Legislation may begin in either chamber. Similar proposals are often introduced in both chambers.

- Measure introduced in the House
  - Measure referred to committee, which holds hearings and reports measure to the House
    - OR
      - For important measures, special rule reported by the Rules Committee and adopted by the House
  - Leadership schedules measure for floor consideration
    - House debates and can amend measure
    - House passes measure

- Measure introduced in the Senate
  - Measure referred to committee, which holds hearings and reports measure to the Senate
  - Leadership schedules measure for floor consideration
    - Senate debates and can amend measure
  - Senate passes measure

Measures must pass both the House and the Senate in identical form before being presented to the President.

- One chamber agrees to the other chamber’s version
  - House approves conference report
- Each chamber appoints Members to a conference committee, which reconciles differences and agrees to a conference report
  - Senate approves conference report
- House and Senate exchange amendments to bill and reach agreement

Legislation presented to the President.

- President signs measure
  - Measure becomes law
- If President does not sign measure into law within 10 days
  - If Congress is in session, measure becomes law
  - If Congress is not in session, measure does not become law ("pocket veto")
- President vetoes measure
  - Measure does not become law, unless both chambers override veto by 2/3 majority