How an Idea Becomes a Law

Concerned Citizens suggest legislation.

Representative submits the idea to bill drafting.

Bill Drafting writes the bill so the representative can file it.

Committees & Subcommittees (Members of the Florida House of Representatives) may discuss the bill, amend the bill, hear public testimony, and vote on the bill.

Speaker of the House refers the bill to committees, subcommittees, or the House Calendar.

Clerk's Office "reads" (publishes) the bill the first time in the Journal.

The Bill is placed on the House Calendar.

Rules & Policy Committee places the bill on the Special Order Calendar to be considered for action in the House Chamber.

House Chamber reads the bill a second & third time — this is when the members may amend, debate and vote on the bill.

The Governor receives the bill when it passes both houses. He can (1) sign the bill, (2) allow it to become law without a signature, or (3) veto (reject) the bill.

The Senate takes the bill through a similar process, passes the companion bill, and returns the bill with a message to the House.

The House sends the bill to the Senate with a message stating the House passed the bill and would like for the Senate to do the same.

Law!