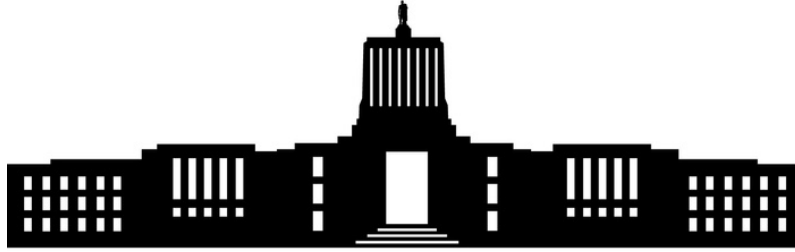




Read the short story below and use context clues to guess the meanings of the underlined words:

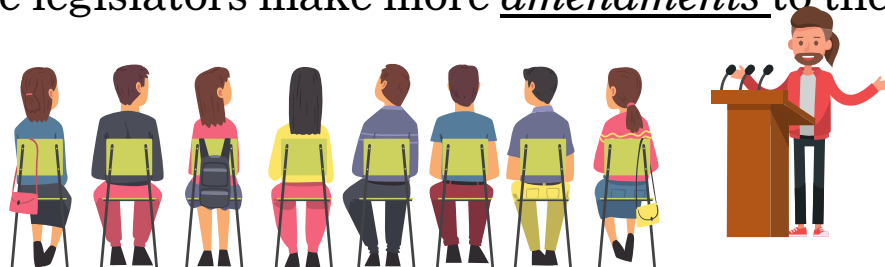


Last week, Representative Smith sponsored a bill in the House of Representatives. The debate around it was lively. It seemed like every legislator had a strong opinion. Some were for it, some were against it.



It went to committee to be discussed more. In committee, Representative Nguyen had ideas for changes to the bill, and it was amended. The committee had a hearing to find out what the public thought of the bill. Many people testified, and shared their opinions.

This helped the legislators make more amendments to the bill.



The bill went back to the House for a vote. It passed! The majority of Representatives said yes to the bill. Now, Rep. Smith has to wait to see if the Senators agree. If the bill passes in the Senate, too, the Governor could sign it to make it a law. If the Governor doesn't like the bill, she might veto it, and Rep. Smith would have to start again.

Match the words in the box below to their definitions in the dotted box at the bottom of the page:

Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sponsor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bill	<input type="checkbox"/>
Debate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Legislator	<input type="checkbox"/>	Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Testify	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>	Majority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Senator	<input type="checkbox"/>
Law	<input type="checkbox"/>	Veto	<input type="checkbox"/>		

- A. More than half
- B. Someone sharing their opinion on a bill
- C. Person who introduces a bill
- D. Saying 'yes' or 'no' to a bill officially
- E. A rule
- F. Idea for a law
- G. Not approve
- H. Someone who works in the Senate
- I. Someone who works in the House of Representatives
- J. A group of legislators who discuss bills
- K. Someone who works in the Legislature
- L. A meeting to find out the public's thoughts
- M. A change
- N. Arguing for or against a bill



## **WORD BANK**

Law	Debate	Amendment
Legislator	Bill	Committee
Hearing		

Fill in the blank with the best match from the word bank

My mom, Representative Garcia, works at the Capitol and helps make laws. My mom works as a \_\_\_\_\_. My neighbor thought it would be a good idea to make sure everyone wears their seatbelt when driving. He talked with my mom about how this idea might be made into a \_\_\_\_\_ to help keep everyone safe. Mom said she would share the ideas with other legislators and sponsor a \_\_\_\_\_. The bill was assigned to a \_\_\_\_\_. A \_\_\_\_\_ was scheduled to hear all opinions. After the hearing, a few changes, or \_\_\_\_\_ were made to the bill.

After the majority of the committee voted yes, it was time for legislators to \_\_\_\_\_ the pros and cons of the bill. The House chamber voted, and the bill was approved. The bill then moved to the Senate chamber for the same process of committee hearings, debate, and voting.



# My Bill

## **WORD BANK**

Veto

Sponsor

Senator

Testify

Vote

Majority

I had a great idea that should be a law. I want restaurants to be able to donate the food they don't use at the end of the day. I looked up which Senate district I live in, and wrote a letter to my \_\_\_\_\_ explaining my idea. She said she would \_\_\_\_\_ the bill in the Senate! When the bill went to committee, I came to the Capitol to \_\_\_\_\_ and show my support. Many other people supported the bill in the hearing. The committee voted, and the bill passed with a \_\_\_\_\_ of the votes. The bill will go to the House of Representatives for the same process. The House will \_\_\_\_\_ to see if my bill passes. If it does, the Governor can sign it to make it a law, or \_\_\_\_\_ it to reject it. I really hope it becomes a law!



Oh no! Two House and Senate Aides bumped into each other on the way to their hearings, and mixed up all their papers!

Can you match the bills to their committees?



Energy and  
Environment

**HB01**  
This bill requires all schools to double the amount of recess time for students

Health  
Care

**SB71**  
This bill starts construction on a high speed train

Education

**SB05**  
This bill requires all public buildings to have solar panels

Transportation

**HB23**  
This bill creates a study on mental health support in Oregon

# Whew! All sorted out! Now we can start the hearing. Choose a bill and testify to the committee

## Helpful Sentence Frames:

I think this bill is a good/bad idea, because \_\_\_\_\_.

I support/oppose this bill.

This bill will help \_\_\_\_ / This bill will harm \_\_\_\_\_.

This bill needs an amendment, you should change \_\_\_\_\_.

.

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Name

I am writing about bill number \_\_\_\_\_.

Bill number

Thank you,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your name