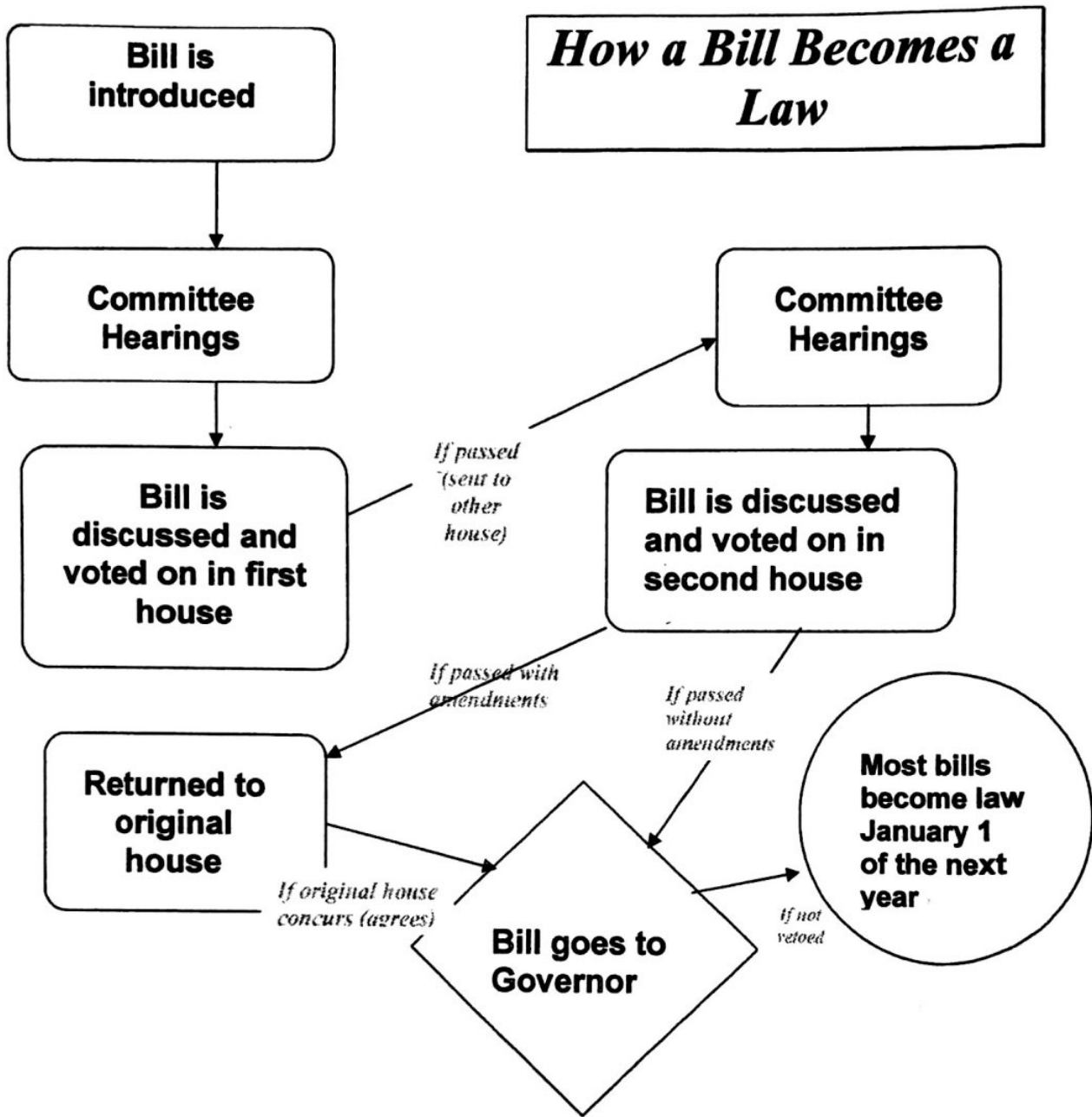


Class Set!

