HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW
in Connecticut

HOUSE
Of Representatives

Representative Submits A Bill
Ideas for proposed bills can come from legislators or from the public.

Bill sent to Clerk of the House

The Clerk of the House assigns a bill title, number, and the name of the sponsor and any co-sponsors.

Bill Is Assigned To A Committee

SENATE

Senator Submits A Bill
Ideas for proposed bills can come from legislators or from the public.

Bill sent to Clerk of the Senate

The Clerk of the Senate assigns a bill title, number, and the name of the sponsor and any co-sponsors.

Bill Is Assigned To A Committee

There are 24 joint standing committees organized by subject. The committees can 1) draft the bill into a committee bill, 2) write a new "raised" committee bill, or 3) refer the bill to another committee. Public hearings are held to accept input from the public, state agency representatives and legislators.

Bill is sent for Review and Analysis — OR — Bill Dies

The Legislative Commissioners' Office checks for constitutionality and consistency with other laws. The Office of Fiscal Analysis estimates the bill's cost and "fiscal impact" upon the community. The Office of Legislative Research then adds a "plain English" explanation of the bill.

Bill Is Reported To The House

Bill Is Reported To The Senate

151 Representatives debate the bill and draft amendments. House may send the bill back to a committee or issue a "yes" vote.

36 Senators debate the bill and draft amendments. Senate may send the bill back to a committee or issue a "yes" vote.

House Bill Sent To The Senate

If Amended, Bill Sent Back To Senate For Concurrence

Senate Bill Sent To The House

If Amended, Bill Sent Back To House For Concurrence

Bill Passes — OR — Bill Dies

Unresolved House Bills

Unresolved Senate Bills

Bill Passes — OR — Bill Dies

Joint Conference Committee
Resolves Differences & Revises the Bill
Reports bill back to the legislature for a vote in each chamber

Both Chambers Issue A "Yes" Vote

Both Chambers Issue A "Yes" Vote

Bill Becomes A Public Act

GOVERNOR

Vetoes The Act — OR — Signs The Act / Waits 5 Days

Act Becomes A LAW

Act Sent Back To House Of Origin

Legislature can override veto with a 2/3 majority vote in each house and pass the act into law — OR — Bill Dies

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