

The background of the slide is a photograph of the California State Capitol building in Sacramento, California. The building is a large, white, neoclassical structure with a prominent central dome. The scene is captured at sunset or sunrise, with the sky showing soft orange and pink hues. The building's windows are illuminated from within, and the overall atmosphere is serene. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

**Regional Center of  
Orange County  
Board of Directors  
Legislative and Advocacy  
Training**

**February 7, 2019**

**Bob Baldo and Anh Nguyen**

# Overview of California State Government

~ Three branches of government ~

## **Executive Branch**

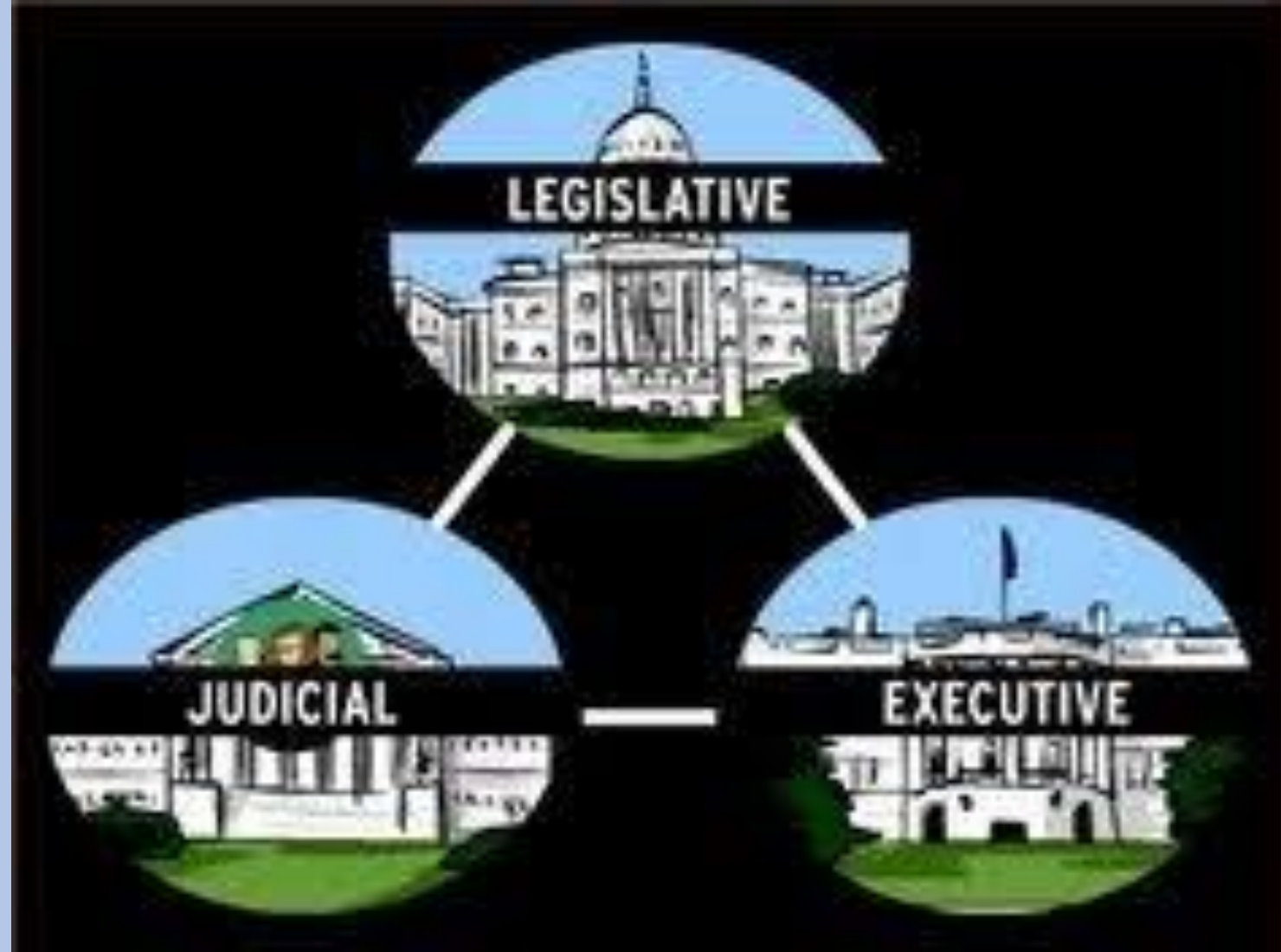
Governor Gavin Newsom

## **Legislative Branch**

State Assembly and State Senate

## **Judicial Branch**

Trial/Superior Courts, Court of Appeals and California Supreme Court



# Two Houses of the State Legislature

**California State Assembly:** 80 Assembly Districts

**California State Senate:** 40 Senate Districts

Every ten years, the U.S. Census is conducted and provides California with population numbers. Based on those figures, new district boundaries are drawn in a process known as “redistricting”

# Executive Branch: “The Administration”



California Health and Human Services Agency



Department of Developmental Services



Regional Centers – Regional Center of Orange County

# How a Bill Becomes a Law

- Proposal
- Legislative Counsel
- Bill assignment – Bill number, Policy Committee, Fiscal/Non-Fiscal
- Committee hearings – bill analyses, policy recommendations, staff recommendations
- Fiscal Committee hearings – Appropriations, Budget
- Floor vote
- The House Swap – Repeat process in second house
- Floor vote – Concurrence in amendments, as needed, Vote or Consent
- Enrolling and Engrossing
- Governor's Desk – sign or veto
- Chaptered

# The Budget Process

- November – DDS provides November Estimates to the Department of Finance
- Department of Finance compiles a document – [www.dof.ca.gov](http://www.dof.ca.gov)
- Governor presents the Budget to the Legislature on or before January 10 (Governor's Budget Release)
- Budget Change Proposals and augmentations to the Governor's proposed budget
  - What is a BCP?
  - History around BCPs in the DDS/Regional Centers budget

# The Budget Process

- Budget hearings
- Assembly Budget and Assembly Subcommittees (Sub #1 -)
- Senate Budget and Senate Subcommittees (Sub #3 – Pan, Stone, Hurtado)
- Budget Conference Committee – reconcile differences
- Floor Votes
- Governor’s Desk by June 15
- Governor signs by June 30
- New fiscal year begins July 1



# What's New in 2019/20

- Self-Determination Program
- Rate Study – March 1

# Legislative Advocacy

- What is it?
  - Influencing public policy through the legislative process
- Who should participate?
  - Anyone who has influence over the outcome of the bill along its journey to the Governor's desk
- How do people participate?
  - Letters, emails, conversations, phone calls, rallies, protests, hearings, meetings, public forums...

# Legislative Advocacy

## *WHY?*

- We have a desired outcome for the people served by RCOC
- Provide information
- Be a resource to a diverse audience of policymakers
- Serve as subject matter experts not necessarily in all areas of developmental services but primarily providing real life examples of the impact of decisions that will be made

# Our role as advocates

- Providing another voice for the people we serve/our loved ones
- Giving a balanced perspective so all parts of the regional center service delivery system are represented
- Partnering with other like-minded entities to provide a stronger, more unified voice for the developmental services system
- The politics – coalitions, other trade associations and organizations

Thank you!

Questions?