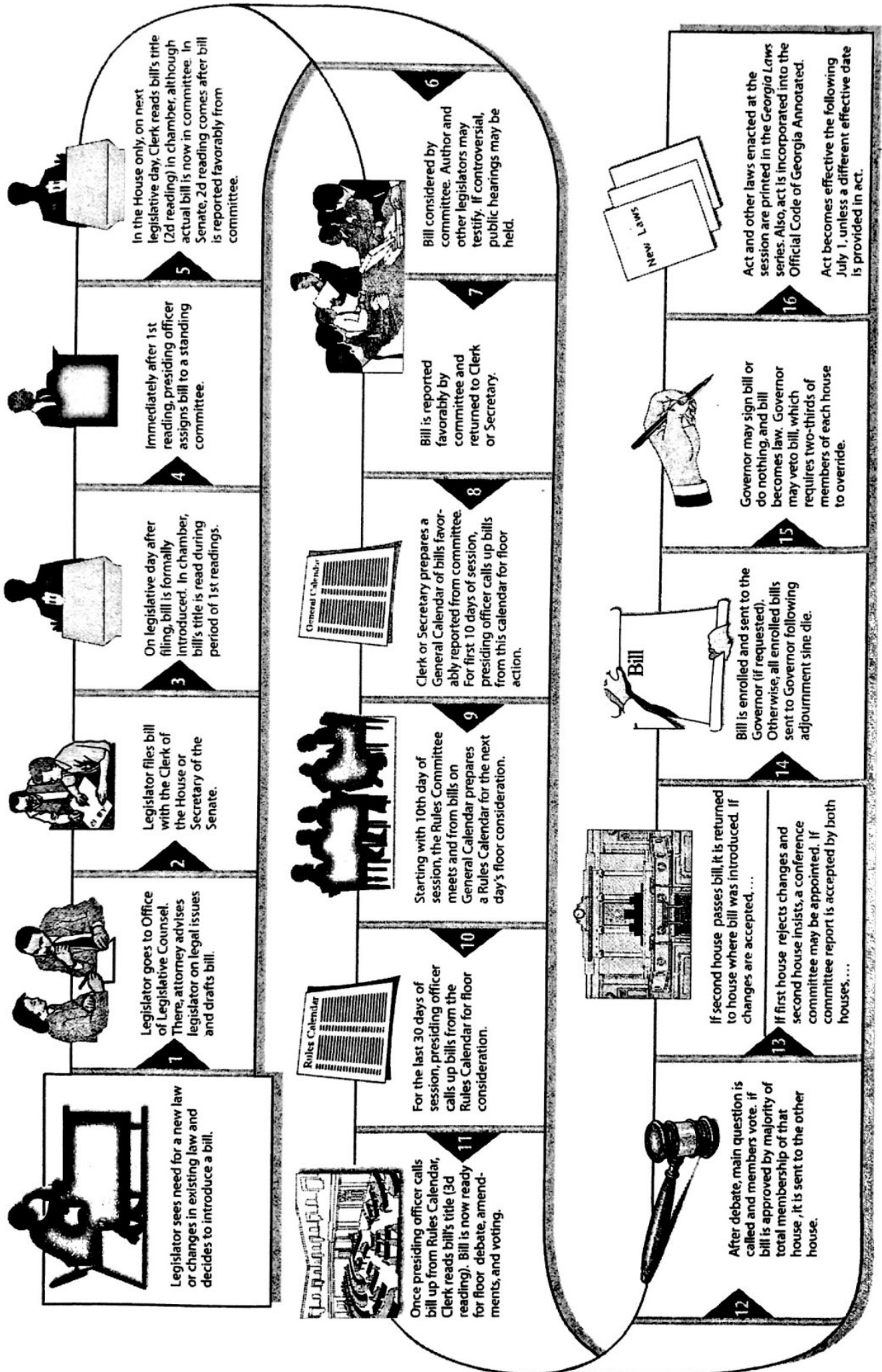


The Georgia General Assembly meets every year from the second Monday in January for a session that lasts 40 days. There are two elected houses called the State Legislature. The House of Representatives has 180 members; the State Senate has 56 members:

In order for a bill (a legislator's idea) to become law, both houses must agree (vote) on the same version of the bill. This bill must go through the same process in both the House and the Senate. The bill must get at least 91 votes in the House and 29 votes in the Senate.

Once it is passed by both houses, it goes to the governor. He may sign it or he may leave it alone for 10 days after which it automatically becomes a law. If he vetoes it, both houses may vote to override the veto by a 2/3 majority in each house. It then becomes a law without the signature of the governor.

How a Bill Is Passed in the Georgia Legislature



HOW a BILL BECOMES a LAW

Fill in the blanks:

1. There are ____ houses of Georgia government that make laws for the state.
2. One of these houses is called the _____, and the other is called the _____.
3. These houses are part of the state legislature known as the Georgia _____.
4. Once a legislator gets an idea for a new law, the first thing they must do is _____.
5. When the bill is filed and given a number, it is _____ the next day and assigned to a _____. This is where the bill is _____ and then _____.
6. The bill is given a number and put on the calendar. When the time comes, it is _____ before the original house and then the legislators _____ on it.
7. If it passes, it goes to the _____.
8. In this place, it must begin with _____, and then it is assigned to a _____. After that it is _____ and _____.
9. There are three things that might happen here (#7). One of them is that it can be _____; another is that it could be _____; and the last is that it could be _____.
10. If it is _____, it goes back to the original house. . (It will be voted on again since the identical bill must pass both houses to go any further.)
11. If it is _____, it is "dead" as a law for this year.
12. If it is _____, it is sent to the governor.
13. If the governor _____ the bill it becomes a law.
14. If the governor _____ the bill it becomes a law.

15. If the governor _____ the bill it does not become a law, but it can become a law if _____.

16. If the bill does not become a law the first year it is presented, it _____ (can, cannot) be presented to the law-making body in a future year.

17. A legislator who presents a bill before the law-making body of government is called the _____ of the bill.

18. True or False: Only a legislator can think of an idea for a bill.

19. True or False: To amend a bill is to change or add to the bill.

20. True or False: Only legislators may vote on bills.

Bonus: (+1 for each correct answer)

Give the name of each house and the number of members in each one.

House	members
_____	_____
_____	_____

Word Bank

Amended

Amended

Being filed

Can

Committee

Committee

Defeated

Defeated

Discussed

Discussed

Discussed/debated

Does not sign

General Assembly

House of Representatives

Other house

Passed

Passed

Read

Senate

Signs

Sponsor

Take it to the legislative counsel to be written

Two

Two-thirds of each house votes to override the veto

Vetoes

Vote

Voted on

Voted on