



WELCOME TO THE STATE PARLIAMENT

EN



LANDTAG VON
BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG



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Publisher

The President of the State Parliament of Baden-Württemberg

Editor

Press and Public Relations
Baden-Württemberg State Parliament

Design

unger+ kreative strategien GmbH, www.ungerplus.de

Translation

David Allison

Photography

Fotolia (Manuel Schönfeld, Sebastian Duda, visivasnc), Jan Potente, LTBW

Address of publisher and editor

Haus des Landtags, Konrad-Adenauer-Straße 3, 70173 Stuttgart
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E-Mail: post@landtag-bw.de, www.landtag-bw.de

Copy date

September 2021

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FOREWORD



The State Parliament of Baden-Württemberg is at the very heart of our democratic body politic. It is in Parliament that political issues of current concern are addressed and debated before binding decisions are taken which affect many different areas of our lives. This booklet provides an introduction to the functions and organisation of the most important constitutional body in the Federal State of Baden-Württemberg.

What decision-making powers does the State Parliament have? Who sits in the Parliament? When does it meet? This booklet not only provides clear and concise answers to these and other important questions, it is also intended to encourage readers to find out more about the work of Members of Parliament. Democracy needs active and informed citizens.

With the refurbishment of the State Parliament building and the addition of the new Civic and Media Centre our parliament has not only been modernised, it is now also much more open, friendly and inviting.

I will be tireless and passionate in working to ensure that our State Parliament is transparent and connects with the public it serves.

I welcome you to our State Parliament and am delighted in your interest, whether you have come to attend the public gallery, to meet Members of Parliament, or to take part in a seminar or other event. I hope that you will take away two things from your visit: a deeper understanding of the workings of representative democracy itself and a keener critical awareness of political processes. I am absolutely committed to building confidence in the work of our Parliament.

Muhterem Aras MP

President of the State Parliament of Baden-Württemberg



Front-runner in many fields

THE STATE OF BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

Baden-Württemberg is situated at the very heart of Europe. The State borders on France to the west, and to Switzerland and – across Lake Constance – to Austria in the south. It is the third largest of the country's sixteen states in terms of area (35,751 km²) and population (11.02 million inhabitants).

Germany's southwest is one of the leading economic regions in the country and in Europe. The region is home to industry giants and thousands of small and medium-sized enterprises, many of which are market leaders in their product fields. Today, more than (29.2%) one quarter of industrial revenues in the region are generated by Baden-Württemberg's key automotive engineering industry and its large supplier network, closely followed by mechanical and plant engineering (around 20 per cent) and the metal and electrical industries (each accounting for around 7 per cent). Equally significant are the chemical, pharmaceutical and optical industries. Baden-Württemberg typically enjoys above-average rates of growth, high levels of labour productivity and consistently low unemployment.

Southwest Germany is also at the forefront of innovation. More homespun ingenuity is invested in products and processes in southwest Germany than anywhere else in Europe. Baden-Württemberg invests 5.1 per cent of its gross domestic product in research and development, well ahead of all the EU's 97 regions by a large margin. The fruits of these investments are evident in the number of patents – more relative to the size of the population than anywhere else – registered in Baden-Württemberg.

This success would be unthinkable without the many qualified minds in the southwest. The region is home to a broad spectrum of institutions of higher learning: 9 general



universities, 6 universities of education, 23 universities of applied science, the Cooperative State University, 8 art schools and colleges of music, the Academy of Performing Arts, the Film Academy and Pop Academy and more than 25 recognised private and ecclesiastical universities. Baden-Württemberg also has a state-of-the-art research infrastructure and is home to many leading research institutions, such as the Max Planck Society or the German Aerospace Centre in Stuttgart.

Baden-Württemberg has not only produced numerous inventors and entrepreneurs, it is also the land of thinkers and poets – the home of Schiller, Hölderlin, Hegel, Mörike, Hesse, Heidegger and many more famous names.

The State of Baden-Württemberg was created 70 years ago. Following a referendum held in 1951, the States of Baden, Württemberg-Baden and Württemberg-Hohenzollern merged to form the single cohesive State of Baden-Württemberg on 25 April 1952.

The new constitution was adopted on 19 November 1953. Stuttgart is the seat of the State Government, home to the State Parliament and the state's political hub.

The first President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Theodor Heuss, paid tribute to the political and economic success of the newly emerged State of Baden-Württemberg when he pithily described the state as a "model of German possibilities".



THE STATE COAT OF ARMS

Baden-Württemberg's coat of arms eloquently expresses the state's unity in diversity. The escutcheon bears the ancient coat of arms of the Hohenstaufen duchy of Swabia. The three black lions on a gold field recall the period of the high Middle Ages between 1079 and 1268 when the history of the holy Roman Empire was dominated by the Staufer dynasty. The supporters are the stag of Württemberg and the heraldic griffin of Baden. The circlet represents the former constituent territories of the state: the historic coat of arms of eastern Franconia (the silver-tipped "Franconian rake"), Hohenzollern (white and black quartered escutcheon), Baden (red bars on a gold field), Württemberg (three black stag antlers on a gold field), the Palatinate (golden lion in black) and anterior Austria (red-white-red bordered escutcheon).

