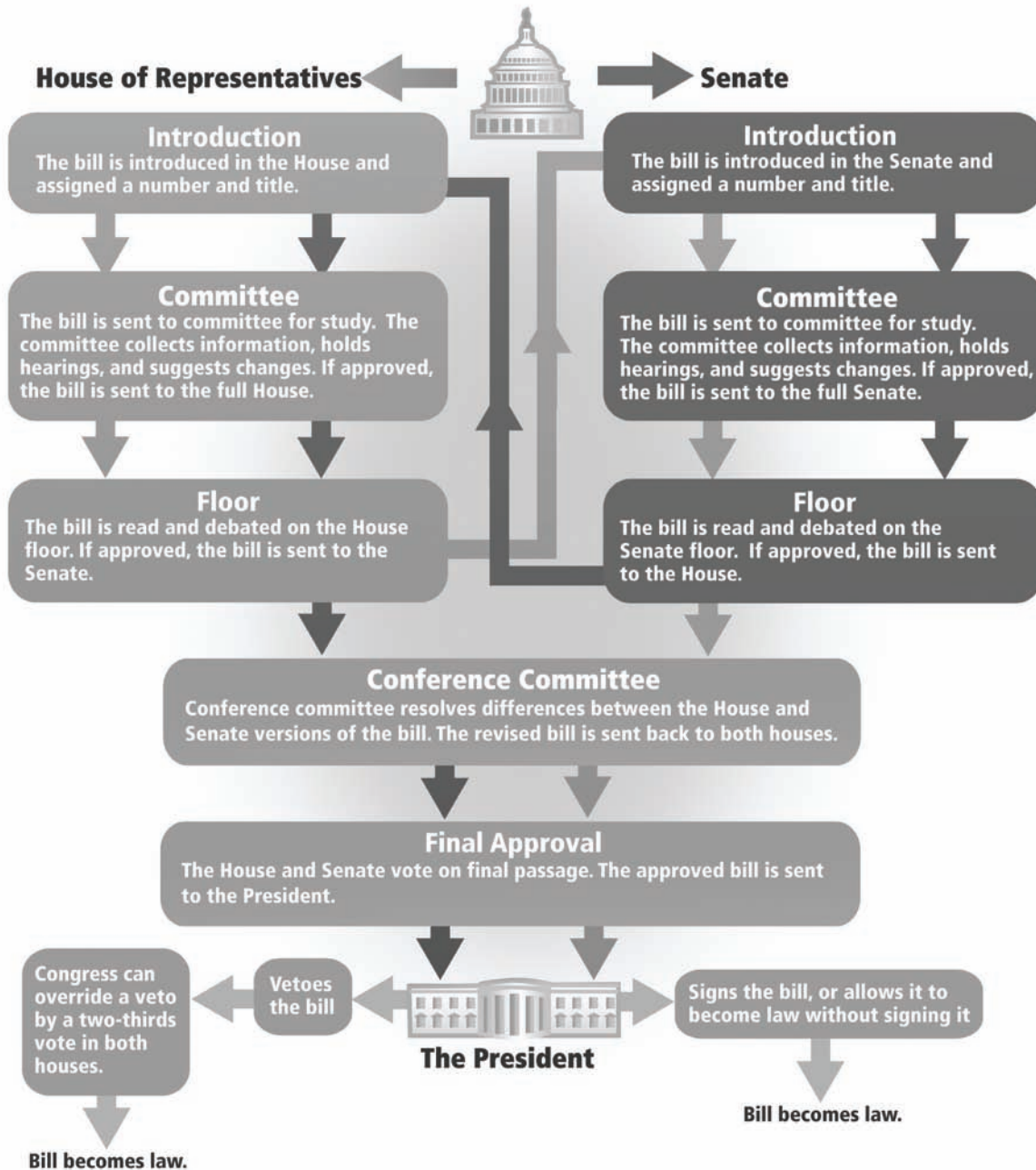


## How a Bill Becomes a Law: Reading a Diagram

The diagram below shows the steps by which a bill passes through the House of Representatives and the Senate before it is sent to the President for signature. Study the diagram and review the information in Chapter 8, Sections 3 and 4. Then, answer the questions that follow.



1. Where can a bill be introduced?

---

---

2. What happens to a bill after it is introduced in the House of Representatives? In the Senate?

---

---

---

3. What happens when a bill goes to committee?

---

---

4. What happens in the House or the Senate right before a vote on a bill is taken?

---

---

---

5. What happens if the House and the Senate approve similar, but not identical, bills?

---

---

---

6. Why do you think a bill has to go through all these steps before it is voted on?

---

---

---

7. How can the President show disapproval of a bill that has been passed by Congress?

---

8. **Tracking a bill** Investigate the progress of a bill from its introduction in the House or Senate until it becomes a law. On the Internet, go to the Library of Congress Web site at [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov). Click on "Bill Summary & Status" under the Heading "LEGISLATION." Scroll down to the heading "Stage in Legislative Process." Select "Signed by President" in the window under this heading. You will have to scroll down in the window to find it. Click on the Search button.

Choose a bill that interests you. Click on the highlighted number of that bill, and then on "All Bill Summary & Status Info." Collect your information, compile it in either a flowchart or a short report, and share what you have learned with the class. Include the steps through which the bill passed, the committees and dates, and the number of this public law.