

Wisconsin State Symbols



White-tailed Deer
State Wildlife Animal



Red Granite
State Rock



Robin
State Bird



Polka
State Dance



Badger
State Animal

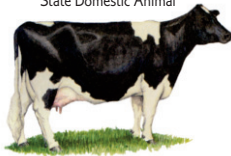


Mourning Dove
Symbol of Peace



Sugar Maple
State Tree

Dairy Cow-Ayrshire
State Domestic Animal



Honey Bee
State Insect



Trilobite
State Fossil



Dairy Cow-Holstein
State Domestic Animal



Galena
State Mineral



Muskellunge
State Fish



Cranberry
State Fruit



Wood Violet
State Flower



Corn
State Grain



Antigo Silt Loam
State Soil



Kringle
State Pastry



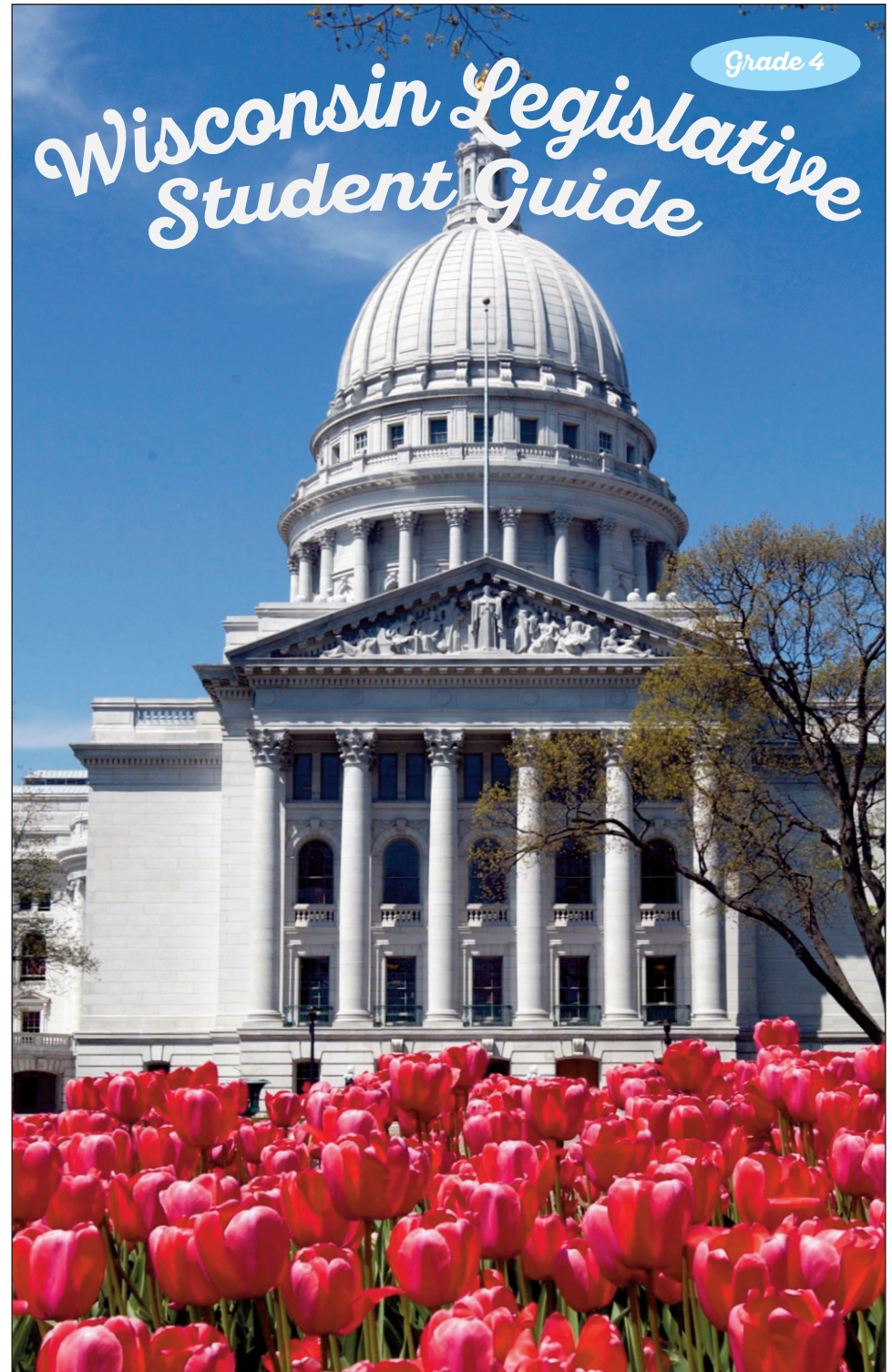
American Water Spaniel
State Dog



Milk
State Beverage



State Tartan



How A Bill Becomes A Law

Welcome to the Wisconsin Senate

Wisconsin has 33 State Senators and 99 State Representatives. Each Senate District contains approximately 150,000 citizens. The district is further divided into three Assembly Districts. Every two-year session almost 2,000 proposals, bills, joint resolutions and simple resolutions are introduced into the Senate and the Assembly. Only one-fourth of these measures will complete the process and become law.

The Process

Each Senator and Representative may introduce legislation into his or her respective house. The ideas for proposals affecting the State Statutes can come from a variety of sources: a constituent, a group of citizens, a state agency, or a business may request that a law be changed, repealed or created to solve a problem. The Legislator will work with staff and others to properly draft the needed legislation. When a Senator is ready to introduce a proposal, he or she may ask other Senators to sign on to the proposal as co-authors, or Representatives to be listed as co-sponsors. Once a bill is properly drafted and the members have signed on, the bill is ready for introduction.

Introduction and First Reading

When a proposal is ready for introduction it is numbered and "Read a first time." The first reading consists of an entry in the Senate Journal regarding the introduction of the proposal, and the Senate President's referral of the bill to a standing committee. Newly introduced proposals are available to the public on the legislative website at <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/>

Committee Review

A member of the Chief Clerk's staff delivers the bill to the appropriate standing committee for its review. At the discretion of the chairperson, a hearing on the proposal may be scheduled. All committee proceedings are open to the public. If a hearing is held, anyone may appear to speak or register for or against the proposal. Experts may be invited to give the committee more information. The committee may offer amendments for introduction. After the hearing, the committee may take executive action on the proposal. The proposal is then reported to the full Senate.

To the Calendar

Bills reported out of Senate committees are considered "Available for Scheduling" and are sent to the Committee on Senate Organization to be placed on a Senate Calendar for debate and action by the full Senate.

