

***Suggested Amendments to  
Goals for a Legislative Calendar***

Legislative Council

Proposed for January 8, 2014

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Goals

To empower and enable citizen legislators to serve well during the session and the interim by scheduling a legislative calendar to provide:

- 1) a schedule that assists in the recruitment of candidates;
- 2) respect for employment, families, and the demands of citizen life;
- 3) time to prepare for session between the election, caucus, and session, to build lines of communication and relationships, and to plan;
- 4) opportunities for legislators to absorb what's happening and appropriate training opportunities in multiple stages at appropriate times;
- 5) sufficient time for the public to have the opportunity to participate in the committee process and testify;
- 6) time for bill requesting and drafting and for leadership to analyze bills for duplication and strategy;
- 7) time to work, maintain momentum, and compel action toward completion, ~~and~~
- 8) time to build and use leeway for balancing the necessity for deadlines and flexibility;
- 9) ability to react to the unique nature of each session;
- 10) time for legislative interaction with newly-elected executive officers on topics such as building a state budget.

## Additional Information

- 1) Research needed on potential obstacles to changing calendar:
  - a. Biennial schedule is difficult to recruit for, would a change to annual sessions be any easier to recruit for? What are the obstacles identified in recruitment?
  - b. How would a change in calendar affect living logistics for legislators and House and Senate staff recruitment?
  
- 2) Provide and solicit additional information on bill draft requesting (esp. before election), bill drafting cycle.

## Notes on Goals from Strategic Planning

- 1) Time to build lines of communication and relationships
- 2) Time to plan, including an exit strategy
- 3) Build/use leeway
- 4) Time to absorb what's happening
- 5) Ability to recruit candidates
- 6) Biennial/annual : time to work/momentum
- 7) Respect ag, families, citizen life
- 8) Compel action during session
- 9) Time for prep between caucus and January
- 10) Time for additional training throughout – orientation, ongoing, break down into smaller units