Space for encounters

THE PARLIAMENT BUILDING

The world's first television tower is a piece of contemporary classic architecture. Constructed in 1956, its timeless aesthetic is very much part of Stuttgart's identity and one of the city's main features. The same goes for the State Parliament building which was opened in 1961 as the first genuine new parliament building to be constructed in the 20th century on the European continent.

The cube-shaped building (12m high and built on an area of 55 x 55m) is constructed around the Debating Chamber. Following its general refurbishment (between autumn 2014 and spring 2016) the Debating Chamber now has a glass façade which faces the rose garden. Grouped around the Debating Chamber on the main and first floors are smaller committee rooms and the offices of the parliamentary groups, the State Government and the State Parliament Administration.

The structural alteration work included both technical and energy measures. The building has been modernised and now complies with all the applicable building, technical

and design standards on fire protection, accessibility, lighting, architectural acoustics, building services, thermal insulation, security technology and energy efficiency.

The fossils embedded in the great slate wall in the entrance hall are from the area around Holzmaden at the foot of the Swabian Alb. The triptych "Paraphrases on the national colours" was painted by the Stuttgart-based artist Otto Herbert Hajek. The lobby hall on the main floor – graced by an equestrian statue by the Italian sculptor Marino Marini – offers an ideal arena for meetings and formal events.

The "Haus der Abgeordneten" on the other side of Konrad-Adenauer Straße has been in use since 1987 and is linked to the Parliament building by a tunnel. The eight-storey building houses offices, meeting rooms and rooms for the use of the parliamentary groups. The State Parliament also uses the Queen Olga Building in Stauffenbergstraße and other buildings in Ulrichstraße and Urbanstraße.



Key functions

LEGISLATIVE, VOTING AND SUPERVISORY POWERS

Making laws is the most important task of any democratically elected parliament. The State Parliament exercises legislative power and monitors the State Government's use of its executive powers. The third branch of government, the judiciary, is independent and its powers are exercised by judges who are answerable only to the law.

The State Parliament is able to pass laws by simple majority of the MPs present. The State Parliament has the power to pass amendments to the state constitution by two thirds majority (but at least half of all MPs) if at least two thirds of the Parliament's members are present. Another fundamental duty of the State Parliament is to elect the holders of other constitutional offices: it elects the Minister President in a secret ballot and confirms the State Government in office. The Parliament also elects the President and the members of the Constitutional Court (formerly State Court of Justice). Appointments to the presidency of the State Court of Audit and the State Commissioner for Data Protection also require the approval of Parliament.

The work of the State Parliament has changed in response to an array of new political challenges. In the period after 1952, when the administrative foundations of the new state were being laid, Parliament focused squarely on passing legislation. Today, in contrast, Parliament concentrates on scrutinizing the work of the government and the administration.

PARLIAMENTARY INITIATIVES

The State Parliament has a number of initiative and control instruments available to it in the form of parliamentary motions and questions which enable it to examine the work of the government.

Draft law

Draft laws are introduced by MPs and must be signed by at least eight MPs or a parliamentary group. Draft legislation is debated in two or three readings in the Chamber. Bills pass into law by majority vote, with the exception of constitutional amendments which require a two thirds majority.

Debate

One or two debates can be initiated on issues of current or general interest by motions tabled on an alternating basis by the parliamentary groups.

Motion

Motions are proposals that the government take specific action. Motions can be tabled by five MPs or a parliamentary group.

Minor interpellation

All MPs are able to direct, minor interpellations to the government, which responds to these questions in writing.

Major interpellation

Major interpellations can be submitted by a group of fifteen MPs or a parliamentary group and are used to elicit statements from the State Government or to trigger a parliamentary debate.

Question time

All MPs are able to put formal verbal questions to the government. Questions must be submitted to the President at least three days before the parliamentary session begins and are answered briefly by the government in the Chamber.

Questions for the government

MPs can also direct questions about issues of current interest to the government during special, questions for the government sessions. The parliamentary groups must state the subject of their questions and the ministry responsible for answering them by 5 p.m. the day before the session.



Getting the finances right

BUDGETARY POWERS

The Parliament's budgetary powers - or as is often said, its "royal prerogative" - allow the State Parliament to decide how the money derived from taxes, duties and charges should be spent. The State's budget, which details its revenue and spending, is approved by the State Parliament. In addition to its approval or rejection rights, the Parliament's budgetary powers also include the right to monitor government spending. The State Parliament scrutinises the financial activities of the state authorities by examining the budget accounts submitted at the end of the year by the Ministry of Finance.



