

**Table 3.16**  
**ENACTING LEGISLATION: VETO, VETO OVERRIDE AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

State or other jurisdiction	Governor may item veto appropriation bills		Days allowed governor to consider bill (a)			Votes required in each house to pass bills or items over veto (c)	Effective date of enacted legislation (d)
			During session		After session		
			Amount	Other (b)	Bill becomes law unless vetoed		
Alabama	★	★	6		10A	Majority elected	Immediately (e)
Alaska	★ (f)	...	15		20P	2/3 elected (g)	90 days after enactment
Arizona	★	...	5		10A	2/3 elected	90 days after adjournment
Arkansas	★	★	5		20A (h)	Majority elected	90 days after adjournment
California	★ (f)	...	12 (i)		(i)	2/3 elected	(j)
Colorado	★	★	10 (h)		30A (h)	2/3 elected	Immediately (k)
Connecticut	★	...	5		15P (h)	2/3 elected	Oct. 1
Delaware	★	★	10		30A (h)	3/5 elected	Immediately
Florida	★	★	7 (h)		15P (h)	2/3 elected	60 days after adjournment
Georgia (l)	★	...	6 (h)		40A (h,m)	2/3 elected	July 1 (n)
Hawaii (l)	★ (f)	...	10 (o,p)		45A (o,p)	(p)	2/3 elected
Idaho	★	★	5		10A	2/3 elected	60 days after adjournment
Illinois	★ (f)	...	60 (h)		60P (h)	3/5 elected (g)	(n)
Indiana	...	...	7		7P (h)	Majority elected	(q)
Iowa	...	...	3		(r)	2/3 elected	July 1 (n)
Kansas	★	...	10 (h)		10P	2/3 elected	Upon publication
Kentucky	★	...	10		10A	Majority elected	90 days after adjournment
Louisiana (l)	★	★	10 (h)		20P (h)	2/3 elected	Aug. 15
Maine	...	...	10		(m)	2/3 present	90 days after adjournment
Maryland (l)	★	★	6		30P (m)	3/5 elected	June 1 (s)
Massachusetts	★ (f)	★	10		10P	2/3 present	90 days after enactment
Michigan	★ (f)	★	14 (h)		14P (h)	2/3 elected and serving	90 days after adjournment
Minnesota	★	...	3		14A	2/3 elected	Aug. 1 (t)
Mississippi	★	★	5		15P (m)	2/3 elected	60 days after enactment
Missouri	★	...	15 (h)		45P (h,m)	2/3 elected	90 days after adjournment (t,u)
Montana (l)	★	★	10 (h)		25A (h)	2/3 present	Oct. 1 (t)
Nebraska	★ (v)	...	5		5A	3/5 elected	3 months after adjournment
Nevada	...	...	5		10A	2/3 elected	Oct. 1
New Hampshire	...	...	5		5P	2/3 elected	60 days after enactment
New Jersey	★ (f)	...	45 (h,w)		(w)	(w)	2/3 elected
New Mexico	★	...	3		20A	2/3 present	90 days after adjournment (t)
New York	★	...	10		30A	2/3 elected	20 days after enactment
North Carolina (l)	...	...	10		30A	3/5 elected	30 days after adjournment
North Dakota	★	★	3		15A	2/3 elected	(x)
Ohio	★	★	10		10A	3/5 elected	90 days after filed with secretary of state
Oklahoma	★	★	5		15A	2/3 elected (g)	90 days after adjournment
Oregon	★	★	5 (o)		30A (o)	2/3 present	90 days after adjournment
Pennsylvania	★	★	10 (h)		30A (h)	2/3 elected	60 days after enactment
Rhode Island	...	...	6		10A (h)	3/5 present	Immediately
South Carolina	★	★	5		(m)	2/3 present	20 days after enactment

See footnotes at end of table.

