

STATE RESOURCE PAGES GUIDE

The state resources pages provide important information about the state legislature, state agencies, governor and state laws.

LEGISLATURE - The state resource pages include a link to the state legislature (sometimes called general assembly) that is responsible for passing bills along with its address.

- Sessions - States have three types of sessions. They can have annual (1 Year) sessions. Others have 2 year sessions where they convene one year and finally adjourn the following year. However, they often have a set date they adjourn each year. Most states with two year sessions have odd year to even year sessions, though a few have even to odd year sessions. Then there are a few states only meet in odd years.
- Convenes - When the legislature typically starts its session each year.
- Adjourns - When the legislature adjourns its session for the year.
- Bill Search - A link to find pending bills.
- Legislators - A link to find a list of ALL legislators.
- Who Represents Me? - A link on where to look up one's own legislators.
- How A Bill Becomes A Law - A link that summarizes the process of how a bill becomes a law in that state.
- Bill Signing Deadlines - How long the governor has to take action on a bill. There are two dates: During Session (when the legislature is still in session) and After Session (when the legislature either adjourns before the original signing deadline or the governors receives it after adjournment). Pocket Veto: In some states, the governor can veto a bill by taking no action on it. Pocket vetoes only apply when the governor fails to take action for the After Session deadline.
- Bill Effective Date - When a passed bill takes effect. Most bills have the effective date right in their bill text. If not, this lists the default date that it takes effect.

GOVERNOR - When a bill passes the legislature, it goes to the governor to take action on it. The state resources pages include a link to the governor page where one can find contact information for the governor.

STATE AGENCY - Once a bill becomes a law, the state agency given the authority to regulate the law is then responsible for creating more detailed rules to enforce it. The state resource pages include the link, address and phone number of each agency that regulates captive native and exotic species along with the next meeting date.

- Meetings - A link to the meeting page for that agency where one can find a meeting schedule and agenda of upcoming meetings and even minutes of past meetings.
- Proposed Rules - A link where one can find any new or proposed changes to the current agency's rules. They will often also include information on how to comment on them.
- Permits - Links to actual permit applications or permit fee information or phone numbers to call to obtain one.

STATE LAWS - The state resources pages provide a summary of state laws. They are divided into the following categories: Main Law, Exotic Animals, Native Species, Invasive Species, Special Permits/Requirements, Health Laws and Import.