

81st Legislative Session Dates

Tuesday, November 4, 2008	General Election
Monday, November 10, 2008	Pre-filing of legislation for 81 st Legislature begins
Tuesday, January 13, 2009	81 st Legislature convenes, noon
Friday, March 13, 2009	81st Legislature/60 th day (deadline for filing bills and joint resolutions other than local bills, emergency appropriations, and bills that have been declared an emergency by the governor)
Monday, June 1, 2009	Last day of 81 st Regular Session/140 th day (corrections only in House and Senate)
Sunday, June 21, 2009	20 th day after adjournment/Last day for governor to sign or veto legislation passed by 81 st Legislature
Monday, August 31, 2009	91 st day following final adjournment (date that bills without specific effective dates that could not be effective immediately become law)

In accordance with the Texas Constitution, the legislature meets in a regular legislative session in Austin every two years. By statute, the legislature convenes in a regular session on the second Tuesday in January of every odd-numbered year. These biennial sessions are limited to 140 days' duration. The constitution also allows the governor to call additional special sessions as necessary. During a called session, which cannot exceed 30 days, the legislature may consider legislation only on matters specified in proclamations issued by the governor.