How a Bill Becomes a Law in Ohio

**HOUSE**
- Bill filed with House Clerk, numbered, first consideration (read by title), referred to the House Rules and Reference Committee
- *House Rules and Reference Committee reviews, recommends standing committee assignment
- Second consideration, bill referred to standing committee
- If passed in second house with no changes, bill goes to presiding officers for signature

**Legislator becomes aware of need for legislation**
- Legislator requests LSC to draft a proposed bill or submits draft for LSC review
- LSC drafts proposed bill for introduction in either house
- **Standing committee: holds public hearings; may amend or create a substitute bill; may refer to subcommittee, or postpone, defeat, or favorably report bill. May be discharged of further consideration of bill.**
- If passed in first house, bill is sent to second house where process is repeated

**SENATE**
- Bill filed with Senate Clerk, numbered, first consideration (read by title), referred to the Senate Rules and Reference Committee
- *Senate Rules and Reference Committee reviews, recommends standing committee assignment
- Second consideration, bill referred to standing committee
- If passed in second house with amendments, bill returns to first house for concurrence
- If first house does not concur and second house insists on its amendments, conference committee may be appointed (three members from each house); committee makes changes to resolve differences in bill and reports back to both houses

**Third consideration, floor debate, and vote**
- If first house concurs, bill goes to presiding officers for signature
- Bill signed by Speaker of House and President of Senate and becomes an act
- Act presented to Governor
- If Governor does not sign or veto within ten days after presentation (excluding Sundays), act becomes law without Governor’s signature
- Act filed with Secretary of State for final enrollment; effective 91 days after filing. Emergency, current appropriation, and tax levy legislation effective immediately

*Source: Legislative Service Commission (LSC)*