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Attachments:

**Office of the Chief Clerk  
CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY**



Room 3196, State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0001, (916) 319-2856

**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO: ASSEMBLY OFFICES  
FROM: E. DOTSON WILSON  
SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION BY THE GOVERNOR  
DATE: AUGUST 23, 2011**

Our office has received several inquiries regarding the number of days the Governor has to consider legislation in the first year of the two-year session.

In most instances, any bill presented to the Governor that is not signed within 12 days becomes a statute. There is an exception that extends the 12-day "signing period" to October 9 for legislation that meets the following criteria:

- 1) Passed no later than September 9.
- 2) Presented to the Governor on or after August 29; and,
- 3) Remains in the Governor's possession (i.e., on the Governor's desk) on or after September 9.

Article IV Section 10 of the California Constitution provides, in part, as follows:

- "Any bill.... Passed by the Legislature on or before the date the Legislature adjourns for a joint recess to reconvene in the second calendar year of the biennium of the legislative session, and in the possession of the Governor after that date, that is not returned within 30 days after that date becomes a statute."
- "Any other bill presented to the Governor that is not returned within 12 days becomes a statute."

On the day the Legislature is scheduled to adjourn for the joint recess (e.g., September 9, 2011), the Governor is granted an additional 30 days to consider bills that he has not acted upon and that he has had in his possession for fewer than 12 days.

For example, assuming the Legislature recesses, as scheduled, on Friday, September 9, the Governor will have until October 9 to act upon any bill that passed the Legislature on or before September 9 and was presented to him on or after Monday, August 29.

Please contact me if you have any questions.