HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW IN HAWAII - KEIKI EDITION



Then, the final version of the bill has to be voted on by the full Senate and House one last time. We want to make sure everyone agrees that this bill is a good idea for a law!

If a majority (more than half) vote yes, the bill has passed the Legislature and is sent to the Governor.



It may not be done yet! Every single word of the bill voted on by each chamber has to match! A small group of Senators and Representatives may have to meet to agree on what the final bill will say.

In the second chamber, the bill goes through the same process. It passes through committees with public hearings and three votes by all the members. They may make more changes along the way.



The Governor can sign the bill, or just wait until a certain date, and it will become law in the State of Hawaii!

(If he doesn't want it to become law, he will veto it. Then, it only becomes law if 2/3 of the House and Senate think it should.)





At the third vote, all of the Senators or Representatives read the bill and vote to send it to the *other* chamber. This is called cross-over, because the bill crosses over to the House from the Senate, or to the Senate from the House.



The bill goes to its next committees, which hold public hearings to listen to what people think about the bill. If the last committee likes the bill. they vote on it and send it to the Senate or House for a third vote.





The Senate or House will vote on the bill a second time.



IDEA

After someone gets a good idea for a State law, a bill is written.



The bill is introduced by a legislator (a Senator or a Representative).



All the members of the legislator's chamber (the Senate or the House of Representatives) vote on the bill. Then the bill is sent to its first committee.

A committee is a small group of legislators. If its leader wants to, they have a public hearing to listen to what people think about the bill. People send in emails and come to speak for or against the bill.

If the committee still thinks the bill is a good idea for a law, they vote on it and send it to the full Senate or House. Sometimes they change it first.

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