

The Lawmaking Process

Directions: Your Guided Notes are a tool to use as you read your lesson pages in the course. These important notes will help guide your note-taking throughout the course. You do not need to submit your Guided Notes for grading.

Key Vocabulary

Word	Meaning (use context clues)
Law	
Public policy	
Bill	
Regulation	
Representatives	
School board	
Political parties	
State legislatures	
Bicameral legislature	
Governor	
Veto	
Mayor	
County commissioner	

Public Policy

What is public policy?

Why is public policy so complicated to create?

Congress and Laws

What is a committee?

Complete the chart below to define each type of committee in Congress. Some responses are completed for you.

Committee	Of whom is it made?	What do they address?
Standing committee	<i>A permanent committee.</i>	<i>A particular topic. For example, Congress has the House Armed Services Committee.</i>
Joint committee		
Special committee	<i>Short-term committee of appointed members.</i>	
Conference committee		

How is leadership in Congress established?

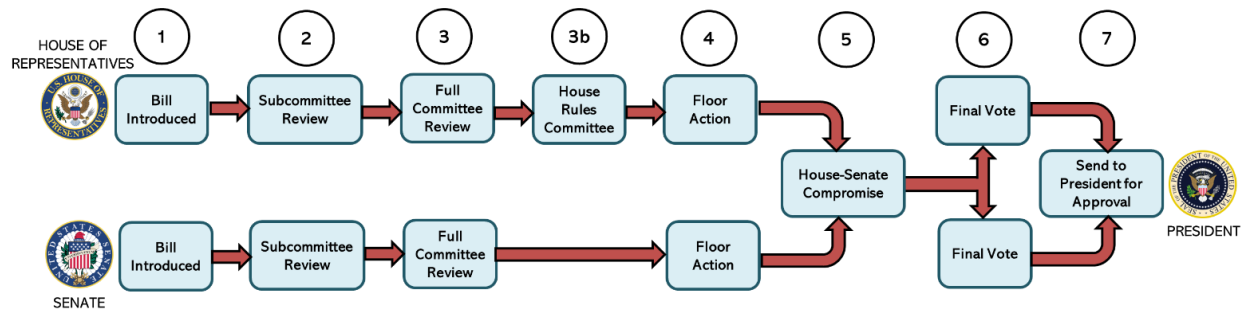
Complete the chart below to describe the roles of each leader.

Majority leader	
Minority leader	
Speaker of the House	
President pro tempore of the Senate	

The Federal Lawmaking Process

Complete the following sentence: A bill can begin in either the _____ or the _____, but in the end, both must agree to an _____ bill and gain the _____ approval before it can become law.

Use the following chart to fill in your notes and details about the law-making process. *Hint: Be sure to watch the video.*



Step	Description	Explanation
1	Bill Introduced	
2	Subcommittee Review	
3	Full Committee Review	
3b	House Rules Committee	
4	Floor Action	
5	House-Senate Compromise	
6	Final Vote	
7	Send to President for Approval	

State Lawmaking

What three choices does the governor have when presented with an approved bill?

Explain or create your own chart to explain how lawmaking works in your state.

Local Lawmaking

How do local governments make laws?

How are ordinances different from laws?