Citizens' petitions and complaints

RIGHT OF PETITION

Anyone is entitled to send written petitions or complaints to Members of Parliament. This basic right is held by citizens and non-citizens alike, as well as by minors and those in prison. Concerns expressed in this way are dealt with by the State Parliament's Petitions Committee which examines the facts in each case by reviewing particular decisions which have been taken by public authorities. The Petitions Committee consequently has special statutory powers, such as the right to demand the submission of files, the disclosure of information, or access to state institutions. After completing its examinations the Committee submits proposals which it believes are in the interest of all the parties involved. Since 2011 it has also been possible to submit petitions online.

During the last (16th) legislative period 21 committee members dealt with around 5,300 petitions, most of which concerned

- Building issues
- The rights of non-nationals
- Traffic
- Judiciary



Every "X" counts twice

THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM

The people of Baden-Württemberg elect their parliamentary representatives every five years. The right to vote and the right to stand for election are held by all German citizens who, on the day of the election, are at least 18 years old and have lived, had their main residence, or otherwise been permanent residents in Baden-Württemberg for the previous three months as a minimum.

No special qualifications are required in order to become a Member of Parliament. The political parties have the final say on who ultimately stands as a candidate for election and their main criteria for choosing a candidate at the party's internal selection conferences is the ability to do the job, commitment to political activism in the community and life experience. At the end of the day, however, it is the voter who decides on election day which of the parties' candidates is given a mandate to represent them in the State Parliament.

The electoral system combines the principles of proportional representation with a first-past-the-post system of votes for individual candidates. The number of seats won by political parties in the State Parliament is based on the proportional distribution of votes for the parties (proportional representation). Seats are won by individual candidates according to the number of votes cast directly in their constituencies (first-past-the-post system).

Only constituency candidates can be elected – in other words, every candidate must stand for election in one of

Baden-Württemberg's 70 constituencies. In contrast to national elections where voters have two votes, voters in state elections only have one vote which they must cast for a candidate in their constituency. The vote counts twice, however: firstly in deciding how many seats a party gains in the State Parliament and, secondly, in determining which of the party's candidates have won a parliamentary seat.

Each of the state's 70 constituencies has one constituency seat in the Parliament. At least 50 more seats are allocated to candidates who, although they have not won on a first-past-the-post basis in their constituency, have attracted the most votes in relation to other candidates from the same party.

This arithmetic means that there are at least 120 MPs in parliament in every legislative period. As a rule, however, the overhang seats granted to one party and the adjusting seats which need to be granted to other parties mean that there are usually more than 120 MPs elected to each parliament. The present parliament has 154 MPs. On average, one MP represents around 71,400 inhabitants.

The 17th legislative period

VOTES AND PERCENTAGES

The official results of the State Parliament elections held on 14 March 2021:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Electorate | → 7,671,039 |
| Number of votes | → 4,894,500 |
| Valid votes | → 4,859,651 |
| Turn out | → 63.8 % |

| Party | Share of votes | Seats |
|----------------|----------------|------------|
| GRÜNE | 32.6 % | 58 |
| CDU | 24.1 % | 42 |
| SPD | 11.0 % | 19 |
| FDP/DVP | 10.5 % | 18 |
| AfD | 9.7 % | 17 |
| Others | 12.1 % | |
| Total | | 154 |

