How a bill becomes law

You can
- Search for a bill you are interested in on congress.gov
- Find out where the bill is in the process
- Find committee assignments for your members of Congress on their websites
- Ask your member to support or oppose the bill
- Thank your member of Congress if you like how he or she voted

HOUSE
- New bill introduced
- Referred to committee
- Committee approves bill
- Floor debate
- Passes in full House
- Conference Committee
- Bill signed into law

SENATE
- New bill introduced
- Referred to committee
- Committee approves bill
- Floor debate
- Passes in full Senate

Member of Congress introduces bill that addresses issue important to member or constituents
- Other members of Congress co-sponsor bill, which demonstrates that it has initial support and interest

Congressional committees
- debate, amend and vote on bill
- refine bill with debate from members experienced in relevant topics

All members debate, amend and vote on bill
Committee members resolve differences, if any, between House and Senate bills
President signs bill into law or vetoes it
- If signed, law must be implemented and enforced
- If vetoed, two-thirds majority vote in House and Senate is required to override