

Chambers of Government

- There are two chambers: the Senate and House of Representatives
- The originating chamber is where the bill is first introduced; the House or the Senate could be the originating chamber.
- The second chamber is the other chamber that the bill also has to go through.

For example, Michigan’s 2024 Sex Ed Bill (HB 6068), originated in the House.
The second chamber is the Senate.

Senators vs. Representatives

Total Number of Senators:

38

Term Length for Senators:

4 years

Term Limit for Senators:

2 terms (maximum 8 years total, must win 2 elections)

Total Number of Representatives:

110

Term Length for Senators:

2 years

Term Limit for Senators:

3 terms (maximum 6 years total, must win 3 elections)

Find Your Senator

Find Your Representative

Committee vs. Floor

A *committee* is a small group of select legislators who debate, possibly amend, and vote on a bill before it reaches the chamber floor. Each chamber has multiple committees focused on specific issues (i.e. education, health policy, and families, children, and seniors).

A chamber floor refers to all the legislators of that chamber who debate and vote on a bill after it has successfully passed the corresponding chamber committee. In other words, the MI House Floor consists of all MI House Reps, and the MI Senate Floor consists of all MI Senators.

Committee Chairs

heads of committees that decide the schedule and agenda for committee meetings (i.e. if and when a bill gets debated and voted on in committee)

Floor Leaders

heads of the chamber floor that decide the schedule and agenda for floor meetings (i.e. if and when a bill gets debated on the floor)

House Floor Leaders

Senate Floor Leaders



Michigan state legislator **introduces** a bill and the bill is assigned to a relevant committee

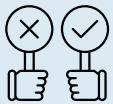
→ 1st Reading



Select legislators in the **originating chamber committee** debate, possibly amend, and vote on the bill*

→ 2nd Reading

→ 3rd Reading

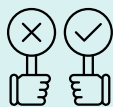


***ONLY if the committee chair puts it on the schedule;** each amendment is voted on separately

only if **51% or more** legislators in committee **vote yes**



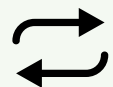
All legislators on **originating chamber floor** debate, possibly amend, & vote on bill*



***ONLY if the floor leader puts it on the schedule;** each amendment is voted on separately

only if **51% or more** legislators on the floor **vote yes**

Repeat steps 2 & 3 in the **second chamber***



***if the other chamber proposes amendment(s), the bill must go back to originating chamber to be resolved**

only if **51% or more** legislators in each the committee & floor **vote yes**



Bill reaches **Governor's Desk** to be signed into law or vetoed **if Governor votes NO**

only if Governor **signs** the bill OR if at least **2/3rds** of the legislature **votes** to override the Governor's veto



If not vetoed, **bill becomes law!**