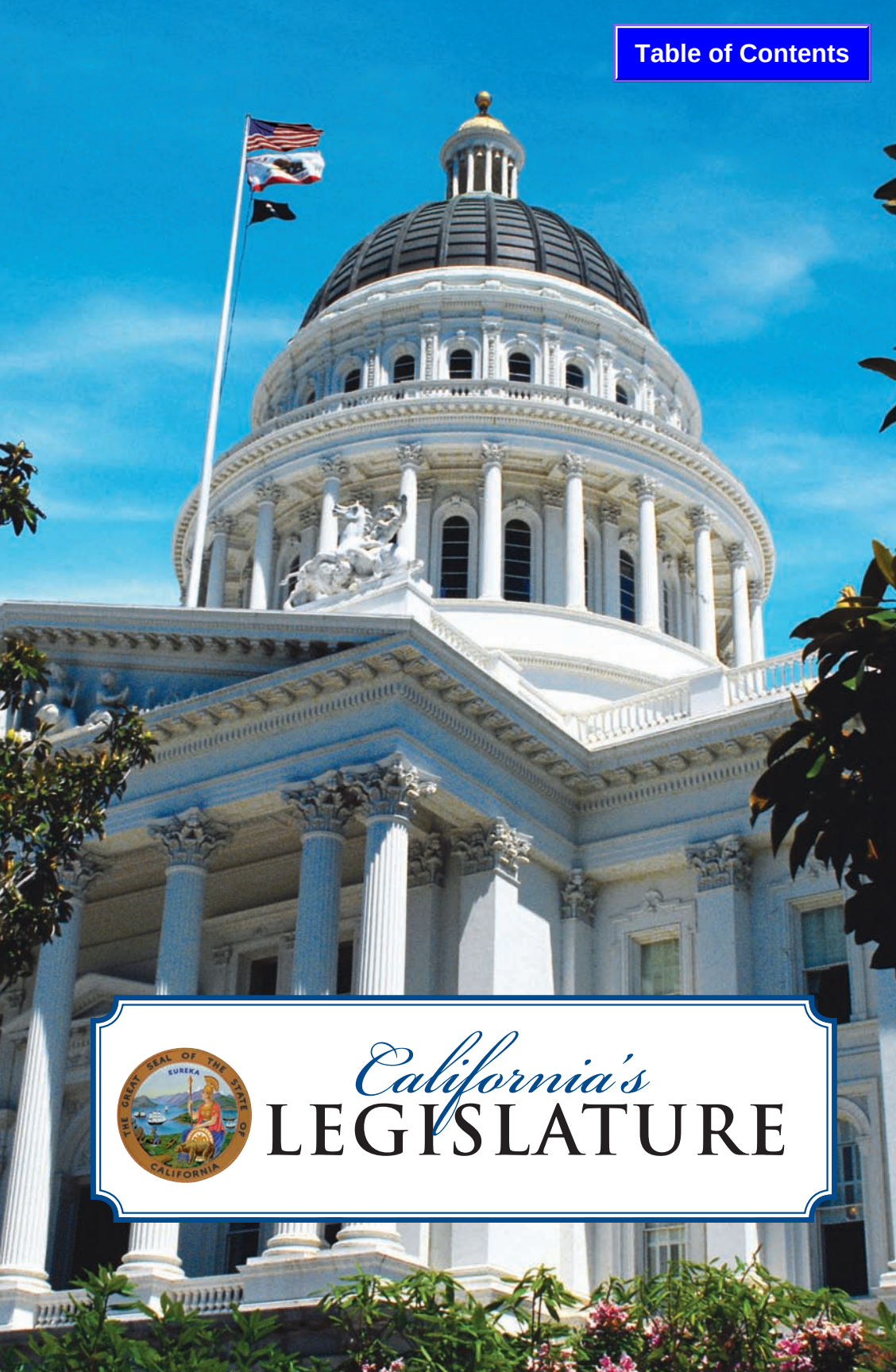
Table of Contents



California's LEGISLATURE

A RARE COLOR LITHOGRAPH SHOWING THE STATE CAPITOL, CIRCA 1880. (*Lithography courtesy of University of California, Berkeley*)

CLOSE-UP OF THE GOLD-PLATED SPHERE ATOP THE CAPITOL. Installed in 1873. The orb is 30 inches in diameter, made of copper, and plated with melted-down gold coins.