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THEIR 70 CONSTITUENCIES

154 seats

- 1 Stuttgart I**
Muhterem Aras **GRÜNE**
- 2 Stuttgart II**
Winfried Herrmann **GRÜNE**
Friedrich Haag **FDP/DVP**
- 3 Stuttgart III**
Oliver Hildenbrand **GRÜNE**
Dr. Reinhard Löffler **CDU**
- 4 Stuttgart IV**
Petra Olschowski **GRÜNE**
Katrin Steinhölb-Joos **SPD**
- 5 Böblingen**
Thekla Walker **GRÜNE**
Matthias Miller **CDU**
Florian Wahl **SPD**
- 6 Leonberg**
Peter Seimer **GRÜNE**
Sabine Kurtz **CDU**
Hans Dieter Scheerer **FDP/DVP**
- 7 Esslingen**
Andrea Lindlohr **GRÜNE**
Andreas Deuschle **CDU**
Nicolas Fink **SPD**
- 8 Kirchheim**
Andreas Schwarz **GRÜNE**
Dr. Natalie Pfau-Weller **CDU**
Andreas Kenner **SPD**
- 9 Nürtingen**
Winfried Kretschmann **GRÜNE**
Dennis Birnstock **FDP/DVP**
- 10 Göppingen**
Ayla Cataltepe **GRÜNE**
Sarah Schweizer **CDU**
Hans-Jürgen Goßner **AfD**
- 11 Geislingen**
Nicole Razavi **CDU**
Sascha Binder **SPD**
- 12 Ludwigsburg**
Silke Gericke **GRÜNE**
- 13 Vaihingen**
Dr. Markus Rösler **GRÜNE**
Konrad Epple **CDU**
- 14 Bietigheim-Bissingen**
Tayfun Tok **GRÜNE**
Tobias Vogt **CDU**
- 15 Waiblingen**
Swantje Sperling **GRÜNE**
Siegfried Lorek **CDU**
Julia Goll **FDP/DVP**
- 16 Schorndorf**
Petra Häffner **GRÜNE**
Christian Gehring **CDU**
Jochen Haußmann **FDP/DVP**
- 17 Backnang**
Ralf Nentwich **GRÜNE**
Gernot Gruber **SPD**
Daniel Lindenschmid **AfD**
- 18 Heilbronn**
Susanne Bay **GRÜNE**
Nico Weinmann **FDP/DVP**
- 19 Eppingen**
Erwin Köhler **GRÜNE**
Dr. Michael Preusch **CDU**
Dr. Rainer Podeswa **AfD**
Georg Heitlinger **FDP/DVP**
- 20 Neckarsulm**
Armin Waldbüßer **GRÜNE**
Isabell Huber **CDU**
Carola Wolle **AfD**
Klaus Ranger **SPD**
- 21 Hohenlohe**
Catherine Kern **GRÜNE**
Arnulf Freiherr von Eyb **CDU**
Anton Baron **AfD**
- 22 Schwäbisch Hall**
Jutta Niemann **GRÜNE**
Stephen Brauer **FDP/DVP**
Udo Stein **AfD**
- 23 Main-Tauber**
Dr. Wolfgang Reinhart **CDU**
- 24 Heidenheim**
Martin Grath **GRÜNE**
Andreas Stoch **SPD**
- 25 Schwäbisch Gmünd**
Martina Häusler **GRÜNE**
Tim Bückner **CDU**
Ruben Rupp **AfD**

- 26 Aalen**
Winfried Mack **CDU**
- 27 Karlsruhe I**
Dr. Ute Leidig **GRÜNE**
- 28 Karlsruhe II**
Alexander Salomon **GRÜNE**
- 29 Bruchsal**
Ulli Hockenberger **CDU**
Dr. Rainer Balzer **AfD**
- 30 Bretten**
Andrea Schwarz **GRÜNE**
Ansgar Mayr **CDU**
Dr. Christian Jung **FDP/DVP**
- 31 Ettlingen**
Barbara Saebel **GRÜNE**
Christine Neumann-Martin **CDU**
Alena Trauschel **FDP/DVP**
- 32 Rastatt**
Thomas Hentschel **GRÜNE**
Dr. Alexander Becker **CDU**
Jonas Weber **SPD**
- 33 Baden-Baden**
Hans-Peter Behrens **GRÜNE**
Tobias Wald **CDU**
- 34 Heidelberg**
Theresia Bauer **GRÜNE**
- 35 Mannheim I**
Dr. Susanne Aschhoff **GRÜNE**
Dr. Stefan Fulst-Blei **SPD**
- 36 Mannheim II**
Elke Zimmer **GRÜNE**
Dr. Boris Weirauch **SPD**
- 37 Wiesloch**
Norbert Knopf **GRÜNE**
Christiane Staab **CDU**
- 38 Neckar-Odenwald**
Peter Hauk **CDU**
- 39 Weinheim**
Hans-Ulrich Skerl **GRÜNE**
Sebastian Cuny **SPD**
- 40 Schwetzingen**
Dr. Andre Baumann **GRÜNE**
Andreas Sturm **CDU**
Daniel Born **SPD**
- 41 Sinsheim**
Hermann Katzenstein **GRÜNE**
Dr. Albrecht Schütte **CDU**
Jan-Peter Röderer **SPD**

- 42 Pforzheim**
Felix Herkens **GRÜNE**
Dr. Hans-Ulrich Rülke **FDP/DVP**
Dr. Bernd Grimmer **AfD**
- 43 Calw**
Thomas Blenke **CDU**
Miguel Klauß **AfD**
- 44 Enz**
Stefanie Seemann **GRÜNE**
Dr. Erik Schweickert **FDP/DVP**
Bernd Gögel **AfD**
- 45 Freudenstadt**
Katrin Schindele **CDU**
Dr. Timm Kern **FDP/DVP**
Dr. Uwe Hellstern **AfD**
- 46 Freiburg I**
Daniela Evers **GRÜNE**
- 47 Freiburg II**
Nadyne Saint-Cast **GRÜNE**
Gabriele Rolland **SPD**
- 48 Breisgau**
Reinhold Pix **GRÜNE**
Dr. Patrick Rapp **CDU**
- 49 Emmendingen**
Alexander Schoch **GRÜNE**
- 50 Lahr**
Sandra Boser **GRÜNE**
Marion Gentges **CDU**
- 51 Offenburg**
Thomas Marwein **GRÜNE**
Volker Schebesta **CDU**
- 52 Kehl**
Bernd Mettenleiter **GRÜNE**
Willi Stächele **CDU**
- 53 Rottweil**
Stefan Teufel **CDU**
Daniel Karrais **FDP/DVP**
Emil Sänze **AfD**
- 54 Villingen-Schwenningen**
Martina Braun **GRÜNE**
Frank Bonath **FDP/DVP**
- 55 Tuttlingen-Donaueschingen**
Guido Wolf **CDU**
Nikolai Reith **FDP/DVP**
Rüdiger Klos **AfD**
- 56 Konstanz**
Nese Erikli **GRÜNE**



