

Policy Memorandum

To: Members of the San Andreas General Assembly; Representatives and Senators

From: Legislative Legal Council

Date: October 21, 2025

Subject: Continuation of Late-Session Legislation into the Following Legislative Session

I. Purpose

This memorandum establishes a formal policy for the continuation of legislative measures introduced late in the calendar year. The intent is to ensure fairness to sponsors, improve deliberative quality, and prevent unnecessary duplication of legislative work between sessions.

II. Background

Under existing practice, all bills, resolutions, and joint measures pending before the General Assembly expire upon final adjournment (*sine die*) of each regular session. Because the Constitution permits the Legislature to convene from late January through December, bills introduced in the final months of the year often receive limited consideration before adjournment. This policy provides an orderly mechanism to carry such late-session measures into the next session, while maintaining accountability to the new membership of the General Assembly.

III. Carryover Eligibility

1. Filing Window:

Any bill, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution **introduced on or after October 1** shall be eligible for continuation into the following legislative session.

2. Duration:

Carried-over measures shall remain active until **11:59 p.m. on the last Friday of April** of the following session. Any such measure not enacted, withdrawn, or otherwise resolved by that date shall automatically expire.

3. Scope:

All procedural actions taken during the original session (such as committee referral or amendment filings) remain valid unless modified by the standing committee or chamber leadership of the new session.

IV. Sponsorship and Reaffirmation

1. Continuing Sponsors:

If at least one original sponsor continues to serve in the General Assembly, that member shall remain the primary sponsor, and the measure shall automatically carry over.

2. **Vacant Sponsorship:**

If none of the original sponsors remain in office, the measure shall expire unless a current member files a **written assumption of sponsorship** with the Clerk within **fifteen (15) calendar days** after the new session convenes.

3. **Publication:**

The Clerk of each chamber shall publish, within thirty (30) days after convening, an updated list of all continued measures and their reaffirmed sponsors.

V. Scheduling and Consideration

1. All carried-over measures shall be **scheduled for committee hearing or floor consideration no later than March 1** of the following session.
2. Committees may recommend re-referral, amendment, or postponement, consistent with chamber rules.
3. Measures failing to receive a hearing by the March 1 deadline may be declared inactive at the discretion of the presiding officer.

VI. Administrative Implementation

The Office of Legislative Services shall:

- Flag qualifying bills in the electronic bill-tracking system;
- Notify sponsors of carryover eligibility within five (5) days of adjournment;
- Coordinate with the clerks of both chambers to ensure proper record continuity.

VII. Effective Date

This policy takes effect immediately and shall apply to all legislation introduced on or after **October 1, 2025**, during the **Seventy-Sixth General Assembly**.