How an Idea Becomes a Law





Committee assignment

The chamber leader refers the bill to a committee for consideration, or lets the bill die

Committee Action

The committee may hold public hearing on the bill and then vote on the bill as submitted or an amended version. Or. the committee may choose not to hear or vote on a bill. This is the point at which most bills die.

Second chamber

The bill goes through the same process in the second chamber. If the bill passes without amendment, it is sent to the Governor. If the second chamber amends the bill, it must be sent back to the chamber of origin for approval of those amendments. A conference committee may be appointed to draft a version of the bill agreeable to both chambers. If both chambers do not approve the identical language, the bill dies.

Q Governor

After the bill passes both chambers in identical form, it is sent to the Governor. The Governor may sign the bill, veto the bill. or take no action on the bill

(So) Law

The bill becomes law upon the Governor's signature or as otherwise provided by state law.