## ENACTING LEGISLATION: VETO, VETO OVERRIDE AND EFFECTIVE DATE — Continued

State or other jurisdiction	Governor may item veto appropriation bills		Days allowed governor to consider bill (a)			Votes required in each house to pass bills or items over veto (c)	Effective date of enacted legislation (d)
			During session	After session			
			Bill becomes law unless vetoed	Bill becomes law unless vetoed	Bill dies unless signed		
South Dakota .....	★	★	5 (h)	15A (h)		2/3 elected	90 days after adjournment (n)
Tennessee .....	★ (f)	...	10	10A		Majority elected	40 days after enactment
Texas .....	★	...	10	20A		2/3 present	90 days after adjournment
Utah .....	★	...	10	20A (h)		2/3 elected	60 days after adjournment
Vermont .....	...	...	5		3A	2/3 present	July 1
Virginia .....	★	★	7 (h)		30A (h)	2/3 present (y)	July 1 (z)
Washington .....	★	★	5	20A		2/3 present	90 days after adjournment
West Virginia .....	★ (f)	★	5	15A (aa)		Majority elected (g)	90 days after enactment
Wisconsin .....	★	...	6		6P	2/3 present	Day after publication date
Wyoming .....	★	★	3	15A (h)		2/3 elected	Immediately
American Samoa .....	★	...	10		30A	2/3 elected	60 days after adjournment (bb)
Guam .....	★	★	10		30P	2/3 elected	Immediately (cc)
No. Mariana Islands .....	★	...	40 (h,dd)			2/3 elected	Immediately
Puerto Rico .....	(f)	★	10		30P (h)	2/3 elected	Specified in act
U.S. Virgin Islands .....	★	★	10		30P (h)	2/3 elected	Immediately

See footnotes at end of table.

## ENACTING LEGISLATION: VETO, VETO OVERRIDE AND EFFECTIVE DATE — Continued

Sources: State constitutions and statutes.

**Note:** Some legislatures reconvene after normal session to consider bills vetoed by governor. Connecticut—if governor vetoes any bill, secretary of state must reconvene General Assembly on second Monday after the last day on which governor is either authorized to transmit or has transmitted every bill with his objections, whichever occurs first; General Assembly must adjourn *sine die* not later than three days after its reconvening. Hawaii—legislature may reconvene on 45th day after adjournment *sine die*, in special session, without call. Louisiana—legislature meets in a maximum five-day veto session on the 40th day after final adjournment. Missouri—if governor returns any bill on or after the fifth day before the last day on which legislature may consider bills (in even-numbered years), legislature automatically reconvenes on first Wednesday following the second Monday in September for a maximum 10-calendar day session. New Jersey—legislature meets in special session (without call or petition) to act on bills returned by governor on 45th day after *sine die* adjournment of the regular session; if the second year expires before the 45th day, the day preceding the end of the legislative year. Utah—if two-third of the members of each house favor reconvening to consider vetoed bills, a maximum five-day session is set by the presiding officers. Virginia—legislature reconvenes on sixth Wednesday after adjournment for a maximum three-day session (may be extended to seven days upon vote of majority of members elected to each house). Washington—upon petition of two-third of the members of each house, legislature meets 45 days after adjournment for a maximum five-day session.

Key:

★ — Yes

... — No

A — Days after adjournment of legislature.

P — Days after presentation to governor.

(a) Sundays excluded, unless otherwise indicated.

(b) Includes language in appropriations bill.

(c) Bill returned to house of origin with governor's objections.

(d) Effective date may be established by the law itself or may be otherwise changed by vote of the legislature. Special or emergency acts are usually effective immediately.

(e) Penal acts, 60 days.

(f) Governor can also reduce amounts in appropriations bills. In Hawaii, governor can reduce items in executive appropriations measures, but cannot reduce nor item veto amounts appropriated for the judicial or legislative branches.

(g) Different number of votes required for revenue and appropriations bills. Alaska—three-fourth elected. Illinois—appropriations reductions, majority elected. Oklahoma—emergency bills, three-fourth vote. West Virginia—budget and supplemental appropriations, two-third elected.

(h) Sundays included.

(i) A bill presented to the governor that is not returned within 12 days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays) becomes a law; provided that any bill passed before Sept. 1 of the second calendar year of the biennium of the legislative session and in the possession of the governor on or after Sept. 1 that is not returned by the governor on or before Sept. 30 of that year becomes law. The legislature may not present to the governor any bill after Nov. 15 of the second calendar year of the biennium of the session. If the legislature, by adjournment of a special session prevents the return of a bill with the veto message, the bill becomes law unless the governor vetoes within 12 days by depositing it and the veto message in the office of the secretary of state.

