVER FOR CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS – Deadline for passing the single reading required for resolutions in order to move from the originating chamber to the other chamber.

APR 20 DEADLINE FOR FINAL FORM OF BILLS PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS – A proposed amendment’s final form must be provided by written notice to the Governor at least 10 days prior to passing final reading by a 2/3 vote in each chamber. Once adopted by the Legislature, the proposed amendment is submitted to the voters, in the form of a ‘yes or no’ question on the ballot, for ultimate decision.

APR 23 SECOND CROSSOVER FOR CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS – Deadline for passing concurrent resolutions in the non-originating chamber in order to “cross back” to the originating chamber.

APR 26 FINAL DECKING OF NON-FISCAL BILLS – Deadline for submitting non-fiscal bills for final reading by both chambers.

APR 27 FINAL DECKING OF FISCAL BILLS – Deadline for submitting fiscal bills for final reading by both chambers. Fiscal bills include appropriation or spending bills, tax credits, etc. that emerge from the fiscal committee of their respective originating chamber (Finance in the House, Ways and Means in the Senate).

MAY 3 ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE – In Latin, “sine die” means “without a day.” Adjournment sine die occurs on the 60th legislative day of a regular session, and indicates a suspension of the business of the legislature indefinitely. From this point, the Legislature will certify bills whose form both chambers have agreed to, and will transmit or “enroll” those bills to the Governor.

ADD’L INFO:

See “Walk through Session” on PAR’s homepage (<http://hawaii.gov/lrb/par>). Call or email PAR at 808/587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov. [12/16/2011]