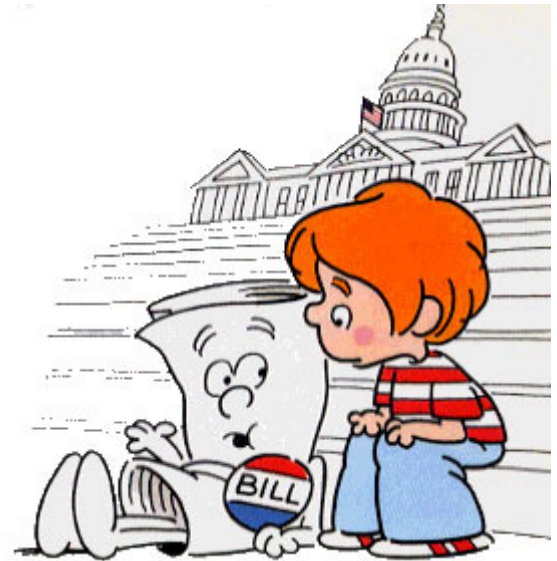


How a Bill Becomes a Law

One important way for advocates to ensure the well being of children is to propose laws designed to protect them. Laws actually begin as bills that are drafted and pushed through a legislative process made up of a complex series of steps. Bills are debated, amended, debated again, until a majority in both chambers are satisfied with the form of the bill and vote it into law.

Child advocates can influence every step of the legislative process, from the introduction of bills to the Governor's signature, as long as you know all the steps in between!



When the bill is sent to the second chamber, the process repeats itself:

The Original Chamber

The bill is introduced in the Senate or the House of Representatives



The bill is sent to committee for debate and approval



The bill is sent back to the full original chamber



The bill is debated, amended, and voted upon



The bill is sent on to the second chamber

The Second Chamber

The bill is introduced in the second chamber



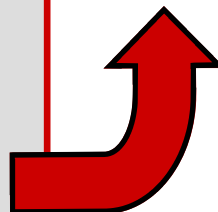
The bill is sent to committee for debate and approval



The bill is sent back to the full second chamber

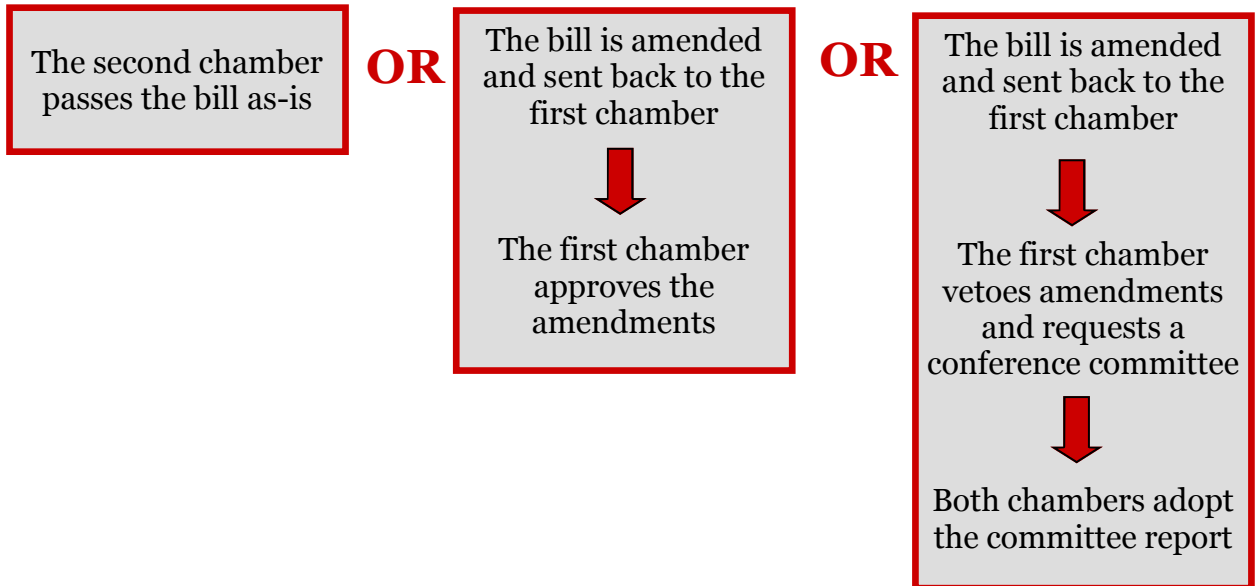


Passage of the bill is debated



Then....

When a bill is debated in the second chamber, several things can happen . . .



The bill then goes to the Governor:

