

# Assembly Vocabulary Cards

act



adjourn



act- An act is a bill passed by both houses (Assembly and Senate) and signed by the Governor.

adjourn- To adjourn is to finish a day's session or committee meeting.

# agenda



# amendment



agenda- a list of items to be considered in a meeting.

amendment- An amendment, if approved, changes a bill.

# Assembly



# bicameral



Assembly- The Assembly is one of the two chambers of our legislature whose members are elected every two years.

bicameral- A bicameral legislature is made of two houses. In Nevada we have the Assembly and the Senate.

biennial



bill





biennial- Biennial means something happens every two years. The Nevada legislature meets in odd-numbered years.

bill- A bill is a draft of a proposed law or a change in a current law.

body



budget



body- All Assembly members or Senate members meeting as a group are referred to as the body.

budget- The budget is the estimate of the money collected and the plan for money to be spent to carry out programs and support the operations of the three branches of state government.

# Capital



# Capitol



**Capital**– the city that is the seat of government.

**Capitol**– the building in which the government operates.

caucus



chamber



caucus– A caucus is an organized group of people with a common purpose or function.

chamber–The chamber is also known as “the floor.” It is the room in which the whole Assembly or the whole Senate meets.

# Chief Clerk



# committee





Chief Clerk- The Chief Clerk is elected by the members of the Assembly to serve as chief administrative officer and parliamentarian of the Assembly.

committee- The presiding officer of a house appoints members to a standing committee to hear bills and testimony and to make recommendation for action to the whole body of members.

concur



constituent



concur-To concur is to agree to an amendment which has been adopted by the other house.

constituent- A constituent is a resident in the district of a legislator and is therefore represented by that member.

# Constitution



# Daily File



WAITING LIST

Constitution- The written document of fundamental law and basic principles of the state which establishes the powers and duties of the government.

Daily File- The Daily File is the list of bills awaiting action by the Assembly or the Senate.

first reading



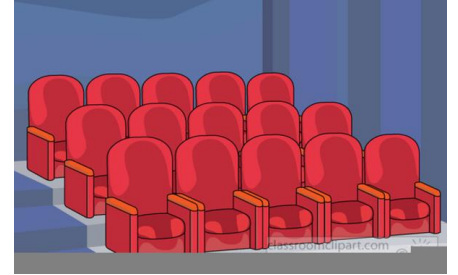
Floor Leader



first reading- When a bill is introduced, a number is assigned to it, its title is read before the full house, and the bill is referred to a committee.

Floor Leader- A member chosen by the majority or minority party as their spokesperson is the Floor Leader. The Speaker is the spokesperson for the Assembly majority.

# gallery



# hearing





gallery- The chamber includes a large seating area for visitors, and it is referred to as the gallery.

hearing- A hearing is a meeting of a legislative committee during which witnesses provide testimony on bills under consideration by the committee. Anyone may attend and/or testify at a hearing.

# interim



# legislator



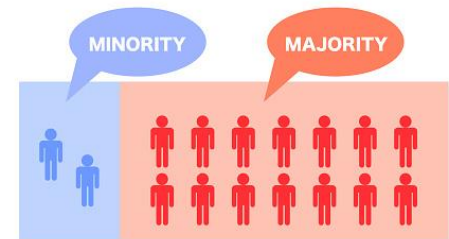
interim- The period from the adjournment *sine die* of one regular legislative session to the convening of the next regular session is the interim.

legislator- An elected member of a legislature is an Assemblyman, Assemblywoman, or Senator.

# lobbyist



# majority party



lobbyist- A representative of a special interest who attends sessions to support or oppose legislation (lobby) is a lobbyist.

majority party- The political party having the most members elected in the Assembly or the Senate is the majority party.

minority party



second reading



minority party- The political party not having the majority of members elected in the Assembly or the Senate is the minority party.

second reading- After being reported out of committee, a bill is read by title a second time before the full house. Amendments are adopted or rejected at this time.

Sergeant at  
Arms



session





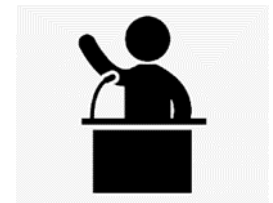
Sergeant at Arms- The person in each house who is responsible for security, maintaining decorum in the chamber, and coordinating the safety of members and visiting dignitaries.

session- The period of 120 days during which the legislature meets is referred to as a regular session.

sine die



Speaker



sine die- Sine die is a Latin phrase meaning “without day.”  
Adjournment *sine die* marks the end of a legislative session, since it does not set a time for reconvening.

Speaker- The presiding officer of the Assembly elected by members of the Assembly is the Speaker of the Assembly. He or she is called Mr. Speaker or Madam Speaker.

special session



third reading



special session- A meeting of the Legislature can be called by the governor or by a petition of legislators. The business of the session is restricted to specific subjects for which the session was called.

third reading- Third reading is the point when a bill is debated by the full house and a final vote may be taken.

title



veto



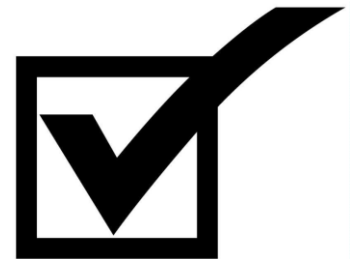
title- The title is the official summary of the contents of a bill or resolution.

veto- The governor has the constitutional power to disapprove of a bill thus preventing it from becoming law. The veto may be overturned with a two-thirds majority vote in both houses.

election



vote





Election- the process of selecting a person to occupy an office.

Vote- a decision on a question.

# Legislature



# Governor



Legislature– the body elected by state citizens under the power of the constitution to enact laws.

Governor– the chief executive officer of a state.