10 Tips
for Cities Lobbying the California Legislature

1. Become engaged in the state level political process by appointing a legislative liaison within your city to track key legislation and work with your regional public affairs manager. You can locate contact information for your regional public affairs manager online at www.cacities.org/publicaffairs.

2. Use the League as a resource. To access League priority bills, legislative contacts and additional information, visit www.cacities.org/legresources. The League’s online bill tracking tool can be found at www.cacities.org/billsearch.

3. Sign up to receive the League’s newsletter, CA Cities Advocate, and stay current on important legislation. Subscribe at www.cacities.org/cacitiesadvocate.

4. Develop relationships with your Senate and Assembly representatives as well as their Capitol and district office staff.

5. Get to know members of your local press and educate them on legislative issues affecting your city.

6. Understand how state decisions impact your city’s budget.

7. Build networks and collaborate with other groups in your community on key legislative issues.

8. Organize an internal process within your city for developing and proposing changes to laws that will help your city.

9. Adopt local policies on legislation that enable your city to react quickly to the legislative process and respond to League action alerts.

10. Write letters on legislation featured in CA Cities Advocate. Samples can be found at www.cacities.org/billsearch by searching with the bill number or bill author.

Useful Legislative Resources

Local Government

League of California Cities
www.cacities.org
Local News RoundUp
www.cacities.org/LocalNewsRoundUp
Western City Magazine
www.westerncity.com
California City Finance
www.californiacityfinance.com
League Bill Search
www.cacities.org/billsearch
Institute for Local Government
www.ca-ilg.org
California State Association of Counties
www.csac.counties.org

State Government

Office of the Governor
www.gov.ca.gov
Secretary of State
www.sos.ca.gov
Attorney General
http://oag.ca.gov
California State Senate
www.senate.ca.gov
California State Assembly
www.assembly.ca.gov
California Dept. of Finance
www.dof.ca.gov
Governor’s Office of Planning and Research
www.opr.ca.gov
Legislative Analyst’s Office
www.lao.ca.gov

Federal Government

Office of the President
www.whitehouse.gov
U.S. Senate
www.senate.gov
U.S. House of Representatives
www.house.gov
Library of Congress
http://thomas.loc.gov
National League of Cities
www.nlc.org