- 57 Singen**
Dorothea Wehinger **GRÜNE**
Hans-Peter Storz **SPD**
Bernhard Eisenhut **AfD**
- 58 Lörrach**
Josef Frey **GRÜNE**
Jonas Hoffmann **SPD**
- 59 Waldshut**
Niklas Nüssle **GRÜNE**
Sabine Hartmann-Müller **CDU**
- 60 Reutlingen**
Thomas Poreski **GRÜNE**
- 61 Hechingen-Münsingen**
Cindy Holmberg **GRÜNE**
Manuel Hailfinger **CDU**
Rudi Fischer **FDP/DVP**
Joachim Steyer **AfD**
- 62 Tübingen**
Daniel Lede Abal **GRÜNE**
Dr. Dorothea Kliche-Behnke **SPD**
- 63 Balingen**
Dr. Nicole Hoffmeister-Kraut **CDU**
Hans-Peter Hörner **AfD**
- 64 Ulm**
Michael Joukov **GRÜNE**
Martin Rivoir **SPD**
- 65 Ehingen**
Manuel Hage **CDU**
- 66 Biberach**
Thomas Dörflinger **CDU**
- 67 Bodensee**
Martin Hahn **GRÜNE**
Klaus Hoher **FDP/DVP**
- 68 Wangen**
Petra Krebs **GRÜNE**
Raimund Haser **CDU**
- 69 Ravensburg**
Manfred Lucha **GRÜNE**
August Schuler **CDU**
- 70 Sigmaringen**
Andrea Bogner-Unden **GRÜNE**
Klaus Burger **CDU**



Personal profiles

COMPOSITION OF THE PARLIAMENT

By age

The average age of MPs at the beginning of the legislative period was 50.8. The largest age group, to which 18.2 per cent of MPs belong, is the group of 56-60-year-olds. Alena Trauschel (1999) is the youngest MP, and the oldest is Winfried Kretschmann (1948).

By gender

At present the proportion of female MPs sitting in parliament is 29.2 per cent. 45 of the 154 MPs sitting in the 17th parliament are women.

Safeguarding representatives' independence

PARLIAMENTARY PAY

The State Parliament of Baden-Württemberg has been a full-time parliament since the start of the 15th legislative period. Parliamentary pay has been index linked since 2005.

As of 1 July 2021, an MP is currently paid a taxable amount – referred to as compensation – of 7,972 euros a month. This income is liable for tax. A 13th monthly salary is not paid. The President, the Vice-Presidents, chairpersons and parliamentary leaders of the parliamentary groups receive higher salaries.

MPs are paid a flat rate amount of 2,302 euros to cover general costs, such as for their constituency office, post-age costs, additional costs incurred during their work in the parliament and for parliamentary travel. Travel costs are reimbursed against receipts. MPs are responsible for making their own provision for their retirement and receive an additional monthly taxable amount for this purpose.

