

Federal and State Legislative Bodies

Federal Congress

Congress Pennsylvania delegation
18 Congressional Districts
All up for election every even numbered year
2 Senators at large: Sen. Toomey & Sen. Casey

State General Assembly

Pennsylvania General Assembly
203 Districts– 2 year term
50 Senate Districts - 4-year terms
Odd-numbered districts up for election in 2018; Even-numbered districts up for election in 2020

Understanding the Process of How a Bill Becomes Law in Pennsylvania

Bill introduced & referred to Committee
Reported out of Committee
Reported out to the House (or Senate) Floor
Re-referred to Appropriations Committee
Reported out to House (or Senate) Floor
Other chamber; Same process
Concurrence vote in chamber of origin
Conference committee, if that chamber non-concurs
Governor

Same bill must pass both chambers within the same two-year session. Can be amended anywhere in the process

Majority party leadership controls agenda (Republicans in both House (121-82) and Senate (34-16)).

Role of the committee chair

- public hearings
- bringing bill up for consideration (debate and vote)
- need for bipartisan support
- most bills die in committee, never acted on