

# HOW A BILL BECOMES MISSOURI LAW

## FILING

1 Senators and Representatives can Pre-file a bill. Prefiling BEGINS DECEMBER 1st



2

## INTRODUCED

A bill is introduced by an elected legislature, once it is introduced it is First Read.



4

## COMMITTEE

Once the bill is in a committee, the committee chair chooses whether or not they would like to schedule the bill for a hearing. If the bill doesn't have a hearing the bill will mostly "die in committee".



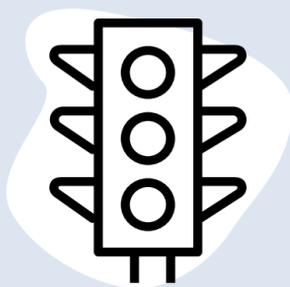
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3 **SECOND READ** A bill must be Second-Read, which is done by the Senate Pro-Tem. When it is Second Read, it is referred to a committee.



### A Bill In Committee

The chair of a committee has a lot of authority. They can determine whether a bill gets heard, can influence votes and can also kill or stall the bill.



### Perfection Calendar

Once a bill is voted out of committee it has to be referred out of committee and accepted by the Senate Pro-Tem. Then the bill is placed on the perfection calendar.

### Third Read

A bill has to be called from the perfection calendar, where it is debated and amended. Then there is a final vote taken on the amended or final version of the bill. If the bill gets a simple majority vote, it is declared perfected and then placed on the Third Read calendar, where it has to have one last vote.



### Finally Passed

Once a bill gets third read and finally passed (also requiring a simple majority vote) it is then sent over to the other chamber (if it started in the House it will go to the Senate, if it started in the Senate it will go to the House) where the bill goes it has to go through the same process of being first read, second read, hearing, passed out of committee, perfected and third read. .

### Conference

If the other chamber makes any changes to the bill, it is sent over to the chamber it started in, and that chamber can either accept the changes and pass the bill on to be signed by the Governor, or they can reject the bill. If the bill is rejected, it is then sent to a conference committee (These conference committee members are selected by House and Senate Leadership) This committee can change any part of the bill. It then has to be voted out of conference Committee.



### Conference

The bill is then sent to both chambers, where the changes are voted upon. If this bill is voted do Pass, it is sent to the Governor's desk. If the bill is signed by the Governor it becomes a law.

## Important Links & Documents

Good leadership is critical to getting good legislation passed in the Missouri House and Senate. We hope this is helpful in understanding the steps a bill takes to pass and how critical it is that we have good people in office. It's time to pay attention to actions and not just what they say when they are home giving a speech.



Find the House Committees here

House Committees



House Leadership

House Leadership



Bill Look Up

House

Find the Senate Committees here

Senate Committees

Senate Leadership

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Senate



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