



## SENATE



### 50 Senators

The Lt. Governor is considered the President of the Senate and is elected statewide; however, the President Pro Tempore serves as the highest-ranking member.

Members serve two-year terms and most receive **\$13,951 annually**, a monthly expense allowance of \$559, and an in-session subsistence allowance of \$104 per day.

## HOUSE



### 120 Representatives

The members of the House of Representatives elect a Speaker, who becomes the presiding officer.



A Bill can be introduced by a member of the House or the Senate and is then assigned to a committee for review.



Once the bill has been adopted by the originating chamber, the same process occurs again in the second chamber.



Once legislation has been adopted by the chambers, the Governor can sign a bill into law; let it become law without their signature; or veto the legislation.

**NOTE:**  
If a tie occurs during the process, the Lt. Governor can vote to tip the balance in the Senate.

\* It takes 3/5 of the members present and voting to override a gubernatorial veto. If everyone is present and voting, that is 30 senators and 72 representatives.



If a bill passes the second chamber without being changed in the legislative process, it goes to the Governor for their consideration.

- \* If a bill is changed in the second chamber and passes, it goes back to the originating chamber for their consideration. If they agree with the changes, they vote, and it goes to the Governor for their consideration.
- \* If a bill is changed in the second chamber and the originating chamber doesn't agree with the changes, they can attempt to work out the differences in a final version, which then cannot be amended.



A final vote from both chambers will determine if a bill passes into law.



### The Appropriations Act

Similar to other legislation, the appropriations process begins near the start of session. In the first year of the term, they adopt a two-year budget in the long-session. In the second year of the biennium, legislators make adjustments to the first year's budget.



When the General Assembly is in session, legislators typically meet Monday evening, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. The long-session occurs in odd-numbered years, following the most recent November elections. It begins in January and continues until they decide to adjourn. The short-session begins in April of the next year and tends to be several months in length.