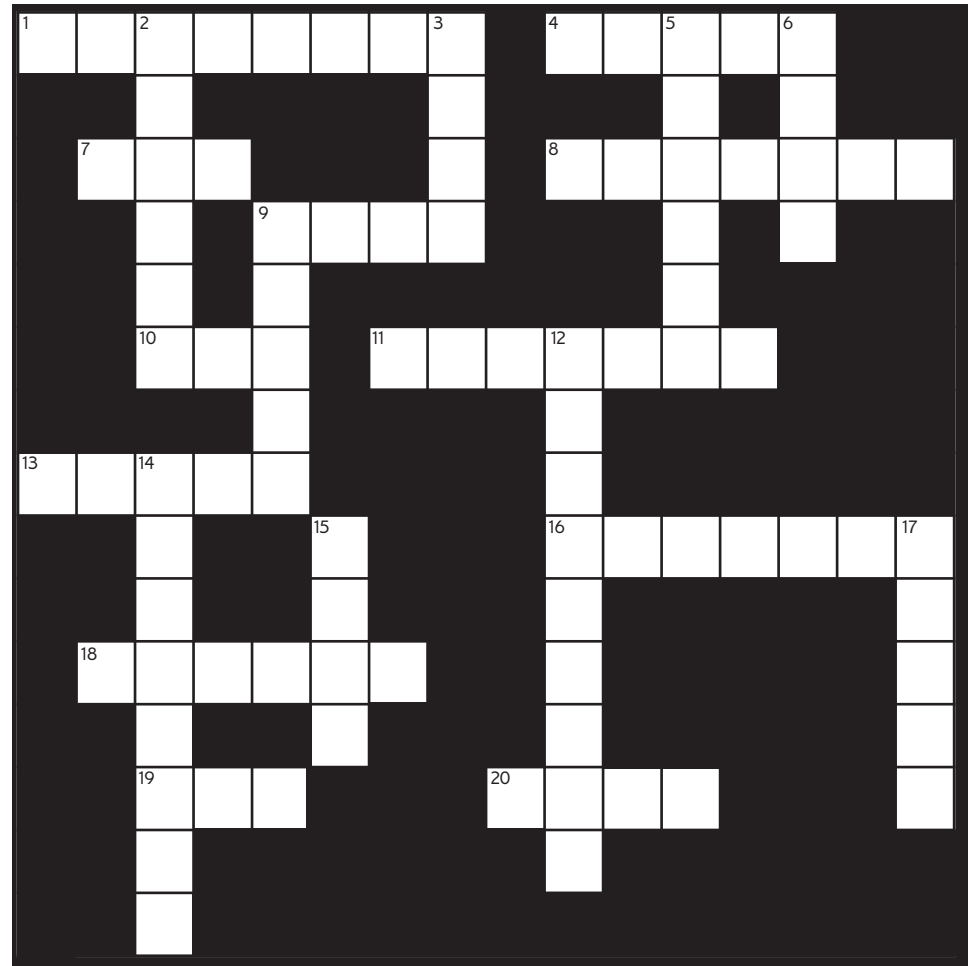
Second Reading

When a bill is considered on the Senate Calendar it is given a second reading by title. The question before the house is "Shall the bill be ordered to a third reading?" After the second reading, but prior to ordering it to a third reading, a bill may be amended. Members debate the pros and cons of the proposal and offer changes in the form of amendments. Amendments may be either "simple" (which affect only a portion of the bill) or a "substitute" (which replaces the original bill). Engrossment incorporates all adopted amendments and all approved technical corrections.

Third Reading

Engrossment occurs at the third reading stage after which no additional amendments are allowed. After the bill is read a third time the question is "Shall the bill pass?" After final debate the bill may be passed by a vote and "messed" to the Assembly.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- Our highest elected state office is ____.
- The ____ is our state bird.
- The state domestic animal is the dairy ____.
- Our state capital is ____.
- Our state cows produce a lot of ____.
- A statue of "Wisconsin" is on ____ of the Capitol.
- ____ is our state motto.
- We live in the ____ of Wisconsin.
- We have a beautiful ____ building in Madison.
- The ____ has 33 members.
- The honey ____ is our state insect.
- A ____ is a proposed law awaiting legislative approval.

DOWN

- The wood ____ is our state flower.
- Granite is our state ____.
- Our state animal is ____.
- The state bird lives in a ____.
- The sugar ____ is our state tree.
- We live in the state of ____.
- The ____ has 99 members.
- ____ is the governor's power to stop a bill.
- Wisconsin is bordered by two great ____.

ACROSS: 1. Governor; 4. robin; 7. cow; 8. Madison; 9. Milk; 10. Top; 11. Forward; 13. State; 16. Capitol; 18. Senate; 19. Bee; 20. Bill
DOWN: 2. Violet; 3. Rock; 5. Badger; 6. Nest; 9. Maple; 12. Wisconsin; 14. Assembly; 15. Veto; 17. Lakes

Word Search

R E K A E P S Y L B M E S S A R S
 N F L O O R P E R I O D P C U O E
 I C D L E G I S L A T O R S T N V
 S A R O N N G R R A N T I A H R I
 N P O L O A M D U S L A H T O E T
 O I B I I O N O O L O E T S R V A
 C T S O T L U R E V E D T H S O T
 S O O E O P S T A T E S U Z Z G N
 I L V E M S I L T E L O I V G R E
 W E V A G E N C Y O E E L P A M S
 M N T I N R S T T B G S F R F C E
 A I S J E E O M M A A E P L O R R
 D B E E C S V E E D V T A U A T P
 I O D O A I V E E G E G R S U E E
 S R N R O L H A A E L T S W O F R
 O D F I C F L O O R D E B A T E S
 N E S R O T A V E S E N I L T O H