(j) For legislation enacted in regular sessions: Jan. 1 next following 90-day period from date of enactment. For legislation enacted in special sessions: 91 days after adjournment. Does not apply to statutes calling elections, statutes providing for tax levies or appropriations for the usual current state expenses or urgency statutes, all of which take effect immediately.

(k) An act takes effect on the date stated in the act, or if no date is stated in the act, then on its passage.

(l) Constitution withholds right to veto constitutional amendments.

(m) Bills vetoed after adjournment are returned to the legislature for reconsideration. Georgia—bills vetoed during last three days of session and not considered for overriding, and all bills vetoed after *sine die* adjournment may be considered at next session. Maine—returned within three days after the next meeting of the same legislature which enacted the bill or resolution. Maryland—reconsidered at the next meeting of the same General Assembly. Mississippi—returned within three days after the beginning of the next session. Missouri—bills returned on or after the 5th day before the last day to consider bills legislature automatically reconvenes on the first Wednesday following the second Wednesday in September not to exceed 10 calendar days. South Carolina—within two days after the next meeting.

(n) Effective date for bills which become law on or after July 1. Georgia—Jan. 1, unless a specific date has been provided for in legislation. Illinois—a bill passed after June 30 does not become effective prior to July 1 of the next calendar year unless legislature by a three-fifth vote provides for an earlier effective date. Iowa—if governor signs bill after July 1, bill becomes law on Aug. 15; for special sessions, 90 days after adjournment. South Dakota—91 days after adjournment.

(o) Except Sundays and legal holidays. In Hawaii, except Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and any days in which the legislature is in recess prior to its adjournment. In Oregon, except Saturdays and Sundays.

(p) The governor must notify the legislature 10 days before the 45th day of his intent to veto a measure on that day. The legislature may convene on the 45th day after adjournment to consider the vetoed measures. If the legislature fails to reconvene, the bill does not become law. If the legislature reconvenes, it may pass the measure over the governor's veto or it may amend the law to meet the governor's objections. If the law is amended, the governor must sign the bill within 10 days after it is presented to him in order for it to become law.

(q) No act takes effect until it has been published and circulated in the counties, by authority, except in cases of emergency.

(r) Governor must sign or veto all bills presented to him. Any bill submitted to the governor for his approval during the last three days of a session must be deposited by him in the secretary of state's office within 30 days after adjournment with his approval or objections.

(s) Bills passed over governor's veto are effective in 30 days or on date specified in bill, whichever is later.

(t) Different date for fiscal legislation. Minnesota, Montana—July 1. Missouri, New Mexico—immediately.

(u) In event of a recess of 30 days or more, legislature may prescribe, by joint resolution, that laws previously passed and not effective shall take effect 90 days from beginning of recess.

(v) No appropriation can be made in excess of the recommendations contained in the governor's budget except by a three-fifth vote. The excess is subject to veto by the governor.

(w) On the 45th day after the date of presentation, a bill becomes law unless the governor returns it with his objections, except that (1) if the legislature is in adjournment *sine die* on the 45th day, a special session is convened (without petition or call) for the sole purpose of acting upon bills returned by the governor; (2) any bill passed between the 45th day and the 10th day preceding the end of the second legislative year must be returned by the governor by the day preceding the end of the second legislative year; (3) any bill passed or reenacted within 10 days preceding the expiration of the second legislative year becomes law if signed prior to the seventh day following such expiration, or the governor returns it to the house of origin and two-third elected members agree to pass the bill prior to such expiration.

(x) August 1 after filed with secretary of state; if enacted between August 1 and January 1 of following year, 90 days after its filing. Appropriations and tax bills: July 1.

(y) Must include majority of elected members.

(z) Special sessions—first day of fourth month after adjournment.

(aa) Five days for appropriations bills.

(bb) Laws required to be approved only by the governor. An act required to be approved by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior only after it is vetoed by the governor and so approved takes effect 40 days after it is returned to the governor by the secretary.

(cc) U.S. Congress may annul.

(dd) Twenty days for appropriations bills.