HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

Displayed is an outline of the many steps in our Federal lawmaking process from the introduction of a bill by any Member through passage by the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate and approval by the President of the United States. Since the large majority of laws originate in the House, the example shown below starts with that body.

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) was established to provide essential printing and binding for the Congress and there is a close relationship between Congress and GPO. This relationship is demonstrated here by the many instances when GPO’s electronic dissemination and printing services are required in the lawmaking process (as denoted by the GPO logo).