AGENCY
 ASSEMBLY
 SPEAKER
 BEE
 DEER
 FLAG
 GAVEL
 LEGISLATORS
 REPRESENTATIVES
 MADISON
 ROBIN

SECOND
 SILT
 STATES
 AUTHORS
 LOAM
 MAPLE
 GOVERNOR
 WISCONSIN
 RULES
 VETO
 SPONSORS

BADGER
 COURT
 DOVE
 SEAL
 FLOOR PERIOD
 HOTLINE
 MOTION
 FLOOR DEBATE
 CAPITOL
 VIOLET

Action in the Second House

When the Assembly receives a bill from the Senate, the proposal follows the same procedure as in the first house. It is referred to a standing committee for review and recommendation, it is amendable, and it is read three times. If a bill is concurred in, with or without amendments, it is messaged back to the Senate.

If no amendments are added by the Assembly, the bill is ready to enroll. The Legislative Reference Bureau must prepare a clean copy of the text as agreed to by both houses.

If the Assembly concurs in the proposal with amendments, these amendments must be voted on by the Senate. If any amendments are rejected or amended by the Senate, they must return to the Assembly for action on those changes. If the two houses cannot reach agreement on a proposal by acting on amendments, a "Committee of Conference" made up of members from both houses could be appointed. The Committee of Conference would try to reconcile the differences between the Senate position and the Assembly position. Both houses would then have to vote on the proposed Conference Report. When both houses have finally agreed to an identical version of the proposal, the Legislative Reference Bureau will enroll the proposal for the Senate.

The official copy of the enrolled bill is signed by the Chief Clerk, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the Assembly. The bill is now ready for review by the Governor.

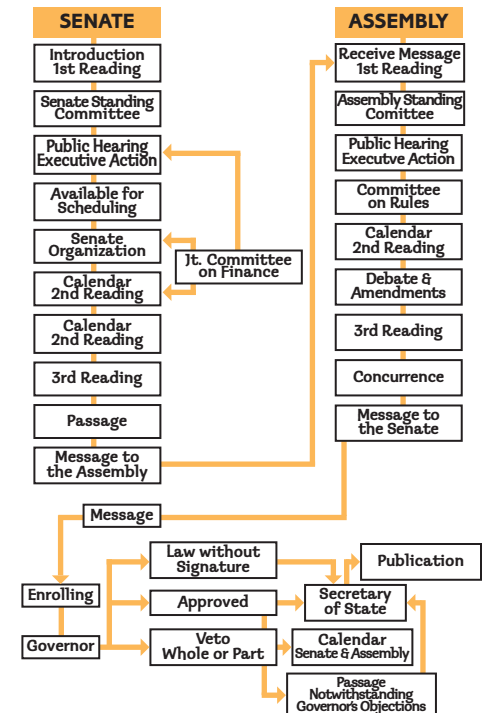
The Governor's Signature or Veto

The Governor has six days (excluding Sunday) in which to approve or veto a bill. The Governor can: 1) sign a bill, in which case it becomes law; 2) fail to sign it within six days, whereby if the Legislature is in session, it would become law; 3) veto the bill (or in certain cases part of the bill).

Veto Review

If the Governor vetoes a bill, he returns it to the Senate together with his objections to the proposal. The Governor may object to the bill in total, or in the case of appropriation bills (bills that spend money), in part. The session schedule provides a specific floor period for the consideration of all gubernatorial vetoes. The first house can pass the bill, notwithstanding the objections of the Governor, but it requires a two-thirds vote to do so (override). If the bill, or any portion of a partially vetoed bill is passed, it goes to the Assembly where it also takes a two-thirds vote to override the Governor's veto. If either house fails to muster the sufficient number of votes, the bill (or part of the bill) dies and the Governor's veto is sustained.

