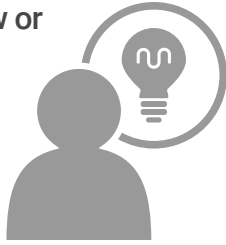


# How an Idea Becomes Law

An idea to change a law or create a new law can come from anyone.

Only a Representative or Senator can take

that idea and guide it through the State Legislature.



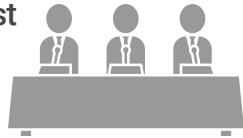
Drafting a bill means putting the idea into legal language. Introducing a bill can be done by any member of the House or Senate.



The Speaker of the House or President of the Senate then assigns the bill to a committee. A committee's responsibility

is to examine a bill carefully, hear testimony for and against the bill, and decide

whether to send the bill to the appropriate chamber for consideration.



The bill is introduced in the House or Senate. If the bill is sponsored by a Senator, it is a Senate Bill. If the bill is

sponsored by a Representative, it is a House Bill.



Committees can defeat or stop a bill. They can table or pause a bill which means it is

stopped unless the full House or Senate orders the committee to move the bill to the full Chamber. Committees can pass a bill which moves it to the full House or Senate Chamber for discussion and vote.

The full House or Senate either passes the bill and it moves to the other Chamber to go through the same process or the bill fails.



Once a bill passes both the House and Senate, it is sent to the Governor.

There it can be signed into law or vetoed and returned to the Legislature for further discussion.



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