How a Bill becomes a Law

Idea for a bill

House of Representatives Senate

Introduction

Introduction

* First Reading
* Given a # - HR125
* Assigned to Standing Committee

Introduction

* First reading – to entire Senate
* Given a #S3201
* Assigned to a Standing Committee

First reading

Given a #HR - HR # 455

Committee Action

* Subcommittee – studies, has hearings
* Amend bill
* Pigeon hole bill
* Kill Bill
* Pass it to entire Senate

Committee Action

* Subcommittee – studies, has hearings
* Amend bill
* Pigeon hole bill
* Kill Bill
* Pass it to entire House

Floor Action

* RULE Committee [House only KEEP Order – 435 reps are A LOT]
* Floor Debate
* Vote by standing, voice or machine
* If passes goes to Senate or conference committee

Floor Action

* UNLIMITED debate in Senate Only
* Filibuster: talk a bill to death
* Cloture vote – shut up and sit down vote
* Final vote
* If passes sent to HOR/ Pres or Conference Committee

Congress may OVERRIDE a Presidential veto with 2/3s vote in both houses

Presidential Action

* Pass it
* Veto it
* Pocket Veto: 10 days occur & Congress adjourns – bill dies!!!!
* Pocket Pass – no action means it becomes a law after 10 days

Final Approval

Final Approval

Conference

MUST AGREE ON 1 version of bill Goes back to both houses!!!!!