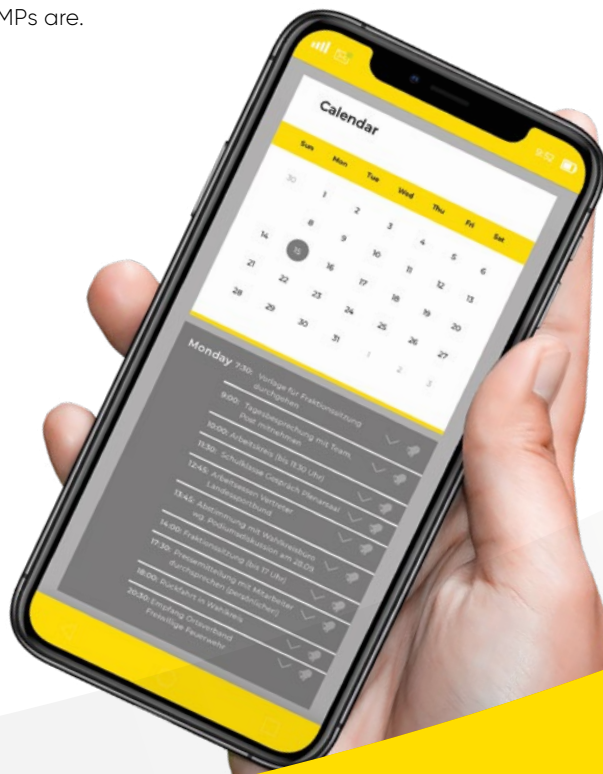


Diverse challenges

THE DUTIES OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Whether on the floor of the house, working in committees or in parliamentary groups, parliamentarians must cope with an enormous workload of meetings and debates. MPs also use their time in the state capital to arrange meetings with public authorities and associations, issue public statements and get involved in discussions with groups of visitors. And yet despite all these activities, MPs' work in the Parliament itself only represents one aspect of their work as elected representatives.

The other, equally time-consuming, part is their constituency work. Being available to voters, engaging in discussions with institutions, taking part in negotiations and working to solve local problems, speaking at all sorts of local events – the challenges are broad and diverse. A glance at a typical page of one parliamentarian's full diary shows just how busy MPs are.





An open forum

PLENARY SESSIONS

Decisions are taken by the State Parliament in the Chamber where all the MPs meet and discuss bills. The Chamber is the venue for political debate and the forum at which important political statements are made by parliamentary groups and the government.

Verbatim minutes of parliamentary proceedings – which are always open to the public – are recorded by the official stenographer. The minutes of proceedings and consultative papers (parliamentary journals and publications) are all made available to the general public.

Proceedings in the Chamber are chaired by the President or the Vice-Presidents. The President is flanked by two MPs who act as recording clerks and provide support maintaining order and directing voting proceedings. When deciding who should be called to speak in a debate the President must not only take account of the order in which requests to speak have been received, but must also try to ensure that a balance of political views is represented during a debate. Official spokesmen or women of the government must be called to speak on request even if they are not included on the list of speakers or in the agenda. Details are governed by the State Parliament's standing orders.

Preparation is crucial

THE PARLIAMENTARY AGENDA

Matters which are debated and decided in the Chamber represent only the visible aspect of the work of the Parliament. The Chamber is where final decisions are taken, often after months of detailed preparatory work by the parliamentary groups and the State Parliament's select committees. This also explains why some items of the agenda can be dealt with very quickly. The programme of business laid down by the Executive Committee can also be changed at short notice.

Outside the Debating Chamber

AWAY FROM THE FLOOR

Everything on the Parliamentary Agenda goes through several stages before being considered in the Chamber. This enables MPs to use some sitting days to deal with other work. When not taking direct part in debates, for example, they may hold discussions away from the floor with speakers from government ministries, give press interviews, receive visitors from their constituencies, meet school classes or prepare speeches or contributions to discussions in their parliamentary offices. To make sure they have the very best information possible about issues being debated, some MPs access press clippings from within the Chamber itself or use smartphones or tablet PCs to find information on the Internet – sometimes up to the last minute before they give a speech.

The diverse duties which MPs have on sitting days – which frequently continue for over 8 hours – as well as their other work, explain why MPs are not always present in the Debating Chamber. However, a public address system ensures they are always aware of what is currently being debated on the floor of the house.



Impartial representatives

THE PRESIDENT AND HER DEPUTIES



President:
Muhterem Aras
GRÜNE



Vice-President:
Dr. Wolfgang Reinhart
CDU



Vice-President:
Daniel Born
SPD

The President of the State Parliament (in Brit. and Us parl. systems: Speaker) and the Vice-President are elected by the State Parliament in a secret ballot. Traditionally the President is a member of the strongest parliamentary group. The President conducts parliamentary business and represents the State Parliament in its relations with outside bodies. The President must protect the authority of the State Parliament and act with impartiality to ensure that debates and deliberations are conducted in an orderly way. In the State Parliament buildings the word of the President is final.

Planning and coordination

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The 22 members of the Executive Committee include the President of the State Parliament, the Vice-Presidents and the chairpersons and several leading members of the parliamentary groups. The State Government is also represented. The Executive Committee holds the main responsibility for managing and directing the activities of the Parliament. The Committee sets dates for the plenary sessions in the year ahead, as well for the committees, the parliamentary groups and their working parties. It also schedules the business to be dealt with in the Chamber and agrees how much time will be granted to individual speakers. The Committee discusses all the fundamental issues concerning relations between the Parliament and the State Government and agrees the Parliament's staff and materials budget. What does the State Parliament cost every year? Around 121 million euros, or approximately 10.90 euros a year per inhabitant.

Political actors

THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS

A parliamentary group is an organisational structure formed by MPs from the same political party. The political positions represented by a party's MPs are mediated and focused in the Debating Chamber and committee decision making by the parliamentary groups. A large share of the political initiatives started in Parliament originate from the parliamentary groups, which are supported – according to their size – by a staff of specialists provided by the parliamentary advice and support service.

