

HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

Follow the arrows to track the path of a bill from an IDEA to a new LAW.

A law begins with an IDEA. A citizen, legislator or group identifies a need and suggests a BILL to meet that need.

HOUSE BILLS are referred to a HOUSE Committee for testimony, debate and a vote.

A BILL is drafted by a member of the HOUSE or SENATE.

SENATE BILLS are referred to a SENATE Committee for testimony, debate and a vote.

Successful bills go to the HOUSE Floor for debate, amendments and a vote.

Successful bills go to the SENATE Floor for debate, amendments and a vote.

After passage in one house, the bill starts over in the other. If a similar bill has passed in the other house, both bills go to a Conference Committee to reconcile differences. The compromise goes back to both the HOUSE and SENATE.

Following approval by both houses, bills go to the President or Governor for signature or Veto. A signed bill becomes a LAW.