HOW THE LEGISLATURE WORKS

Georgia elects from two houses

236 LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

56 SENATORS
2 year terms

180 HOUSE MEMBERS
2 year terms

LEGISLATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR

Drafting & introducing bills

Debating the merits of bills

Voting to pass or kill bills
How a bill becomes a law

**Georgia Legislator Introduces a Bill**

*If senator, moves through senate

**If house member, moves through house

**Senate**

Bill assigned to committee(s)

**Committee Vote**

PASS

FAIL

**Senate Floor Vote**

PASS

FAIL

Bill moves to House

**Bill Passes in Both Houses**

**Governor**

Veto

Pocket Veto

If the bill is sent during the legislative session, the Governor has six days to veto, or reject, the bill. If transmitted on the last day of session, he has 40 days to veto a bill. The General Assembly may override gubernatorial vetoes with two-thirds majority votes in each house during the next legislative session.

If the Governor neither approves nor vetoes the bill before the deadline, then the bill is approved by default in a procedure known as a pocket veto.

**House**

Bill assigned to committee(s)

**Committee Vote**

PASS

FAIL

**House Floor Vote**

PASS

FAIL

Bill moves to Senate

**Bill Becomes Law!**

* Bills that start with “SB” are introduced in the Senate.
** Bills that start with “HB” are introduced in the House.