The parliamentary groups have the right to propose or nominate individuals to various positions, such as the State Parliament committees, committee chairs, or for the positions of President and Vice-President. The parliamentary groups can introduce draft laws and other motions signed on their behalf by the chairperson of the group.

The parliamentary groups form working parties which focus on particular policy areas or issues. The main task of the working parties is to prepare the initiatives submitted by the parliamentary groups and to help bring them successfully through the committees.

CHAIRPERSON OF THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS



Andreas Schwarz
GRÜNE



Manuel Hagel
CDU



Andreas Stoch
SPD



Dr. Hans-Ulrich Rülke
FDP/DVP



Bernd Gögel
AfD



Efficient division of labour

THE COMMITTEES

The State Parliament sets up a number of committees in order to achieve an efficient division of labour and to ensure that the necessary groundwork is laid for its deliberations and decisions. The parliamentary groups send specialists in areas such as financial policy, education policy or environmental issues to be members of the relevant committees.

The committees discuss and produce recommendations on specific issues which are usually sent to them for consideration by the Chamber. Committees are also empowered to discuss other issues appropriate to their subject matter and to submit recommendations to the State Parliament. All committees are made up of 22 members.

Standing Committee

Convener: Guido Wolf, **CDU**
Deputy Convener: Ruben Rupp, **AfD**

Interior, Digitalization and Local Government Committee

Convener: Ulli Hockenberger, **CDU**
Deputy Convener: Andrea Schwarz, **GRÜNE**

Finance Committee

Convener: Martin Rivoir, **SPD**
Deputy Convener: Sarah Schweizer, **CDU**

Committee of Education, Youth and Sport

Convener: Petra Häffner, **GRÜNE**
Deputy Convener: Katrin Steinhüb-Joos, **SPD**

Science, Research and Arts Committee

Convener: Nese Erikli, **GRÜNE**
Deputy Convener: Dr. Rainer Balzer, **AfD**

Environment, Climate and Energy Policy Committee

Convener: Daniel Karrais, **FDP/DVP**
Deputy Convener: Andreas Schoch, **GRÜNE**

Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism Committee

Convener: Dr. Erik Schweickert, **FDP/DVP**
Deputy Convener: Katrin Schindele, **CDU**

Social Affairs, Health and Integration Committee

Convener: Florian Wahl, **SPD**
Deputy Convener: Dorothea Wehinger, **GRÜNE**

Food, Rural Development and Consumer Protection Committee

Convener: Martin Hahn, **GRÜNE**
Deputy Convener: Klaus Hoher, **FDP/DVP**

Regional Development and Housing Committee

Convener: Christiane Staab, **CDU**
Deputy Convener: Dr. Christian Jung, **FDP/DVP**

Transport Committee

Convener: Rüdiger Klos, **AfD**
Deputy Convener: August Schuler, **CDU**

Europe and International Committee

Convener: Willi Stächele, **CDU**
Deputy Convener: Andrea Bogner-Unden, **GRÜNE**

Petitions Committee

Convener: Thomas Marwein, **GRÜNE**
Deputy Convener: Andreas Kenner, **SPD**



Confirmed by Parliament

THE STATE GOVERNMENT

The members of State Government

Minister President

Winfried Kretschmann (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP

Deputy Minister President and

Minister of Internal Affairs, Digitalization and Local Government

Thomas Strobl (CDU)

Minister of Finance

Dr. Danyal Bayaz (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen)

Minister of Education, Youth and Sport

Theresa Schopper (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen)

Minister of Science, Research and the Arts

Theresia Bauer (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP

Minister for the Environment, Climate and Energy Policy

Thekla Walker (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP

Minister of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism

Dr. Nicole Hoffmeister-Kraut (CDU) MP

Minister of Social Affairs, Health and Integration

Manfred Lucha (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP

Minister of Justice and Migration

Marion Gentges (CDU) MP

Minister of Transport

Winfried Hermann (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP

Minister of Food, Rural Development and Consumer Protection

Peter Hauk (CDU) MP

Minister of Regional Development and Housing

Nicole Razavi (CDU) MP

State Secretary and Plenipotentiary of the State at the Federal Government

Rudolf Hoogvliet

State Secretary for Civil Society and Civil Participation

Barbara Bosch

STATE SECRETARIES

Political State Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

Sandra Boser (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP

Political State Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport

Volker Schebesta (CDU) MP

POLITICAL STATE SECRETARIES

State Secretary in the State Ministry

Florian Hassler

Political State Secretary in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Digitalization and Local Government

Wilfried Klenk (CDU)

Political State Secretary in the Ministry of Finance

Dr. Gisela Splett (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen)

Political Secretary in the Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts

Petra Olschowski (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP

Political State Secretary in the Ministry for the Environment, Climate and Energy Policy

