How a Bill Becomes a Law in Ohio

**HOUSE**
Bill filed with House Clerk, numbered, first consideration (read by title), referred to House Rules and Reference Committee

Legislator becomes aware of need for legislation

Legislator requests LSC to draft a proposed bill or submits draft for review

LSC drafts proposed bill for introduction in either house

House Rules and Reference Committee reviews, recommends standing committee assignment

Second consideration, bill referred to standing committee

*Standing committee: holds public hearings; amends, combines, substitutes bill; refers to subcommittee; postpones; defeats or favorably reports bill. May be discharged of further consideration

*House Rules and Reference Committee or Senate Rules Committee: rerefers; takes no action; schedules bill for third consideration (floor action)

*Third consideration, debate on floor, and vote

If passed in first house, bill sent to second house where process is repeated

If first house concurs, goes to presiding officers for signature

Signed by Speaker of House and President of Senate

Act presented to Governor

If Governor does not sign or veto within ten days after presentation (excluding Sundays), act becomes law without Governor’s signature

Signed by Governor

If Governor presents act to Secretary of State for final enrollment; effective 91 days after filing. Emergency, current appropriation, and tax legislation effective immediately

**SENATE**
Bill filed with Senate Clerk, numbered, first consideration (read by title), referred to Senate Reference Committee

*Senate Reference Committee reviews, recommends standing committee assignment

Second consideration, bill referred to standing committee

If passed in second house with amendments, bill returns to first house for concurrence

*If first house does not concur, conference committee may be appointed (three members from each house); makes changes; reports back to both houses

*If both houses accept conference committee report, goes to presiding officers for signature

If both houses do not accept report, bill dies

*Vetoed by Governor, returned to originating house with veto message

Vote of 3/5 of members from each house necessary to override

*Indicates where bill may die