

LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Bill drafted



Several nonpartisan offices of the Legislature assist in drafting the bill.

Idea



An idea for a bill is developed. Ideas come from various sources, e.g. Legislators, the Governor, state agencies.

Bill introduced



A legislator gives the bill to the Clerk of the House or Secretary of the Senate. The bill is numbered (e.g. HP 65, LD 150).

Committee



The bill is analyzed and discussed in a committee, which recommends whether the bill should pass. The committee can also propose amendments to bills.

Second chamber



If the bill passes the second chamber, it is engrossed (i.e. it's printed with all passed amendments). Both chambers must pass the final version one more time.

First chamber



The bill is voted on in the House or Senate (wherever it originated). If it gets enough votes to pass, it is sent to the other chamber. Both chambers can propose amendments.

Governor



The bill goes to the Governor who can sign it or veto it. If signed, it becomes law. If vetoed, it goes back to the House and Senate (the veto can be overridden by a 2/3 vote in both chambers).

Law



A bill becomes law 90 days after the end of the legislative session in which it was passed unless it is passed as an emergency law or it stipulates an effective date.