

# How Does a Bill Become State Law?

Using the Mass. Union rent reform bill as an example, the chart below shows you how a bill becomes law.

**1994**

**December**

Rent reform **bill filed.**

**1995**

**January**

Bill given number (S. 601) and referred to **Committee on Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

**March**

HUD **Committee holds public hearing** & MUPHT testifies.

**April**

HUD **Committee reports bill out favorably** to Senate Ways & Means

**November**

**Senate Ways & Means** redrafts bill, renumbers it S. 2108, and reports it out favorably to the Senate.

**1996**

**January**

**Senate unanimously passes bill**, amends it, and sends to Senate Committee on 3rd Reading.

**April**

**Senate 3rd Reading** gives bill back to full Senate with favorably report.

**April**

**Full Senate unanimously passes bill.**

## NEXT STEPS

Bill goes to **House Ways & Means**. House Ways & Means votes on bill.

Bill goes to **full House** and then **House Committee on 3rd Reading** and back to **full House**.

House and Senate **Conference Committee** work out any differences between House & Senate bills.

**Governor signs.**