(*Photo courtesy of Joint Rules Committee*)

WHEN YOU THINK OF CALIFORNIA

When you think of California think of people filled with zest
For a special kind of living in the freedom of the West.
Think of swimmers, fishers, golfers, campers—backyard loafers too,
Using beaches, parks, and mountains, doing things folks love to do.

When you think of California think of industry and trade;
Think of busy people working at the tasks where wealth is made.
Think of prosperous ports and cities, personal income going higher,
And the worker and the seller sharing profits with the buyer.

When you think of California think of copious valleys green,
With a promise of fulfillment that makes agriculture queen.
Where the vineyards, groves and orchards are oases of delight,
With a myriad of blossoms making perfume of the night.

When you think of California think of history rich in lore:
Indian, priest, and forty-niner and the bold conquistador;
Of wagon trains a rolling to the tune of Clementine,
And the roots of many cultures in the raisin and the wine.

When you think of California, think of Nature's generous hand:
Mountains, deserts, beaches, Redwoods, beautifying land;
Primeval parks of wilderness, Nature's archives of the past,
Preserving for the future the beauty that should last.

When you think of California think of education's power,
Think of well-trained labor ready for a task or leisure's hour;
Think of schools for every purpose, with a challenge that's supreme
For a youth with opportunity to realize its dream.

When you think of California think of mighty works of man,
Think of reservoirs and rivers in a classic water plan;
Think of webs of towering bridges, gracefully spanning stream and bay
And the high lines wheeling power, making life an easier way.

When you think of California think of dusks as soft as down,
With a neon fluorescence like a halo round each town;
Think of gleaming streams of freeways, head and tail lights flowing by,
And the green-red blinking air fleets purring smoothly through the sky.

When you think of California see the Capitol Dome aglow,
Brightly rising over Deodars so stately in a row;
See the luminescent leaves above the lights throughout the park,
Smell the jasmine and azaleas breathing fragrance to the dark.

California, California are we always living true
To the variant rich reality of life we share in you?
May we know that all our blessings are a trust from heaven's grace
And the way in which we use them show us worthy of this place!

Charles "Gus" Garrigus
Poet Laureate of California, 1966–2000
California's longest-serving Poet Laureate

CALIFORNIA'S LEGISLATURE

Published Spring 2006

By

E. Dotson Wilson
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

and

Brian S. Ebbert
Chief Editor

Preface

California's Legislature, first published in 1942, is regarded as one of the most authoritative and detailed sources on our state's legislative branch of government.

This latest edition includes hundreds of key changes that will enhance its use as a resource for scholars, elected officials, citizens and other students of the governmental process. You will find the 2006 edition to have over 1,000 footnotes and numerous charts; court cases relating to term limits and the open primary law. In addition, it includes information on trial court unification, Governor's Reorganization Plans and the Capital Fellowship Programs. This edition also contains a number of historic photos published for the first time.

A publication of this magnitude could not have been produced without the tireless dedication of numerous individuals who are acknowledged on page vi. The Chief Editor and Principal Clerk, Brian Ebbert, has done an exemplary job by taking the lead in editing and updating this year's publication.

I wish also to extend a special thank you to the late James D. Driscoll. He served as Chief Clerk from 1963–1986 and was a valuable resource in assisting with updating the 2006 edition.

We hope you will find this latest edition to be a valuable tool in assisting you in better understanding the intricacies of state government and the legislative process.

E. Dotson Wilson
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

See pages vi and xiii–xiv for Acknowledgments and photo credits.

Editor's note: "The Legislature of California," by then Chief Clerk Arthur Ohnimus, was first published as an insert in the 1941 "Constitution" booklet published by the California State Assembly. After the article had expanded extensively with each new edition, the Assembly authorized the printing of the document as a separate pamphlet in 1958 (*HR 45, adopted March 13, 1958*). Subsequent revisions dramatically altered the publication from its original format, and the new work was renamed "California's Legislature" in 1969. Revisions were printed approximately every 2 years, with the exception of 1986–1993 and 2001–2005, when no new editions were published.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Contributing Editors

Lawrence A. Murman, Assistant Chief Clerk
Brian S. Ebbert, Principal Clerk
Pam Cavileer, Chief Assistant Clerk
Cynthia Perkut-Kelly, Engrossing and Enrolling Clerk
Russell Tomas, Assistant Clerk
Elizabeth Potter, Assistant Clerk

