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## How Our National Laws Are Made

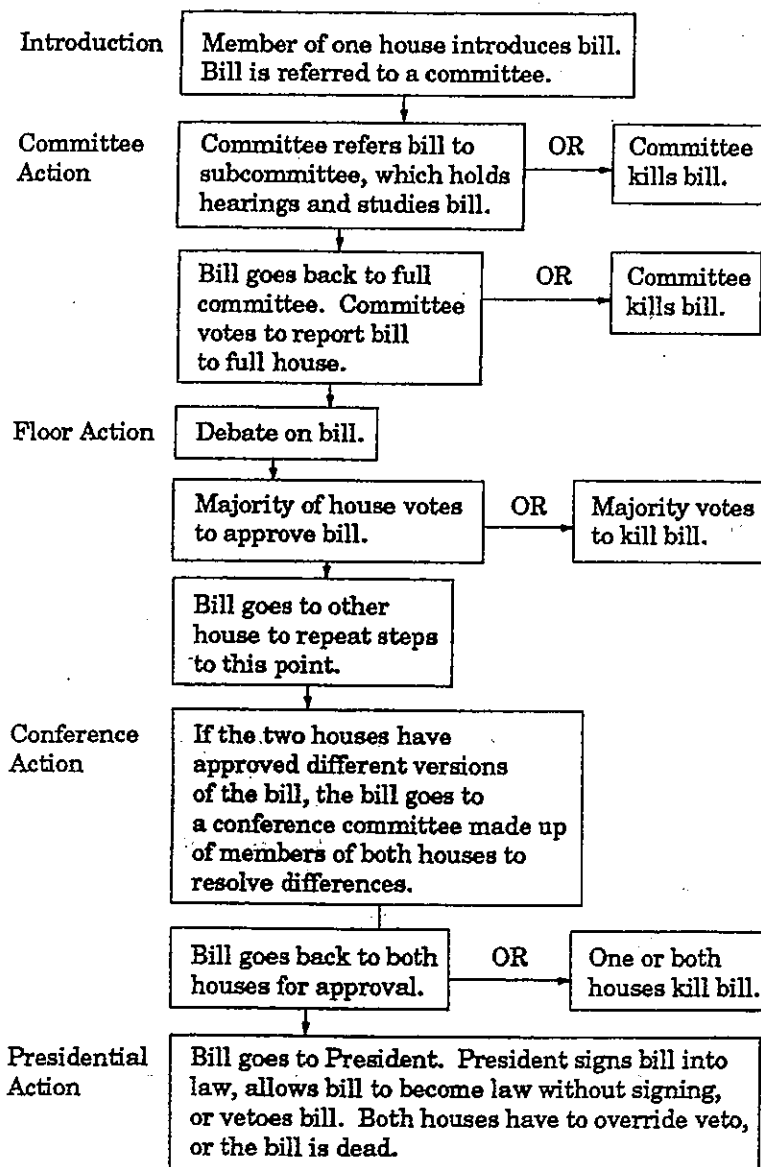
### How Does a Bill Become a Law?

Redo  
Version

#### A. Getting the Facts

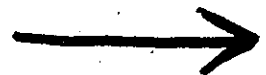
**Reading a Flow Chart.** The flow chart below shows the many steps involved in the passage of a bill. Study the chart, then complete the activity.

#### Moving a Bill Through Congress



Using the flow chart as a guide, number the following steps in order from 1 to 6.

- \_\_\_\_\_ a. subcommittee holds hearings and studies bill
- \_\_\_\_\_ b. President signs bill into law
- \_\_\_\_\_ c. bill was amended after it went to the second house so it is now in a conference committee
- \_\_\_\_\_ d. member of one house introduces bill
- \_\_\_\_\_ e. back to both houses for approval
- \_\_\_\_\_ f. committee reports bill to full house



## B. Using the Facts

**Apply information.** Each of the following situations tells about an imaginary bill that has gone through one of the steps listed on the flow chart in Section A (on reverse side). In the spaces below each situation, write what the next (2) two steps (places) the bill will go through in the bill-to-law process. Use the flow chart in Section A (on reverse side) to help you with your answers. (Assume the bill passes all steps.)

1. A bill to give additional funding to states who lengthen their school year to 200 days is introduced into the Senate and given a title and number.

A. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. The committee of the second house has made an amendment to the bill on low-cost housing loans to US veterans that it received from the house that it was originally introduced into.

A. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Debate is held in a committee of the house that a bill on federal funding for cancer research was introduced into.

A. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## C. Time for real life!

Suppose one of the bills listed above has passed both houses of Congress and is on the president's desk. Some members of Congress are still against the bill and want their constituents (the people they represent) to give the president their opinions on the bill directly. Choose one of the bills from Section B above. In the space below, write a 10 to 15 word email urging the president to either sign the bill into law or to veto it, giving the reason for your opinion.

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