ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH UNIT

How A Bill Becomes Law in Illinois

FIRST HOUSE
Bill drafted by Legislative Reference Bureau

Introduced

Read 1st time (perfunctory), referred to House Rules Committee or Senate Committee on Assignments

Assigned to substantive committee

Hearing. Amendment(s) may be added*

Recommended "do pass" or "do not pass"

Full house votes to discharge

Full house doesn't discharge

Read 2nd time. Floor amendment(s) may be proposed*

Read 3rd time. Voted on

Fails

Passes

Bill dead

Bill sent to second house

SECOND HOUSE
Sponsor found by sponsor in first house

Introduced

Read 1st time (perfunctory), referred to House Rules Committee or Senate Committee on Assignments

Assigned to substantive committee

Hearing. Amendment(s) may be added*

Recommended "do pass" or "do not pass"

Full house votes to discharge

Full house doesn't discharge

Read 2nd time.

Sent to 3rd reading

Sent to 3rd reading without amendments

Read 3rd time. Voted on

Passes

Fails

Bill dead

Bill sent to first house for concurrence with second-house amendment(s)

Refuses to recede from amendment(s)

Conference committee appointed

Conference committee recommends a compromise version of bill. If both houses agree with it, bill goes to Governor

GOVERNOR
Places any kind of veto on bill

Approves bill

Returns to first house

Bill becomes law

CONCURRENCE
Concurs

Takes same action as first house

Bill becomes law in form originally passed

Sent to other house

Amendatory veto

Votes to override

Does neither

Doesn't restore amount cut

Restores amount cut

Governor certifies that concurrence meets his objections

Total veto

Item or reduction veto

Bill is law in form Governor wanted

Bill becomes law in changed form

April 2016

*Amendments must go to the Rules Committee or Committee on Assignments for approval before being considered.