



HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW Wyoming Legislature





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FIRST READING

The bill is introduced. The title is read aloud and the President (in the Senate) or the Speaker (in the House), refers the bill to a committee. After the bill passes through the first chamber, the bill must start the process over in the second chamber! For example, if House Bill 34 made it through the House of Representatives, it must now be introduced and heard by the Senate.

STANDING COMMITTEE

A committee reviews the bill, asks for input from the public, and votes on whether to advance the bill. After making it through the first chamber, it is usually referred to the parallel committee in the second. For example, if the House Judiciary Committee heard HB34, Senate Judiciary Committee will also hear it.

GENERAL FILE

The bill is placed on General File after it is heard and voted on by the Standing Committee. When a bill is on General File, it simply means that it is awaiting debate in the Committee of the Whole.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The committee debates the bill and decides whether to endorse or reject the committee's recommendation!

SECOND READING

In the Second Reading to the full chamber, the bill can be amended, moved, and voted on.

THIRD READING

In the Third Reading, the bill is read aloud. Amendments can be made at this stage, as well. In the first chamber, if a majority of the elected vote "aye", the bill moves to the second chamber. In the second chamber, if a majority of the elected vote "aye", the bill moves onto the governor after both chambers' settle any changes in the bill.