Leadership

Hon. Fabian Núñez, Speaker of the Assembly
Hon. Leland Yee, Speaker pro Tempore
Hon. Sally Lieber, Assistant Speaker pro Tempore
Hon. Dario Frommer, Majority Floor Leader
Hon. Cindy Montañez, Chair, Assembly Rules Committee
Hon. George Plescia, Minority Leader
Hon. David Cogdill, Vice Chairman, Assembly Rules Committee

Offices and Agencies

Administrative Office of the Courts
American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries
Assembly Reprographics
Attorney General's Office
Benicia Historic State Capitol
Bureau of State Audits
California Citizens Compensation Commission
Capital Fellows
CAPITOL Institute
Department of Finance
Governor's Press Office
Legislative Analyst's Office
Press Office, President pro Tempore Don Perata
Secretary of State, Elections Division
Secretary of the Senate
State Archives
State Capitol Museum
State Library
State Treasurer's Office
State Controller's Office

Individuals

Dana Badley, Speaker's Office of Member Services
Nathan Barankin, Attorney General's Office
Diane Boyer-Vine, Legislative Counsel
Geoff Brandt, State Printer
Mia Brumfield, Engrossing and Enrolling
Michael Callahan, Engrossing and Enrolling
Amy Cameron, Department of Education
Francisco Castanos, Assembly Reprographics
Pam Christopherson, Engrossing and Enrolling
June Clark, Administrative Office of the Courts
Russell Collins Stiger, Speaker's Office of Member Services
Louis Correia, Assembly Reprographics
Casey Elliot, Secretary of State
Margarita Fernandez, Bureau of State Audits
Richard Figueroa, Department of Insurance
Winnie Fong, Intern
Stephen J. Greene, Attorney at Law
Willie Guerrero, Office of Senator Carole Migden
Scott Hallabrin, Legislative Ethics Committee
Lily Hitomi, Legislative Bill Room
Lynn Holton, Administrative Office of the Courts
Kathleen Howard, Administrative Office of the Courts
Elaine Howle, State Auditor
Norine Ibarra, Engrossing and Enrolling
Ethan Jones, Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee
Matthew Lesenyie, Legislative Intern
Michelle Mack, Engrossing and Enrolling
Loren Magaña, Engrossing and Enrolling
Ilene Martinez, Engrossing and Enrolling
Rick Mattos, Assembly Television
Nathaniel Mayes, Engrossing and Enrolling
Darlene Moe, Engrossing and Enrolling
Linda Morgan, Engrossing and Enrolling
Donald Moulds, Senate Office of Research
Nikki Paschal, State Treasurer's Office
Gavin Payne, Department of Education
Daniel Pone, Administrative Office of the Courts
Dia Poole, Administrative Office of the Courts
Mark Renteria, Office of State Publishing
Vito Sgromo, Department of General Services
Katarina Spralja, Intern
Scott Sullivan, Senate Office of Demographics
Byron Tucker, Insurance Commissioner's Office
Sue Valencia, Engrossing and Enrolling
Robert Veneman-Hughes, Governor's Office
Robert Vogel, Engrossing and Enrolling
Jon Waldie, CAO, Assembly Rules Committee
Chris Wood, Assembly Budget Committee
Norman Williams, Department of Insurance
Shirley Yabut, Office of State Publishing

See pages xiii–xiv for photograph and illustration credits.

Table of Contents

Page

Chapter I—California's Historical Background 1
Exploration and Colonization 1
The Bear Flag Revolution 3
The Admission of California 3

Chapter II—California's Constitution 7
Law and Order 7
The Constitutional Convention of 1849 8
The Constitution of 1849 9
The Constitutional Convention of 1878 10
The Constitution of 1879 11
Constitution Revision Commission 13
Differences Between the Federal and the State Constitutions 16
Constitutional Amendments 18
California Constitutional Amendments 18
United States Constitutional Amendments 18
Distribution of Powers of Government 19
Confirmation of Appointments 20
Impeachment 20

Chapter III—Elections 23
Right of Suffrage 23
Primary and General Elections 25
Party Qualification and Disqualification 25
Closed Primaries 26
Open Primaries 26
California's Modified Closed Primary 26
Crossfiling System 27
Presidential Primaries 27
Special Elections 28
Partisan and Nonpartisan Offices 28
Campaign Financing and the Fair Political Practices Commission 30
The Electoral College and Choosing the President 31
History of the Electoral College 32
California's Electoral College Process 33
Recall Elections 35
Measures on the Ballot 37
The Initiative and the Referendum 39
The Initiative 39
The Referendum 40

