HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW
FROM NAfME

Introduction
The bill is introduced in one of the houses of Congress, the Senate or the House of Representatives.

Committee
The bill is referred to committee.
If not approved, the house can send the bill back to committee or abandon it.
If approved, it’s debated and voted upon by the entire house.

Conference
If there are differences in the two houses’ bills, those differences must be worked out for the final bill.

If the bill is approved, it goes to the president.
If the vote passes, it goes to the other house where the process is repeated.

The president may veto the bill.
If vetoed, both houses have three options.

• Vote to override the president’s veto.
• Modify the bill to the president’s liking.
• Let the bill die.

If signed by the president, it becomes law.

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