

# **Fast Facts**

## HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW IN OHIO

#### PART 1

Legislator becomes aware of need for legislation.

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

LSC drafts proposed bill for introduction in either house.

#### PART 2

Bill filed with House or Senate Clerk and numbered.

First consideration (read by title), referred to the House or Senate Rules and Reference Committee.

House or Senate Rules and Reference Committee reviews, recommends standing committee assignment.

Second consideration, bill referred to standing

#### PART 3

Standing committee: holds public hearings; may amend or create a substitute bill; may refer bill to subcommittee or postpone, defeat, or favorably report bill. May be discharged of further consideration of bill.

#### PART 4

House or Senate Rules and Reference Committee: may re-refer, take no action, or schedule bill for third consideration (floor action).

Third consideration: floor debate and vote.

#### PART 5

If passed in first house, bill is sent to second house where process is repeated (introduction; referral to standing committee; floor vote).

If passed in second house with no changes, bill goes to presiding officers for signature. If passed in second house with amendments, bill returns to first house for concurrence.

If first house concurs, bill goes to presiding officers for signature.

Bill signed by Speaker of House and President of Senate and becomes an act.

If both houses accept conference committee report, bill goes to presiding officers for signature. If first house does not concur and second house insists on its amendments, conference committee may be appointed (three members from each house); committee makes changes to resolve differences in bill and reports back to both houses.

If either house does not accept report, bill dies.

#### PART 6

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.

Vetoed by Governor; act returned to originating house.

Veto overridden (vote of 3/5 of members from each house necessary to override a veto).

Filed with Secretary of State for final enrollment; effective 91 days after filing. Emergency, current appropriation, and tax levy legislation effective immediately.

## How a Bill Becomes a Law in Ohio—Overview

Legislator becomes aware of need for legislation. Bill filed with Senate Clerk, Legislator requests LSC to draft a proposed bill or numbered, first consideration (read submits draft for LSC review. by title), referred to the Senate Rules and Reference Committee. LSC drafts proposed bill for introduction in either Bill filed with House house. Clerk, numbered, first \*Senate Rules and Reference consideration (read Committee reviews, recommends by title), referred to standing committee assignment. the House Rules and Reference Committee. \*Standing committee: holds public hearings; may amend or create a substitute bill; may refer bill to subcommittee or postpone, defeat, or Second consideration, bill referred to favorably report bill. May be discharged of further standing committee. consideration of bill. \*House Rules and Reference Committee reviews, recommends standing committee If passed in second house with \*House or Senate Rules and Reference amendments, bill returns to first assignment. Committee: may re-refer, take no action, or house for concurrence. schedule bill for third consideration (floor action). Second consideration, bill referred to standing \*If first house does not concur \*Third consideration, floor debate, and vote. committee. and second house insists on its amendments, conference committee may be appointed (three members from each house); committee makes If passed in second If passed in first house, bill is sent to second changes to resolve differences in bill house with no changes, house where process is repeated. and reports back to both houses. bill goes to presiding officers for signature. If first house concurs, bill goes to presiding If both houses If either officers for signature. accept conference house committee does not report, bill goes to accept presiding officers report, for signature. bill dies. Bill signed by Speaker of House and President of Senate and becomes an act. \*Vetoed by Governor; act returned to originating house with veto message. Signed by Governor. Act presented to Governor. Veto overridden (vote of 3/5 of If Governor does not sign or veto within ten days after presentation (excluding Sundays), act members from each house necessary becomes law without Governor's signature. to override a veto). \*Indicates Act filed with Secretary of State for final enrollment; effective 91 days after filing. where bill Emergency, current appropriation, and tax levy legislation effective immediately. may die

## **Order of Business**

During a floor session, the House and Senate follow a specific order of business determined by House or Senate Rules. For example, bills may be introduced only at a certain point in the order of business. The order of business may be changed during floor session on a particular day by a vote of the members. The Rules governing the order of business may change from session to session.

## **Roll Call**

Most votes taken in the House of Representatives are recorded electronically. Results are registered at the Clerk's desk and on listings of members on the walls of the chamber. the Senate continues the tradition of calling the roll aloud.

# **Majority Rules**

ТҮРЕ	MIN. # OF VOTES REQUIRED	
	SENATE	HOUSE
Majority/Simple Majority The next whole number over 1/2 of the membership of the House or Senate	17	50
<b>3/5 Majority</b> The next whole number over 3/5 of the membership of the House or Senate	20	60
2/3 Majority	22	66

EXAMPLES OF MEASURES THAT REQUIRE DIFFERENT MAJORITIES IN ORDER TO PREVAIL		
MEASURE	TYPE OF MAJORITY	
Quorum	Simple Majority	
<b>Bill</b> Unless a greater majority is constitutionally required	Simple Majority	
Emergency clause	2/3 Majority	
Overriding Governor's veto Unless original passage required a greater majority	3/5 Majority	
Joint resolutions proposing amendments to the Ohio Constitution	3/5 Majority	





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