

# Senate Governance and Finance

## Useful Websites

### **General information**

The Legislative Counsel's website posts the statutes, bills, analyses, votes, and histories.

<https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>

This site describes the legislative process.

<https://www.senate.ca.gov/legislativeprocess>

Code of California Regulations. There's a table of contents and a search function.

<http://ccr.oal.ca.gov/>

California Supreme Court and Appellate Courts' decisions.

<https://www.courts.ca.gov/opinions.htm>

The California Attorney General's opinions.

<https://oag.ca.gov/opinions>

The State of California's home page has links to all state agencies' websites.

<https://www.ca.gov/agencysearch/>

The California Research Bureau (part of the State Library) produces excellent reports.

<http://www.library.ca.gov/crb>

The Legislative Analyst's Office posts their reports and budget analysis.

<http://www.lao.ca.gov/>

The Department of Finance's Demographic Research Unit posts population and census data.

<http://dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/>

The Public Policy Institute of California, an independent research center, produces reports and polling.

<http://www.ppic.org>

Compare California to other states? The National Conference of State Legislatures knows.

<http://ncsl.org>

"Rough & Tumble" is Jack Kavanagh's daily digest of news stories about California politics.

<http://www.rtumble.com/>

### **Local government groups**

California State Association of Counties (CSAC).

<http://www.counties.org>

League of California Cities.

<http://www.cacities.org>

California Special Districts Association.

<http://www.csda.net>

California Association of LAFCOs (CALAFCO).

<http://www.calafco.org>

## **Land use and planning**

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) advises local planners. Start here.

<http://www.opr.ca.gov>

OPR's "General Plan Guidelines" advise planners how to plan.

<https://www.opr.ca.gov/planning/general-plan/>

Need to find your local planning agency? Try OPR's "Directory of Planning Agencies."

[https://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/20200929-Directory\\_of\\_Planning\\_Agencies.pdf](https://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/20200929-Directory_of_Planning_Agencies.pdf)

The "CEQA Guidelines" are the regulations that interpret the California Environmental Quality Act. Find them on-line.

[https://www.califaep.org/statute\\_and\\_guidelines.php](https://www.califaep.org/statute_and_guidelines.php)

To reach professional planners, try the California Chapter of the American Planning Association.

<https://www.apacalifornia.org/>

The "California Planning & Development Report" is Bill Fulton's monthly newsletter.

<http://www.cp-dr.com>

## **Local government finance**

California State Treasurer's guide to state and local debt.

<https://debtwatch.treasurer.ca.gov/>

California State Treasurer's California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission (CDIAC)

<https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/cdiac/>

Commission on State Mandates hears and decides local agency reimbursement claims.

<https://www.csm.ca.gov/>

California State Auditor's dashboard of fiscally high-risk cities.

[https://www.auditor.ca.gov/bsa/cities\\_risk\\_index](https://www.auditor.ca.gov/bsa/cities_risk_index)

Michael Coleman's online almanac for California city finance.

<http://www.californiacityfinance.com/>