Chapter IV—The Executive Branch 43
The Governor 43
The Governor's Legislative Role 45
The Governor's Cabinet 45
Succession to Office of Governor 45
The Lieutenant Governor 46
Other State Officers 47
The Secretary of State 47
The Attorney General 49
The State Treasurer 51
The State Controller 52
The Superintendent of Public Instruction 53
The State Board of Equalization 54
The Insurance Commissioner 55

Chapter V—The Judicial Branch 59
The Courts 59
The Supreme Court 59

Page

Courts of Appeal 60
Trial Courts (Superior and Municipal Court Unification) 61
Terms of Office and Salaries of Judges 62
Judges—Disqualification and Suspension 63
Judicial Administration 63
The Judicial Council 63
Commission on Judicial Performance 65
Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation 65
Commission on Judicial Appointments 66
State Bar of California 67

Chapter VI—Legislative Sessions 69
The First Legislature 69
The Members 69
The First Laws 70
Sessions of the Legislature 72
Sessions, 1849–1946 72
Sessions, 1947–1966 (General and Budget) 73
Sessions, 1967–1972 (Annual) 74
Sessions, 1973–Present (Biennial) 75
Extraordinary Sessions 76
Length of Extraordinary Sessions 77
Designation of Sessions 79
War- or Enemy-caused Disaster Sessions 80

Chapter VII—Legislators' Districts, Qualifications, Terms, and Compensation 83
United States Senators 83
House of Representatives 83
Congressional Term Limits (Declared Unconstitutional) 84
Senate and Assembly Districts 84
Reapportionment of Districts 84
1965 Reapportionment 85
1971 Reapportionment 85
1981 Reapportionment 86
1991 Reapportionment 88
2001 Reapportionment 89
Qualifications of Members of the Legislature 90
California Term Limits 90
Compensation of Members 93

Chapter VIII—Organization of the Legislature 97
The New Member 97
Election of Assembly Officers 98
Chaplains 99
1995–96 Organizational Session: An Assembly Stalemate 99
Election of Senate Officers 101
Inauguration of Governor and Lieutenant Governor 102
The Rules of the Legislature 102
Order of Business 103
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag 103

Chapter IX—The Legislative Process 105
Bills and Bill Titles 105
Bills in the Early Sessions 106
Governor's Message to the Legislature and the Budget 107
The Budget Bill 107
History of the Item Veto 108
Constitutional Amendments 109
Resolutions 109
Joint Resolutions 109
Concurrent Resolutions 109
House and Senate Resolutions 110

Page

Introduction of Bills 110
Restriction on Bill Introduction 112
Governor's Reorganization Plans 113
Bills and Standing Committees 116
Second Reading and Engrossment of Bills 118
Third Reading and Passage of Bills 119
The Consent Calendar 120
Members Required to Vote 123
Absence of Quorum 123
Call of the House 123
Reconsideration of Bills 124
Amendments by the Other House 125
Concurrence in Amendments of Other House 125
Conference Committees 126
Enrollment of Bills 127
Bills Signed by the Governor 128
Governor's Veto 129
When Laws Go Into Effect 130
Adjournment 131
Final Disposition of Legislative Records 132
The Committee System 132
The Rules Committees 135
The Fiscal Committees 137
Appropriations Committees 138
The Joint Rules Committee 138
The Joint Legislative Budget Committee 139
The Joint Legislative Audit Committee 140

Chapter X—Legislative Personnel 141
Support Staff/Agencies 141
The Legislative Counsel 141
The Legislative Analyst 143
The California Law Revision Commission 144
Bureau of State Audits 145
Capitol Branch of the State Library 146
Senate and Assembly Staff 147
Chief Clerk of the Assembly 148
Secretary of the Senate 149
Sergeant at Arms 149
The Speaker's Staff 150
The President pro Tempore's Staff 150
Senate Office of Research 150
Majority and Minority Caucus Consultants 151
Committee Consultants 151
The CAPITOL Institute 151
Computer Support Staff 152
Capital Fellows Programs 152
History and Description of the Fellowship Programs 153
Chief Clerk's Internship Program 154

Chapter XI—The Capitol 157
The Siting of a Capitol 157
San Jose 158
Vallejo 159
Benicia 161
The First State House in Sacramento 162
Sacramento's Second State House 163
San Francisco 164
Sacramento (Capital Comes to Rest) 165
Celebrating California's Past: Legislature Returns to Benicia 168

