

How a Bill Becomes a Law



Representative

• Introduces bill in the House

Senator

• Introduces bill in the Senate



House Committee/Subcommittee

- Bill is debated and amended
- Simple majority needed to proceed

Senate Committee/Subcommittee

- Bill is debated and amended
- Simple majority needed to proceed



House Floor

- Bill is debated and amended
- Speaker must allow a floor vote
- Simple majority needed to pass

Senate Floor

- Bill is debated and amended
- 3/5 majority needed to end debate
- Simple majority needed to pass



Final Votes / Conference Committee

- If both chambers pass an identical bill, the bill is sent directly to the president
- If each chamber passes a similar bill with some differences, a conference committee is formed to reach compromise and combine the bills





President

- The president can sign bills that have been passed by both chambers into law
- The president can reject a bill with a veto; Congress can override a veto by passing the bill in each chamber with a 2/3 majority