

Prioritizing Your Bill Draft Requests

Legislator Orientation 2018

Think Before You Ask

Before submitting bill draft requests, you may want to take the following steps.

1. List all the ideas you have for bills.
2. Identify any ideas that are similar and might be consolidated into one bill.
3. Identify your highest priorities. Are you requesting the bill because:
 - it was an important point during your campaign?
 - you've experienced a problem with a certain law and think it could be fixed?
 - a constituent has a problem he or she thinks could be fixed by changing the law?
 - another reason?

Ask Strategically

You'll want to make sure to submit your requests in a way that ensures your top five priorities are the bills that will be given priority in the drafting process. The sixth and subsequent bills you request have a lower drafting priority than the first five requests from any other legislator.

To make sure the bills most important to you are drafted first, you should:

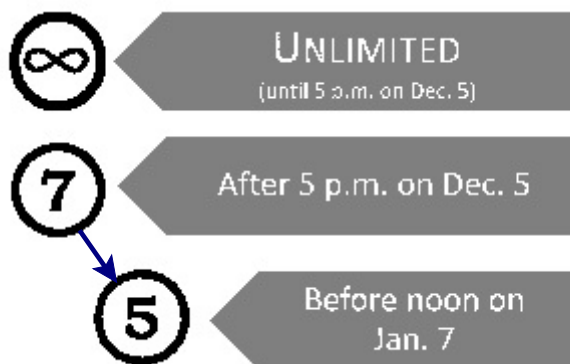
1. submit those five proposals at the same time and to the same person, via blue sheets, e-mail, or a phone call; rank each bill draft in order of its priority (one through five); AND wait at least a day before submitting additional requests;

OR

2. submit one bill draft per day, starting with your highest priority bill.

Ask Repeatedly -- For A While!

You can request an unlimited number of bills — up to a point, as illustrated below.



Not To Worry...

Rest assured, though. Your bills will still get drafted as long as you provide information to the drafter at least **seven** legislative days before the applicable transmittal deadline.

The worksheet on the back is designed to help you organize your bill draft requests before you submit them.

