

LEGISLATIVE STRATEGY WORKSHEET

Favoring passage:

HOUSE

- Any member can introduce the bill by dropping it into the hopper.
- Once the bill is introduced, the speaker of the house needs to refer it to a committee, probably the education committee.
- Would want to consult with the current head of the education committee Bobby Scott (D-VA) to let him know the bill we want to draft and introduce is going to be sent to his committee. (Assumption is that speaker is behind us on this legislation.)
- Bill might be referred to a committee/subcommittee but this is not required.
- Subcommittee is where most bills die. To prevent this, we will advocate for the legislation?
- After getting through subcommittee process, by getting a majority vote (50+1), there will be a committee report
- After committee consideration, majority and minority leaders may make further changes to the bill.
- Next we will go to the rules committee-- which is a process for how the rule is going to be debated on the floor. The rules committee chairman is one of the most powerful persons in the House.
 - Speaker picks the members of the rules committee
- Trying to decrease the amount of amendments the bill would have, essentially a rule that structures the debate to preclude "silly stuff"-- a **closed rule**
- Now we get to the house floor. Debating the content of the rule.
 - Committee of the Whole
 - The chair of the committee of the whole is usually going to be the chair of the committee that brought the bill, in this case Bobby Scott. He will manage the bill on the floor and control the time allotted to the majority.
- There is a record of the committee of the whole because there may be a card/tally vote. Doesn't have to be a tally, because you can just get a "yay" "nay" vote
- If there is a majority vote, we move to the senate.

SENATE

- Introduce the bill by offering it to the appropriate clerk
- Once they are introduced, it must be referred to a committee/subcommittee, typically by the senate Parliamentarians office (lawyer, not elected).
- We want a single referral because the more decision makers makes it harder for decisions to get made. A bill may be referred to one committee if the majority of its provisions relate to the committees subject matter.

- After post committee changes, you move to “unanimous consent agreements”. Typically the person you are negotiating with is generally the person you oppose, so senate majority and minority. Any senator may object to a UC.
- To bypass threats to filibuster the bill, we would try and gain the 60 votes that are required for **cloture**
- Now we are on the floor of the Senate. A cloture petition requires the signature of at least 16 senators. 30 hour limitation on debate.
- After cloture motion/post cloture debate/record of the debate-- we move to House and Senate Agreement.

Opposing passage:

- Poison amendment during markup, no record of markup, protects person who recommended changes
- Open rule for debate
- Move to change language of bill during the Committee of the Whole markups, no record of who voted for what
- Committee Report subject to filibuster in Senate
- Senator can oppose a rule by filibustering, it just takes one, would have to vote to end
- Wait out the legislation session