Follow a Bill Through the Legislature



Unscramble the Wisconsin Government Terms

A law that has been enacted by a legislature or other Governing body. ILAINOTLGES

Elected to serve a 4-year term in the 33 member State Senate ARTSNOE

The action by which a bill or part thereof is rejected by the Governor EVOT

A majority of the current membership. UROQMU

Senate or Assembly members appointed to study, receive public comment and decide if the proposed bill should move forward. OMIETECMT

A proposed change of law originating in either house. LIBL

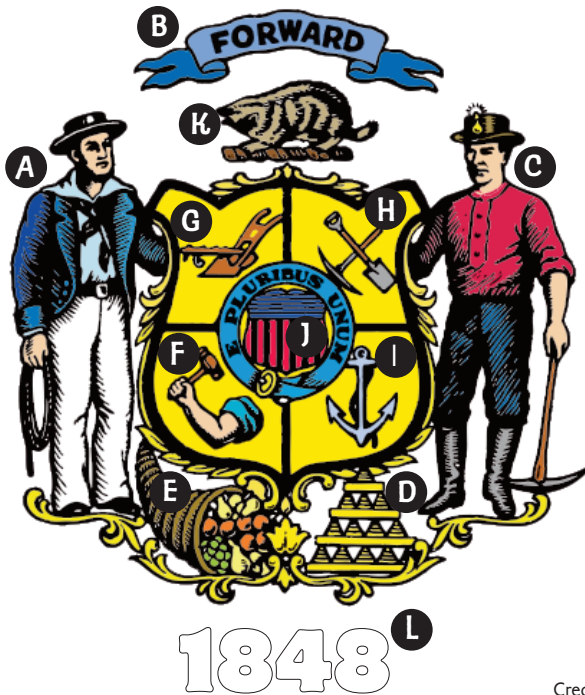
The presiding officer in the Senate, elected by the Senate membership. SINPDRETE

Wisconsin State Flag

Our State Flag shows symbols of the different jobs people had when Wisconsin became a state in 1848. The man on the left is a sailor. The anchor represents jobs on water. The miner, with his pickaxe and shovel, and the farm plow, show how people worked on the land. The arm and hammer represents early jobs in manufacturing.

The State Animal, the badger, became a symbol of the hard-working people who first came to live and work in Wisconsin. Miners were nicknamed “badgers”. Like badgers, the early miners lived in old mine shafts because they were too busy digging all day to build themselves homes!

WISCONSIN



Below, fill in the blank with the letter that matches the symbol.

- __ Badger-state animal
- __ Plow-agriculture
- __ “Forward”-state motto
- __ Shovel & pickaxe-mining
- __ Pig lead-mineral wealth
- __ Sailor-jobs on water
- __ Anchor-navigation
- __ Arm & Hammer-manufacturing
- __ Cornucopia-prosperity
- __ U.S. coat of arms-loyalty to the Union
- __ Miner-jobs on land
- __ Year Wisconsin became state

Credit: Wisconsin Department of Administration

Wisconsin Trivia

The State symbols and trivia are listed in Column 1. Draw a line from Column 1 to what they represent in Column 2.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| A. Forward | State Animal |
| B. Sugar Maple | State Soil |
| C. Wood Violet | Symbol of Peace |
| D. Robin | State Motto |
| E. Muskellunge | State Song |
| F. Badger | Opened the first kindergarten in the U.S in Watertown (1856) |
| G. White-Tailed Deer | State Mineral |
| H. On Wisconsin | State Tree |
| I. Galena | State Fossil |
| J. Red Granite | Largest Lake |
| K. Dairy Cow | City of first successful commercial electric street railway (16 Aug 1886) |
| L. Mourning Dove | State Fish |
| M. Honey Bee | Largest City |
| N. Antigo Silt Loam | State Nickname |
| O. Trilobite | State Insect |
| P. American Water Spaniel | State Rock |
| Q. Lake Winnebago | Perfected the first typewriter. Also, served in both the Senate and the Assembly |
| R. Madison | State Dance |
| S. Badger State | State Grain |
| T. Milk | State Beverage |
| U. Corn | State Flower |
| V. Polk | State Dog |
| W. Milwaukee | State Domesticated Animal |
| X. Appleton | State Bird |
| Y. Margaret Meyer Schurz | |
| Z. Christopher Latham Sholes | |

The statue atop the state Capitol building is named “Wisconsin”.

