

How A Bill Becomes Law

Adapted From the Publication
"Arizona Bill"

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District Training Program*

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ARIZONA BILL

The House Side



- ❧ Arizona Bill is introduced into the House by a Member or group, after being written in proper form by Legislative Council
- ❧ Bill is assigned a number, goes through **First Read**, and referred by the Speaker to appropriate committee(s)
- ❧ Committee(s) consider the bill, take testimony and statements from experts and interested public, then vote, and report recommendations to the entire House.
- ❧ **Rules Committee** agenda becomes the calendar for Committee of the Whole. After 5 days, the President designates bills to be placed on Active Calendar.
- ❧ **Committee of the Whole** (entire Senate membership) debates, amends, puts bill on calendar for vote.
- ❧ **Third Reading** Roll Call – every member present must vote, unless excused.
- ❧ If passed, bill goes to Senate.

The Senate Side



- ❧ House Bill is introduced into the Senate goes through **First Read**, and laid over one day.
- ❧ **Second Reading** - bill is referred by the Speaker to appropriate committee(s)
- ❧ Committee(s) consider the bill, take testimony and statements from experts and interested public, then vote, and report recommendations to the entire Senate.
- ❧ **Rules Committee** determines if bill is constitutional, and in proper for.
- ❧ **Committee of the Whole** (entire House membership) debates, amends, puts bill on calendar for vote.
- ❧ **Third Reading** Roll Call - every member present must vote, unless excused.
- ❧ If passed, bill goes back to House.

Conference Committee



- ❧ If the bill is identical to the original passed by the House, the bill goes to the Governor.
- ❧ If the bill is changed, the changed bill can be accepted and sent to the Governor.
- ❧ If the changes are rejected, the bill goes to a **Conference Committee** made up of appointed representatives of the House and Senate.
- ❧ Conference Committee “mends” the bill by compromising on disagreements.
- ❧ A conference committee report is sent back to each house for adoption.
- ❧ If passed, the bill is sent on to the Governor.

The Governor



- ❧ Governor can veto the bill, but must return it to the House stating his reasons.
- ❧ House and Senate may override the veto with a two-thirds vote (or three-fourths if an emergency measure)
- ❧ Governor may sign the bill, or allow it to become law by taking no action for 5 days (or 10 days after adjournment).
- ❧ The bill then becomes a part of the Arizona Revised Statutes.