Page

The Capitol Building 171
The Annex 172
Restoration of the Old Capitol 175
Temporary Legislative Chambers 179
The Restored Capitol 179
The Restored Legislative Chambers 180
The Members' Desks 181
Media Facilities 182
Public Address System 182
Electronic Rollcall System 183
The Galleries 185
Legislative Office Building 185
Capitol Park 188
Capitol Park Memorials 190

Chapter XII—Legislative Printing 197
The Office of State Publishing 197
State Printing System 200
The Bill Room 200
Number of Copies of Legislative Publications 201
Daily Publications 201
The Daily Journal 201
The Daily File 202
The History 203
Bills 204
Other Legislative Publications 207
Legislative Index and Table of Sections Affected 207
The Summary Digest 207
The Chapters 208
The Statutes 209
The Legislative Handbook 210
The Constitution 210
Postsession Publications 211
Corrected Journals 211
Final Journals 211
The Final Histories 211

Chapter XIII—Media Coverage of the Legislature 215
Televising the Legislature 216

Glossary of Legislative Terms 219

Appendices 239

Appendix A—Sessions of the California Legislature 241

Appendix B—Governors, Lieutenant Governors, and Speakers of the Assembly 245

Appendix C—California's Statewide Elective Officers 253
Governors 253
Lieutenant Governors 254
Secretaries of State 255
Attorneys General 256
State Treasurers 257
State Controllers 258
Superintendents of Public Instruction 259
Insurance Commissioners 260

Appendix D—California's Supreme Court 261
Chief Justices 261
Justices 262

Page

Appendix E—California's Legislature—Elected Officers 265
Officers of the Assembly 265
Officers of the Senate 268
Chaplains of the Senate and Assembly 270

Appendix F—Legislative Counsels 273

Appendix G—California Budget Bills, 1950–2005 275

Appendix H—Partisan Composition, 1950–2006 277

Appendix I—California Special Elections, 1961–2005 279

Appendix J—State Emblems, Insignia, Song, and Poet Laureate 281
The State Emblems 281
State Animal 281
State Bird 281
State Colors 282
State Dance 282
State Folk Dance 282
State Fish 282
State Flag 283
State Flower 284
State Marine Fish 284
State Motto and Official Nickname 284
State Prehistoric Artifact 285
State Song 285
State Tree 285
Other Emblems 286
State Mineral 286
State Rock 286
State Gemstone 286
State Reptile 286
State Insect 287
State Fossil 287
State Marine Mammal 287
State Soil 287
State Tartan 288
State Gold Rush Ghost Town 288
State Tall Ship 288
State Silver Rush Ghost Town 288
Poet Laureate 288

Appendix K—Official Seals 291
State—Executive—Legislative—Judicial 291
The Great Seal 291
Governor's Seal 292
The Seal of the Assembly 293
The Seal of the Senate 294
Seal of the Supreme Court 295

Appendix L—Origin and Meaning of the Name California 297

Appendix M—Origin and Meaning of the Names of the Counties of California With County Seats and Dates Counties Were Created 299

Appendix N—Governor's Mansion and Flag 309
The Mansion 309
First Mansion 309
Second Mansion 311
Unoccupied Mansion 311
Current Efforts to Build a Governor's Mansion 313
The Governor's Flag 313

Appendix O—Flags That Have Flown Over California 315

Page

Appendix P—Samples of Legislative Publications 317
Journal 317
File 318
History 320

Index 321

Page

List of Photographs and Illustrations
(credits in parentheses)

