



### **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 repealed or created to solve a problem.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 craft 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.

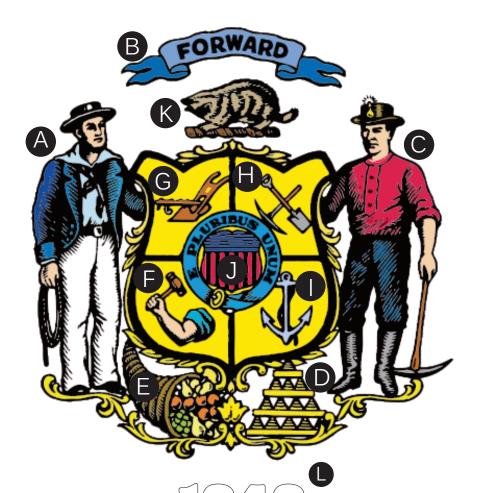
#### To the Calendar

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

# WISCONSIN



State Animal	Agriculture
State Motto	Mining
Mineral Wealth	Labor on Water
Navigation	Manufacturing
Labor and Land	Loyalty to the Union

\_\_\_ Properity and Abundance

### Legislative Word Search

R	Ε	Κ	Α	Ε	Р	S	Υ	L	В	М	Ε	S	S	Α	R	S
Ν	F	L	Ο	Ο	R	Р	Е	R	1	Ο	D	Р	С	U	Ο	Ε
1	С	D	L	Ε	G	1	S	L	Α	Т	Ο	R	S	Т	Ν	V
S	Α	R	0	Ν	Ν	G	R	R	Α	Ν	Т	1	Α	Н	R	1
Ν	Р	Ο	L	Ο	Α	Μ	D	U	S	L	Α	Н	Т	Ο	Ε	Т
0	-1	В	1	1	Ο	Ν	0	0	L	0	Ε	Т	S	R	V	Α
С	Т	S	0	Т	L	U	R	E	V	E	D	Т	Н	S	Ο	Т
S	О	Ο	Ε	0	Р	S	Т	Α	T	E	S	U	Z	Z	G	Ν
1	L	V	Ε	М	S	1	L	Т	Ε	L	0	I	V	G	R	Ε
W	Ε	V	Α	G	Ε	Ν	С	Υ	0	Ε	Ε	L	Р	Α	М	S
М	Ν	Τ	٦	Ν	R	S	Т	Т	В	G	S	F	R	F	С	Ε
Α	1	S	J	Е	Ε	0	М	М	Α	Α	Ε	Р	L	Ο	R	R
D	В	Е	Ε	С	S	V	Ε	Е	D	V	Т	Α	U	Α	Т	Р
1	0	D	0	Α	L	V	Ε	E	G	Ε	G	R	S	U	Е	Е
S	R	Ν	R	0	L	Н	Α	Α	Ε	L	Т	S	W	0	F	R
0	D	F	Ι	С	F	L	0	0	R	D	Е	В	Α	Т	Ε	S
Ν	Ε	S	R	0	Т	Α	V	Е	S	Ε	Ν	1	L	Т	0	Н

AGENCY	REPRESENTATIVES	MAPLE	DOVE
ASSEMBLY	MADISON	GOVERNOR	SEAL
SPEAKER	ROBIN	WISCONSIN	FLOOR PERIOD
BEE	SECOND	RULES	HOTLINE
DEER	SILT	VETO	MOTION
FLAG	STATES	SPONSORS	FLOOR DEBATE
GAVEL	AUTHORS	BADGER	CAPITOL
LEGISLATORS	LOAM	COURT	VIOLET

#### 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 "messaged" to the Assembly.

#### 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 floorperiod 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 twothirds 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.

## Wisconsin Firsts

#### **ACROSS**

- 2. 1st \_\_\_ Day, celebrates the environment, 1970
- 3. 1st successful \_\_\_ marrow transplant, 1967
- 5. 1st round \_\_\_\_, used to store grain, 1891
- 7. 1st \_\_\_ machine for telephone, 1949
- 9. State soil, Antigo loam, 1983
- 11. 1st in a bun, 1885
- 12. 1st automatic \_\_\_ dryer, 1935
- 15. 1st \_\_\_ antidiscrimination law, 1965
- 17. 1st to honor the red, white and blue, 1885
- 20. 1st \_\_\_ plant to generate power commercially, 1882
- 21. 1st practical to write faster, 1868
- 25. 1st kinder...\_, 1856
- 27. 1st publicly funded \_\_\_ preserves WI history, 1848
- 29. 1st \_\_\_ milk, good for ice cream treat, 1887
- 30. 1st and only publicly owned NFL team
- 31. 1st to ratify amendment granting women \_\_\_\_, 1919
- 32. 1st \_\_\_...cream sundae, 1878
- 33. 1st \_\_\_ for vehicles to operate better in snow, 1908
- 34. 1st meeting of the \_\_\_ party, 1854
- 35. 1st. \_\_\_ numbering system in the U.S., 1918
- 36. 1st \_\_\_ system to generate taxes fairly, 1911
- 37. 1st \_\_\_ cheese, 1885

#### DOWN

- 4. 1st antidiscrimination law to protect , 1921
  - 6. Largest producer in the U.S.
    - 8. 1st electric \_\_\_\_, for music, 1941

1. Largest music festival in U.S.

- 10. UW 1st to offer degree in , 1910
- 13. 1st machine to cut crops, 1844
- 14. 1st to measure vehicle speed, 1912
- 16. 1st to see how fast they could go, 1867
  - 18. Largest \_\_\_ producer in the U.S.
  - 19. 1st Ringling Brothers show, 1884
- 22. 1st state to have open \_\_\_ elections, 1904
  - 23. 1st \_\_\_ compensation law, 1911
    - 24. 1st NFL team to win \_\_\_\_, 1967
- 26. 1st place in world \_\_\_ "Wisconsin", 1848
- 28. 1st to isolate and culture \_\_\_ cells, 1998

	Hydroelectric
Garten	Packers
€ugitive	Named
lce	oli2
Malted	Workers
Sircus	Primary
Handicap	Republican
Cranberry	Typewriters
Colby	Super Bowl
Clothes	Summerfest

Progressive Income Tax Speedometer RIIS няд рау Historical Society Earth нідимау Genetics Suffrage Stem Hamburger Roug υəωογν Auto Race Ginseng Answering 4-Wheel Drive Harvesting

ANSWERS (in no particular order)