

Policy Legislation

Authorizing Legislation



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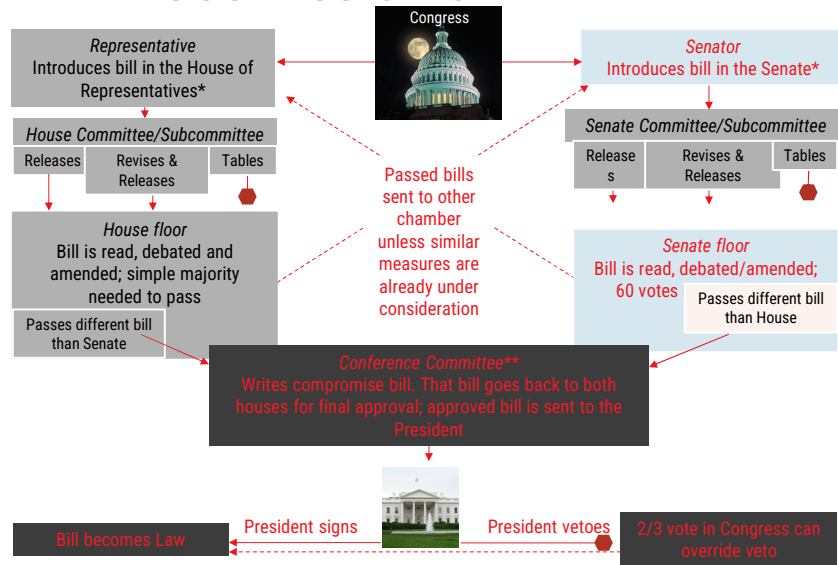
Authorizers vs. Appropriators

- Two main kinds of bills
- Authorizing committees write bills, create federal policy
 - Lists Authorized amounts for each program (how much each program should cost)
- Appropriators actually allocate the funds for each Federal program
- The authorized amount NEVER matches the appropriated amount



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How a Bill Becomes a Law



*Legislation may be introduced in either chamber except for tax law, which must originate in the House

**Most major legislation goes to conference committee; When one chamber passes legislation originating in the other without making changes, bill goes directly to President

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The Committee Process

- Senators and Representatives **“drop a bill”**
- Referred to Committee of Jurisdiction, i.e., if education usually goes to one of the education committees; if spending Appropriations
- Chairman decides which bills to consider, and usually assigns to subcommittee for hearings and **markup**
- Full committee then considers bill, can amend, and passes or defeats the bill
- Members not on the committee can be influential on passage or defeat of a bill



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House Committees

2: Select/Special

- Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party
- Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

5: Joint

- Joint Committee on Printing
- Joint Committee on Taxation
- Joint Committee on the Library
- Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies
- Joint Economic Committee

20: Standing

- Agriculture
- Appropriations
- **Armed Services**
- Budget
- **Education and the Workforce**
- Energy and Commerce
- Ethics
- Financial Services
- Foreign Affairs
- Homeland Security
- House Administration
- Judiciary
- Natural Resources
- Oversight and Accountability
- Rules
- **Science, Space, and Technology**
- Small Business
- Transportation and Infrastructure
- Veterans' Affairs
- Ways and Means



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Senate Committees

5: Select/Special

- Caucus on International Narcotics Control
- Select Committee on Ethics
- Select Committee on Intelligence
- Special Committee on Aging
- Indian Affairs

5: Joint

- Joint Committee on Printing
- Joint Committee on Taxation
- Joint Committee on the Library
- Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies
- Joint Economic Committee

16: Standing

- Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
- Appropriations
- **Armed Services**
- Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
- Budget
- **Commerce, Science, and Transportation**
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Environment and Public Works
- Finance
- Foreign Relations
- **Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions**
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
- Judiciary
- Rules and Administration
- Small Business and Entrepreneurship
- Veterans' Affairs



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Floor Votes & Rules

- House can adopt OPEN or CLOSED Rule
- Senate has open amendment process
 - Requires floor time to pass legislation
 - Must pass CLOTURE to allow vote (ends debate with 60 votes)
- Unanimous Consent – Voice Vote
- Ping Pong
- Pre-Conference



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History of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act

- 1965: President Lyndon B. Johnson signs ESEA into law, which significantly expands the federal role in K-12 education
 - Title I: Signature program aimed at helping districts cover the cost of educating disadvantaged students
- 1970: Congress tightened the reigns by adding “supplement, not supplant” language
 - Federal Title I money shouldn’t replace money spent by states and localities
- 1994: Reauthorization called Improving America’s Schools Act
 - Calls for states to develop standards and aligned tests for all students
- 2002: Reauthorization called No Child Left Behind Act
 - More testing to show adequate yearly progress (AYP)
 - Specific interventions for lack of AYP
 - “Highly qualified” teachers



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Every Student Succeeds Act

- **Background**

- Signed into law in 2015
- Reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and replaces No Child Left Behind
- Designed to increase opportunities for local input and flexible decision making based on what communities and states need

- **Title IV Part A - Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) Grants**

- Flexible block grant program authorized at \$1.6 billion annually through FY 2021
- Three broad areas
 1. Providing students with a **well-rounded education**
 2. Supporting **safe and healthy** students
 3. Supporting the effective use of **technology**



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Every Student Succeeds Act

- **Title IV-B 21st Century Community Learning Centers**

- Competitive block grant program authorized at \$1.1 billion through fiscal year 2020
- Funds educational activities outside of school hours
- Local entities, including both schools and community organizations, compete for grants
- Funds can be used for a variety of activities that support student achievement and success including:
 - STEM Programs
 - Technology Education
 - Career Readiness Programs
 - Mentoring



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CHIPS and Science Act

- Creating Helpful Incentives for the Production of Semiconductors and Science Act
- Background
 - Signed into law in 2022
 - Designed to make the US more competitive in manufacturing semiconductors and in STEM more generally.
 - Focuses on ensuring every person regardless of background have access to and benefit in STEM education and workforce development opportunities
- Title III – National Science Foundation for the Future
 - Provides additional funding and security for research, and attempt to broaden participation in STEM via the NSF



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CHIPS and Science Act

- Title III Section 10311 Part B - Supporting Pre K-12 Informal STEM Opportunities
 - Competitive grant program run by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Funded under NSF's broader appropriation for STEM Education.
 - Funds research into informal STEM Education programs
 - Programs must have a plan for evaluating student outcomes.
- STEM Education Directorate (EDU):
 - Works to develop a well-informed citizenry and a diverse and capable workforce of scientists, technicians, engineers, mathematicians, and educators.
 - Supports STEM education at all educational levels and in a variety of settings, including in robotics programs.
 - Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL) Program
 - Researching effectiveness of informal STEM programs



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National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)

- Initially established as a means to fund military construction in 1961 and is now passed annually
- Responsibility of House and Senate Armed Services Committee
- Has exploded in scope to cover most of the nation's defense programming
 - \$12.5 billion (~\$130 billion in today's dollars) in 1961 to \$874.2 billion today,
- In fiscal year 2023, the Department of Defense awarded more than \$470 billion in contract awards
 - Earmarking ¼ of 1% towards STEM Education would realize \$1.175 billion