Southwestern View of Capitol, circa 1880 (State Capitol Museum) iv
Gallery of Presidents pro Tempore 1957–2006 (Secretary of Senate) xv
Gallery of Speakers 1961–2006 (Chief Clerk of Assembly) xvi
Capitol Grounds, circa 1890 (State Capitol Museum) xxiii
Mission San Diego de Alcalá (California State Library) xxviii
Act for Admission of California 5
The Constitution of 1849 (California State Archives) 6
Governor James Rolph Inaugural Address (California State Library) 22
Electoral College, 2000 (Russell Collins Stiger) 34
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger Signing Bill (Office of the Governor) 42
First Supreme Court of California, 1849 (California State Library) 58
California Supreme Court (Administrative Office of the Courts) 58
California State Assembly in Session, 1927 (California State Library) 68
Assembly Chambers, 1869 (California State Library) 70
California Senate in Session, 1920 (California State Library) 72
California Assembly in Session, 1910 (California State Library) 75
2000 Reapportionment Map 82
Members-elect sworn in as Senators, 1996 (Secretary of Senate) 96
Life Cycle of Legislation (Chief Clerk of Assembly) 104
First Page of Assembly Bill No. 392, 2005–06 Regular Session 115
First Page of Senate Bill No. 406, 2005–06 Regular Session 122
Assembly Rules Committee, 1969 134
Budget Bill, 2005 136
Legislative Staff in Chamber, 1999 (Russell Collins Stiger) 147
Chief Clerk, Arthur Ohnimus (1923–1963) 148
Secretary of Senate, Joe Beek (1919–1968) 149
California's State Capitol, circa 1947 (State Capitol Museum) 156
Siting of a Capitol: Monterey (California State Library) 157
Early State Capitol: San Jose (California State Library) 158
Early State Capitol: Vallejo (California State Library) 159
Early State Capitol: Benicia (California State Library) 161
First Capitol at Sacramento (California State Library) 162
Second Capitol at Sacramento (California State Library) 163
Early State Capitol: San Francisco (California State Library) 164
California's Capitol, 1878 (California State Library) 165
Steam-powered Tractor Hauls Columns, 1870 (California State Library) 166
Capitol Under Construction, circa 1867 (State Capitol Museum) 166
Capitol Nearing Completion, 1872 (California State Library) 167
Benicia Capitol, Sesquicentennial Session, 2000 (Brian Ebbert) 168
Benicia Session, 2000 (Russell Collins Stiger) 169
State Capitol as it appeared in 1879 (California State Library) 170
Capitol, Electric Light Carnival, 1895 (California State Library) 171
1906–1908 Capitol Remodel (California State Library) 172
California Supreme Court in Apse, 1890 (California State Library) 173
State Law Library, 1904 (California State Library) 173
Basement Garage, 1950s (California Department of Transportation) 174
Capitol Building During 1976–1981 Restoration (State Capitol Museum) 178
Legislative Office Building, 1999 (Russell Collins Stiger) 185
Assembly Chamber 186
Senate Chamber 187
View of Capitol Park, circa 1940 (State Capitol Museum) 188
View of Capitol, circa 1883 (California State Archives) 189
East End Complex (Russell Collins Stiger) 190
Father Serra Memorial (Russell Collins Stiger) 191
California Firefighter Memorial (Russell Collins Stiger) 192
California Vietnam Veterans Memorial (Don Drumheller) 193
Spanish-American War Memorial (Russell Collins Stiger) 193

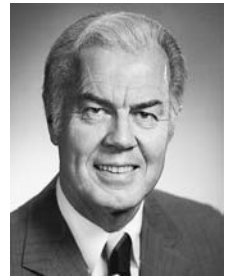
Page
California Veterans Memorial (Russell Collins Stiger) 193
Capitol Park, Showing Apse, 1901 (State Capitol Museum) 194
Interior View of Apse, circa 1890 (State Capitol Museum) 194
Office of State Printing, circa 1940 (California State Library) 196
Printing Pressmens Union, 1920 (California State Library) 198
Office of State Publishing (Department of General Services) 199
Reporters and Photographers at Capitol Press Conference 214
California State Flag 283
Former Poet Laureate Charles Garrigus, 1999 (Russell Collins Stiger) 289
Great Seal of the State of California 292
Governor's Seal 292
Seal of the Assembly 293
Seal of the Senate 294
Seal of the Supreme Court 295
Mural by Lucile Lloyd (Kathy Humphrey, Senate Rules Committee) 296
First Governor's Mansion (California State Library) 309
Second Governor's Mansion 310
Unoccupied Governor's Mansion (State Capitol Museum) 312
Governor's Flag 313

List of Tables and Charts

California: The Golden State—A Quick Information Guide xix
Amendments to the Constitution of 1879, 1880–2005 12
Terms and Salaries of Judges 62
Measures Introduced—1957–2005 206
Measures Chaptered—1961–2005 208
Sessions of the California Legislature, 1849–2006 241
Governors, Lieutenant Governors, and Speakers, 1849–2006 245
Governors of California 253
Lieutenant Governors 254
Secretaries of State 255
Attorneys General 256
State Treasurers 257
State Controllers 258
Superintendents of Public Instruction 259
Insurance Commissioners 260
Chief Justices of Supreme Court 261
Justices of Supreme Court 262
Officers of Assembly 265
Officers of Senate 268
Chaplains of Senate and Assembly 270
Legislative Counsels 273
California Budget Bills, 1950–2005 275
Partisan Composition, 1950–2006 277
California Special Elections, 1961–2005 279

