

CCUSL MEMBERS

As new technology erodes geographical borders and legal issues implicate more than one state, consistency in rules and procedures is critical.

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California Commission on UNIFORM STATE LAWS



PURPOSE

The California Commission on Uniform State Laws was created in 1897 to represent California on the national Uniform Law Commission (ULC). The California Commissioners ensure that the unique problems facing California are addressed and that the perspective of the state is heard on the issues considered by the ULC.

Section 10281 of the California Government Code states, “The commission shall bring about, as far as practicable, the passage of the various uniform acts recommended by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws [ULC], and shall devise and recommend additional legislation or other course of action as is deemed necessary to accomplish the purposes of this article.”

California has enacted many uniform acts developed by the ULC, including the Uniform Commercial Code, the Uniform Fiduciary Income and Principal Act, the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act, the Uniform Parentage Act, the Uniform Durable Power of Attorney Act, and the Uniform Interstate Enforcement and Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act.

QUALIFICATIONS

THE CALIFORNIA COMMISSION CONSISTS OF:

- One member of the State Senate, appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules
- One member of the State Assembly, appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly
- Six members appointed by the Governor
- The state’s Legislative Counsel
- Long-term delegation members who have attained the status of “life members”

EACH APPOINTED COMMISSIONER IS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- A member in good standing of the California State Bar
- A person admitted to practice before the highest court of any state
- A judge of a court of record in this state

ULC

(Uniform Law Commission)

- Each state sends its commissioners to the annual meeting of the ULC.
- More than 200 lawyers, law professors, judges, legislators, and government attorneys attend.
- Commissioners from the various states participate in the drafting process, which typically takes two or more years, by serving on the study committees and drafting committees for the proposed uniform acts.
- Each proposed act is debated line by line and word by word during the formulation of uniform acts.
- These acts are prepared in an effort to bring consistency, clarity, and stability to state statutory law.
- In drafting acts, the ULC works within the finely calibrated system of federalism to preserve the boundaries of federal and state authority.
- The work of the ULC simplifies the legal life of both individuals and businesses by providing rules and procedures that are consistent from state to state.