

How a Bill Becomes a Law

Bills start with the recognition of a need and an idea of how to meet that need.



Constituents communicate their concerns and desires to legislators



Grassroots in Action

A Bill can be killed or changed at almost any point in the process.



While in the House, Representatives will:

- Talk to constituents about the Bill
- Hold hearings on the Bill
- Vote on the Bill in various committees
- Hold a floor vote for passage of the House Bill



A Bill Must Pass Through the House

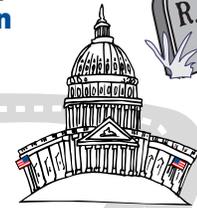


Bill Could Die in House

Activists continue grassroots mobilization by contacting legislators and communicating their concerns on the Bill.



Activists



Bill Could Die in Senate

A Bill Must Pass Through the Senate

While in the Senate, Senators will:

- Talk to constituents about the Bill
- Hold hearings on the Bill
- Vote on the Bill in various committees
- Hold floor vote for passage of the Senate Bill



Bill Could Die in Conference Committee

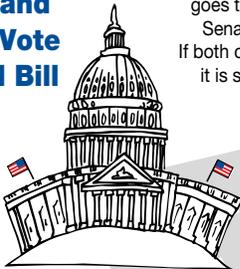


Conference Committee

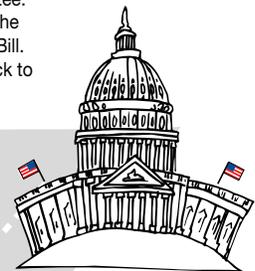
The Conference Committee Bill goes to both the House and Senate for final approval. If both chambers pass the Bill, it is sent to the President.

If the House and Senate versions of a Bill are different, the Bill must go to a joint House and Senate Conference Committee. Here, the differences will be worked out and the committee will vote on a single version of the Bill. The Conference Committee Bill will then go back to the House and Senate for a final vote.

House and Senate Vote on Final Bill



Vetoed Bill Goes Back to Congress



President's Signature



Bill Could Die in White House



Bill Could Die in Congress