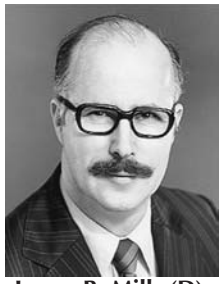
GALLERY OF PRESIDENTS PRO TEMPORE 1957–2006*

Hugh Burns (D)
Jan. 1957–May 1969



Howard Way (R)
May 1969–Feb. 1970

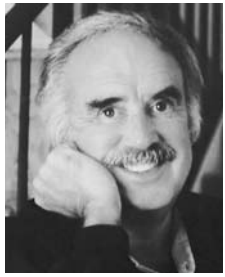
Jack Schrade (R)
Feb. 1970–Jan. 1971



James R. Mills (D)
Jan. 1971–Nov. 1980

David Roberti (D)
Dec. 1980–Jan. 1994

Bill Lockyer (D)
Jan. 1994–Feb. 1998



John L. Burton (D)
Feb. 1998–Nov. 2004

Don Perata (D)
Dec. 2004–

* Presidents pro Tempore that have served since the Legislature became a full-time, professional body, upon the adoption of Proposition 1-a, November 8, 1966.

GALLERY OF SPEAKERS
1961–2006*

Jesse M. Unruh (D)
Sept. 1961–Jan. 1969

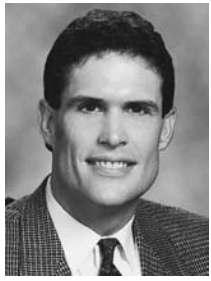
Bob Monagan (R)
Jan. 1969–Jan. 1971

Bob Moretti (D)
Jan. 1971–June 1974

Leo T. McCarthy (D)
June 1974–Nov. 1980

Willie L. Brown, Jr. (D)
Dec. 1980–June 1995

Doris Allen (R)
June 1995–Sept. 1995



Brian Setencich (R)
Sept. 1995–Jan. 1996

Curt Pringle (R)
Jan. 1996–Nov. 1996

Cruz M. Bustamante (D)
Dec. 1996–Feb. 1998

Antonio R. Villaraigosa (D)
Feb. 1998–Apr. 2000

Robert M. Hertzberg (D)
Apr. 2000–Feb. 2002

Herb J. Wesson, Jr.
Feb. 2002–Feb. 2004

* Speakers that have served since the Legislature became a full-time, professional body, upon the adoption of Proposition 1-a, November 8, 1966.

GALLERY OF SPEAKERS
1961–2006*
(continued)

Fabian Núñez
Feb. 2004–

* Speakers that have served since the Legislature became a full-time, professional body, upon the adoption of Proposition 1-a, November 8, 1966.

CALIFORNIA: THE GOLDEN STATE
A Quick Information Guide

GENERAL INFORMATION	
State Capital	Sacramento
Date California Admitted as a State	September 9, 1850
State Motto	"Eureka" (Greek: "I have found it ! ")
Population [1]	37,172,015
Number of Registered Voters [2]	15,839,327
Population Density [3]	234.3 people/sq. mi.
Land Area (includes 2,674 sq. mi. of inland water)	158,648 sq. mi.
Highest Elevation (feet above sea-level)	14,495 ft. (Mount Whitney)
Lowest Elevation (feet below sea-level)	282 ft. (Death Valley)
Total Number of Counties	58
Five Largest Cities (by population) [4]	
Los Angeles	3,976,071
San Diego	1,311,162
San Jose	953,679
San Francisco	798,680
Long Beach	490,166
Five Largest Counties (by population) [5]	
Los Angeles	10,245,572
Orange	3,072,336
San Diego	3,066,820
San Bernardino	1,991,829
Riverside	1,953,330
Five Largest Counties (by square miles)	
San Bernardino	20,061
Inyo	10,192
Kern	8,141
Siskiyou	6,287
Fresno	5,963

[1] California has the largest population of any state. California Department of Finance estimate, May 2006.
[2] Secretary of State, Report of Registration, September 9, 2005.
[3] U.S. average population density is 80 people/square mile. Population density = population/land area.
[4] California Department of Finance estimate, May 2006.
[5] California Department of Finance estimate, May 2006.

