

California Assembly announces committee chairs

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A new California Assembly class [has been sworn in](#) – and now members have begun to receive the committee assignments that will guide the fate of legislation and shape the power dynamics of the Democratic caucus.

Committee assignments, and particularly committee chairmanships, matter for a variety of reasons. Committee leaders have substantial sway over which bills get hearings and which bills perish quietly. Most significant bills must pass through the Assembly Appropriations Committee, for instance, and the Budget Committee chair has a key role in shaping the annual budget bill. Campaign contributions often flow to members who sit on committees overseeing powerful industries.

And with Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins, D-San Diego, in office only through 2016, committee assignments are sure to prompt speculation about who is in position to next seek the leadership mantle.

Atkins' office announced committee chairs for the new session Wednesday morning – the list is below. Last session's committee leaders are in parentheses. An asterisk (*) next to former chairs indicates that the member no longer serves in the Assembly.

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Accountability and Administrative Review: Assemblyman Rudy Salas, D-Bakersfield (Assemblyman Jim Frazier)

Ageing And Long-Term Care Assemblywoman Cheryl Brown, D-San Bernardino (Assemblywoman Mariko Yamada,*)

Agriculture: Assemblyman Henry Perea, D-Fresno (Assemblywoman Susan Eggman)

Appropriations: Assemblyman Jimmy Gomez, D-Los Angeles (Assemblyman Mike Gatto)

Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media: Assemblyman Ian Calderon, D-Whittier (was Calderon)

Banking and Finance: Assemblyman Matthew Dababneh, D-Los Angeles (Assemblyman Roger Dickinson*)

Budget: Assemblywoman Shirley Weber, D-San Diego (Assemblywoman Nancy Skinner*)

Business, Professions and Consumer Protection: Assemblywoman Susan Bonilla, D-Concord (Bonilla)

Education: Assemblyman Patrick O'Donnell, D-Long Beach (Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan*)

Elections and Redistricting: Assemblyman Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, D-Culver City (Assemblyman Paul Fong*)

Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials: Assemblyman Luis Alejo, D-Watsonville (Alejo)

Governmental Organization: Assemblyman Adam Gray, D-Merced (Assemblyman Isadore Hall*)

Health: Assemblyman Rob Bonta, D-Oakland (Assemblyman Richard Pan*)

Higher Education: Assemblyman Jose Medina, D-Riverside (Assemblyman Das Williams)

Housing and Community Development: Assemblyman Ed Chau, D-Monterey Park (Chau)

Human Services: Assemblyman Kansen Chu, D-San Jose (Assemblyman Mark Stone)

Insurance: Assemblyman Tom Daly, D-Anaheim (Assemblyman Henry Perea)

Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy: Assemblyman Eduardo Garcia, D-Riverside (Assemblyman Jose Medina)

Judiciary: Assemblyman Mark Stone, D-Scotts Valley (Assemblyman Bob Wieckowski*)

Labor and Employment: Assemblyman Roger Hernández, D-West Covina (Hernández)

Local Government: Assembly members Brian Maienschein (chair) and Lorena Gonzalez (vice chair) (Assembly members Katcho Achadjian and Marc Levine)

Natural Resources: Assemblyman Das Williams, D-Santa Barbara (Assemblyman Wes Chesbro*)

Privacy and Consumer Protection: Assemblyman Mike Gatto (D-Glendale), Chair (new committee)

Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security: Bonta (Bonta)

Public Safety: Assemblyman Bill Quirk, D-Hayward (Assemblyman Tom Ammiano*)

Revenue and Taxation: Assemblyman Phil Ting, D-San Francisco (Assemblyman Raul Bocanegra*)

Rules: Assemblyman Richard Gordon, D-Menlo Park (Gordon)

Transportation: Assemblyman Jim Frazier, D-Oakley (Assemblywoman Bonnie Lowenthal*)

Utilities and Commerce: Assemblyman Anthony Rendon, D-Lakewood (Assemblyman Steven Bradford*)

Veterans Affairs: Assemblywoman Jacqui Irwin, D-Thousand Oaks (Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva*)

Water, Parks and Wildlife: Assemblyman Marc Levine, D-San Rafael (Rendon)

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