

The Legislative Process

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The General Court By the Numbers

- 3rd Largest Legislative Body in the English-Speaking World
 - 400 Volunteer Member House
 - 24 Volunteer Member Senate
 - 30% Turnover Every 2 Years
 - Members of the County Delegation
- 1,000+ bills filed every year
 - NHAC Tracks 15% of Filed Bills
 - \$13 Billion Budget
 - Every Bill has a Public Hearing
 - Every Bill has a Vote on the Floor
 - 23 House Policy Committees
 - 14 Senate Policy Committee

How Do They Get Anything Done

Rely on "Advice"

Committee Recommendations

Party Leadership Guidance

Lobbyists' advocacy

Constituents' Calls

Governor's Advice

State Agencies' Advice

Most Work is Done in Committees

Calendars and Schedules

Very Tight Deadlines

But, They have More Flexibility than They Let On

Some Differences

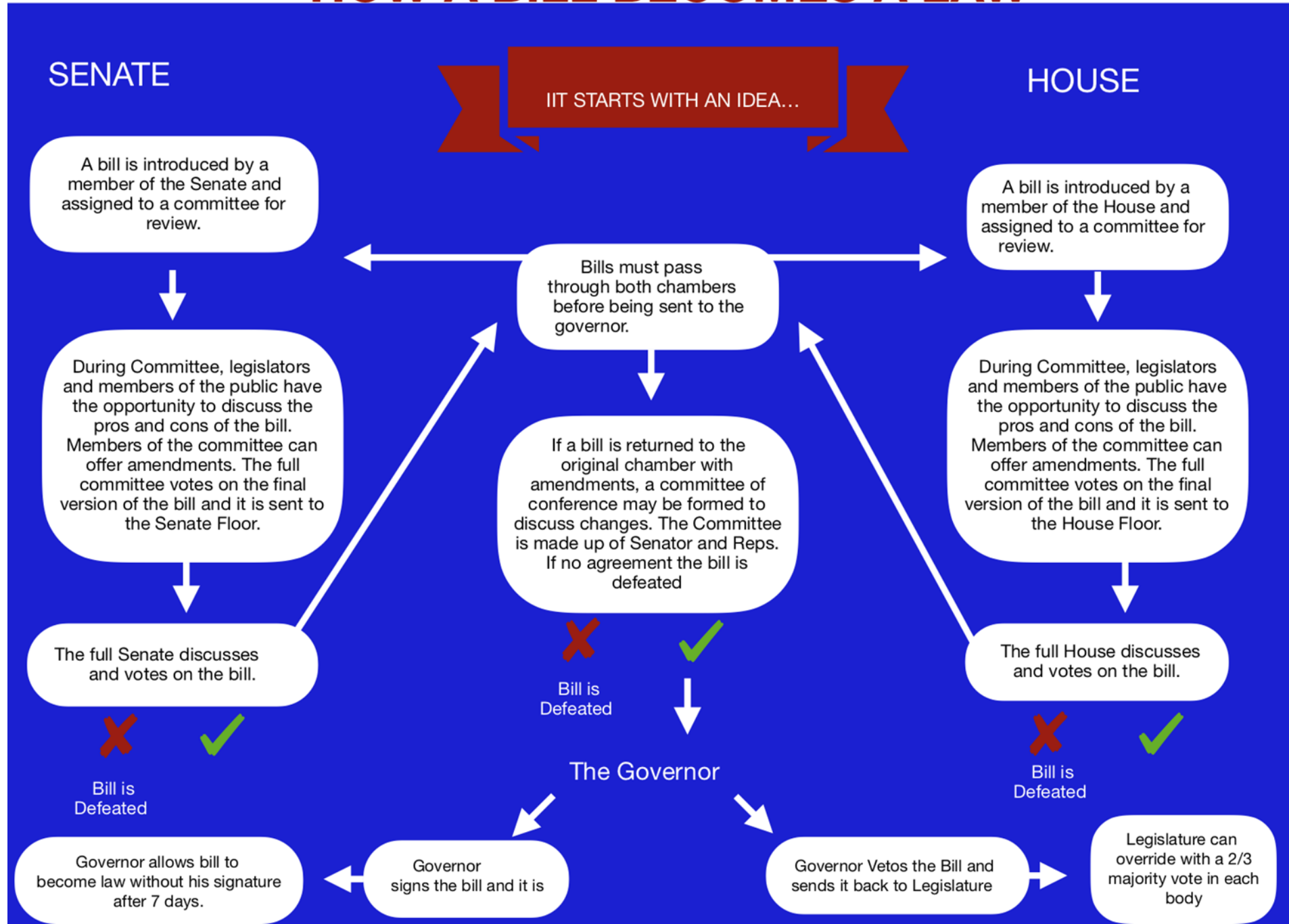
THE HOUSE

- In general, the House can operate more like a herd
- Going with the Pack
- Count Votes in Blocks
- Caucuses & Leadership Pressure
- Geography
- Philosophy (Different from Party Affiliation)
- Large Numbers in the House Allow for More Mavericks
- 1 of 400 is more forgiving than 1 of 24

THE SENATE

- Small Group Politics vs Mass Marketing
- Senators need to be able to work with each other
- Can be difficult to go against established blocks
- But they do give each other a pass on occasion, because they will each need a pass at some point
- Gaming is a good example
- Counting to 13 can be harder than counting to 201

HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW



The Lobbying Process

- In-House
 - Full Time
 - Part Time
- Contract lobbyists
- Knowing the Rhythm, Rules and the Policy



FAQ

- Who can be a lobbyist?
- How to spot a lobbyist?
- How many lobbyists are there in NH?
- How are lobbyists regulated?
- How do I find out when a hearing/vote is scheduled for?
- What's the difference between a commission and committee?
- How do I sign up to speak at committee?
- Can I watch the floor speeches on TV?

Still Have
Questions...
Call us

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