GOVERNMENTAL/POLITICAL INFORMATION

FEDERAL LEGISLATORS

Members of U.S. House Representing California [6]	53
U.S. Senators Representing California	2
People Represented in Each Congressional District	694,536

STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Number of Statewide Elective Officers	13 (Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Treasurer, Controller, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Board of Equalization (4), Insurance Commissioner)
Term Limits for Statewide Officers	2 four-year terms

STATE JUDICIARY

Number of Justices on State Supreme Court	7

STATE LEGISLATURE

Number of Members, California Legislature	120 (80 Assembly/40 Senate)
Length of Assembly Term	2 years
Length of Senate Term	4 years
Term Limits on State Legislators [7]	Assembly: 3 two-year terms Senate: 2 four-year terms
People Represented in Each Assembly District	460,130
People Represented in Each Senate District	920,259

[6] U.S. Representatives serve 2-year terms; U.S. Senators serve 6-year terms.
[7] Although term limits for Members of Congress were approved by California voters in 1992 (Proposition 164), the U.S. Supreme Court in 1995 invalidated state-imposed term limits on Congressional representatives.

GOVERNMENTAL/POLITICAL INFORMATION—continued

LEGISLATIVE VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Vote Requirement to Pass Statutes	Majority (41 Assembly/21 Senate)
Vote Requirement to Pass Appropriations, Budget, Constitutional Amendments, and Urgency Bills	Two-thirds in each House (54 Assembly/27 Senate)
Veto Override Vote Requirement	Two-thirds in each House (54 Assembly/27 Senate)
Ratification of Amendment to U.S. Constitution	Majority vote of each House (by Joint Resolution)

MISCELLANEOUS LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

Impeachment Power	Assembly indicts, drafts "articles of impeachment," and elects "managers" to prosecute; Senate tries and votes on impeachment.
Legislative Publications	Daily File Weekly History Daily Journal
Non-Member Officers of Legislature	Secretary of Senate Chief Clerk of Assembly Sergeant at Arms (in each House) Chaplain (in each House)
Motto of State Senate	Senatoris Est Civitatis Libertatem Tueri (Latin: "It is the duty of a Senator to guard the liberty of the Commonwealth.")
Motto of State Assembly	Legislatorum Est Justas Leges Condere (Latin: "It is the duty of Legislators to make just laws.")

ELECTED OFFICIALS' SALARIES

ANNUAL SALARIES OF ELECTED STATEWIDE OFFICERS [8]

Governor	$175,000
Lt. Governor	$131,250
Attorney General	$148,750
Secretary of State	$131,250
Controller	$140,000
Treasurer	$140,000
Superintendent of Public Instruction	$148,750
Insurance Commissioner	$140,000
Members, Board of Equalization	$131,250

[8] Salaries effective December 5, 2005, pursuant to California Citizens Compensation Commission resolution adopted May 23, 2005. See pages 93–94 for legislators' salaries. See pages 83–84 for Congressional salaries. See page 62 for judicial salaries.

Capitol Grounds, circa 1890
(photo taken from hot air balloon)

California's Legislature

The footnotes in this work contain the following abbreviations to legal reference materials:

U.S.—United States Reports (published opinions of the United States Supreme Court)
F. 2d—Federal Reporter, Second Series (published opinions of U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal)
U.S.C.A.—United States Code Annotated
Fed. Reg.—Federal Register
Cal.—California Reports (published opinions of the California Supreme Court; inclusion of a number denotes subsequent series, i.e., **Cal. 2d** denotes California Reports, Second Series)
Cal. App. 2d—California Appellate Reports, Second Series (published reports of California Courts of Appeal; also, **Cal. App. 3d**)
Op. Att'y Gen.—California Attorney General Opinions
P.—Pacific Reporter (published opinions from courts of the pacific region; also, **P. 2d**)
A. 2d—Atlantic Reporter, Second Series (published opinions from atlantic region courts)
Pa., Okl.—Pennsylvania and Oklahoma Reports, respectively (court opinions from Pennsylvania and Oklahoma state courts)

For convenience, references to the California Constitution of 1879 are cited "*Constitution*," while the federal document is identified as "*United States Constitution.*"

Please note that the code citations contained herein represent the law of the State of California as it existed December 31, 2005. They do not, in many instances, reflect changes made during the 2005–06 session or later.

The full text of this publication is available to the public via the internet at: **"www.leginfo.ca.gov".** Other useful legislative information, including bill text, California Codes, bill analyses, and bill histories are also available at this site.

Mission San Diego de Alcalá

California's first mission, founded in 1769 by Father Junípero Serra.