Dr. Andre Baumann (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP

Political State Secretary in the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour and Tourism

Dr. Patrick Rapp (CDU) MP

Political State Secretary in the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health and Integration

Dr. Ute Leidig (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP

Political State Secretary in the Ministry of Justice and Migration

Siegfried Lorek (CDU) MP

Political State Secretary in the Ministry of Transport

Elke Zimmer (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP

Political State Secretary in the Ministry of Food, Rural Development and Consumer Protection

Sabine Kurtz (CDU) MP

Political State Secretary in the Ministry of Regional Development and Housing

Andrea Lindlohr (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) MP



Services for the Parliament

THE STATE PARLIAMENT ADMINISTRATION

The two departments of the State Parliament Administration are responsible for the smooth performance of parliamentary business and support the work of MPs and the parliamentary groups. The State Parliament Administration is headed by the State Parliament Director and is directly accountable to the President of the State Parliament. It has 226 positions – as well as 81 parliamentary advisory positions for the parliamentary groups – and is the highest government agency in Baden-Württemberg.

The State Parliament Administration implements decisions taken by the Executive Committee and lays the business and organisational foundations for the Parliament's plenary sessions and helps committee conveners to prepare for meetings.

The Parliament's legal service is available to provide assistance on legal issues, such as constitutional matters or standing orders. In response to the growing impact of European policy at the regional level, the Parliament has set up its own European affairs office.

The Public Relations Department is the mouthpiece of the State Parliament and its President. While the Parliament's special visitor section takes care of the protocol for visiting dignitaries, the needs of our many other guests are looked after by our Visitor Services. Event management takes care of numerous events and exhibitions.

The Parliament's administration and all MPs' offices are, of course, equipped with modern IT. The Information Centre provides material in book and magazine form, as well as statutes, minutes and publications.



President of the State Parliament
Muhterem Aras



Director of the State Parliament
Christine Werner

Public Relations
Event Management

Protocol, Visitor Services

PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

Europe and Petitions

Legal Services

Chamber, Committee Service, Publications

Stenographic Services

MP Support

ADMINISTRATION

Budget

Staff

Information and Communication

Facility Management

Archive, Documentation, Library



Curiosity abounds

VISITORS TO THE STATE PARLIAMENT

The State Parliament of Baden-Württemberg is visited by large numbers of people from Germany and abroad every year. Visitors include high-ranking delegations, school children and students – in fact, interest is expressed in the work of the State Parliament by people from almost every walk of life. The new Civic and Media Centre opened in June 2017. The refurbished State Parliament and the Civic and Media Centre have enhanced the transparency of parliamentary democracy and the work of our parliamentarians. The multifunctional underground extension is also used for events, press conferences and seminars. A permanent exhibition with analogue, digital and playful elements provides information about the Parliament's work, tasks and functions.

Visitors wishing to book a visit may contact the State Parliament's Visitor Services.

Visitor registration

Landtag von Baden-Württemberg

Besucherdienst

Konrad-Adenauer-Straße 3

70173 Stuttgart

Phone: 0049 (0)711 2063-2193

Fax: 0049 (0)711 2063-299

E-mail: bsd@landtag-bw.de

Our Parliament and the wider world

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The State Parliament maintains many links with regions in other parts of the world and, in particular, promotes cooperation with our immediate neighbours.

The 71 members of the Upper Rhine Council from Alsace, Baden-Württemberg, north-west Switzerland and Rhineland-Palatinate include 16 MPs from the State Parliament in Stuttgart, for example. In a similar venture, the parliaments of the countries bordering lake Constance have agreed on a joint "parliamentary conference".

The State Parliament has also established close ties with other European regions, such as Vorarlberg in Austria, Swiss border cantons such as St. Gallen, the provinces of south Tyrol and Trento in Italy, the northern Finnish region of Oulu and the autonomous province of Vojvodina in Serbia. There is also a Baden-Württemberg Parliamentary Friendship Group with members from Turkey's Grand National Assembly.

The State Parliament also maintain relations beyond Europe. For example, the Parliament attaches particular importance to developing the partnership between Baden-Württemberg and the Republic of Burundi.

Printed and online

FURTHER INFORMATION (SELECTION)

→ Volkshandbuch (Manual)

17th legislative period: Members of the State Parliament with photos and potted biographies, excerpts from the Constitution of the State of Baden-Württemberg, the State Parliament's standing orders

→ Grundgesetz/Landesverfassung – Basic Law/State Constitution

Paperback book

Orders

These publications can be ordered free of charge from: Presse- und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit, Haus des Landtags, Konrad-Adenauer-Straße 3, 70173 Stuttgart, E-mail: post@landtag-bw.de

www.ltbw.de/informationmaterial

→ State Parliament film

www.ltbw.de/landtagsfilm (in progress)



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BWLandtag



www.landtag-bw.de