

Legislative Chambers & Session

What is a Chamber?

A chamber is the legislative bodies of the state legislature.

How Many Chambers Does My State Have?

All state legislatures except Nebraska have two chambers:

1. House of Representatives (or Assembly or House of Delegates), and
2. Senate.

What is a Session?

It is the time when a legislature meets.

One-Year, Two-Year or Odd Session?

States can have a:

1. One-year session,
2. Two-year session, or
3. Odd year session.

All states with two-year sessions have odd-even year sessions except for New Jersey and Virginia.

Want to Learn More About Lobbying or to Stay Informed About Legislation in Your State?

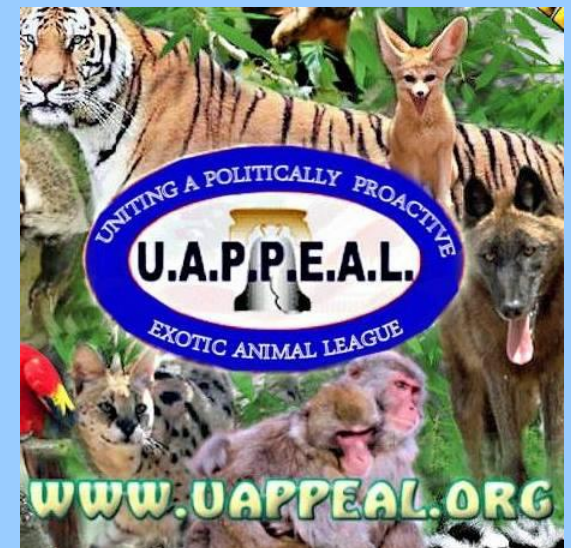
Check out our Government 101 Lobbying Guide and other lobbying information on our website and join our Facebook group for up-to-date state exotic animal legislative monitoring.

Uniting A Politically Proactive Exotic Animal League (U.A.P.P.E.A.L.) is the first non-profit 501 (c) 4 lobbying organization that represents current and future owners, handlers and enthusiasts of all species of native and exotic animals and their hybrids at both the federal and state levels.

Mission: To protect the right of responsible exotic and alternative animal ownership by lobbying to prevent unfair regulation, discouraging the casual acquisition of exotic animals through education, and furthering animal welfare through the responsible placement of animals in need.

BECOMING A CITIZEN LOBBYIST FOR YOUR ANIMALS

STATE SESSIONS



Session Dates

What is the Legislative Period?

It is the set period of time that a state legislature is required to meet each year.

What is the Legislative Season?

The legislative season (around January – June) is the most active months when nearly all states are in session and most bills are introduced and acted upon.

How Long Does A State Legislature Meet?

Some states meet for only a few months, while others are what we like to call the year-round states since they are in session the entire year. Such states have two-year sessions, though some only meet year-round the first year of the session.

Convene/Adjourn

What is the Convene Date and Adjournment Date?

The convene date is when a state legislature starts its session for the year, and the adjournment date is when it ends its session. It also applies to when the legislature starts and ends each day.

What is Adjourned Sine Die?

When the legislature formally adjourns for the year, it is said to have adjourned sine die.

What is “Concluded Floor Sessions”?

Some states may finish up their legislative work and then return at a later set date to officially adjourn sine die.

Session Types

The most common types of sessions:

- Regular
- Special - Work on pre-approved list of bills or topics
- Organizational - Prepare for regular session
- Budget - Work on budget/ monetary bills
- Veto - Act on bills vetoed by governor

