

# **Legislation Update and Discussion**

- 
- Where we are in Legislative Calendar
  - Review and discussion of major bills still in play
  - Discussion of your community's top concerns going into the end of this session and looking ahead to next session



- **Where we are in Legislative Calendar**

- What major bills are still in play

- Discussion of your community's top concerns going into the end of this session and looking ahead

# Two Year Legislative Calendar

Jan 2, 2019	Two year calendar begins within 3 weeks Governor submits budget proposal
Feb 1, 2019	Last day for cosponsors on timely filed bills in HOUSE (senate can file later)
Apr 24, 2019	Last day to report on proposals for constitutional amendments HWM releases budget proposal and House debates it in April SWM releases budget proposal and House debates it in May
Nov 20, 2019	Last day of formal sessions in 1 <sup>st</sup> annual session
Dec 31, 2019	Last day of session in 1 <sup>st</sup> annual session
Jan 1, 2020	1 <sup>st</sup> formal session of 2 <sup>nd</sup> annual session within 3 weeks Governor submits budget proposal
Feb 5, 2020	Last day for reports from Joint Committees (aka Joint Rule 10) HWM releases budget proposal and House debates it in April SWM releases budget proposal and House debates it in May
<b>July 31, 2020</b>	<b>Last day for formal sessions in 2<sup>nd</sup> annual session</b>
Jan 5, 2020	Last day of session in 2 <sup>nd</sup> annual session

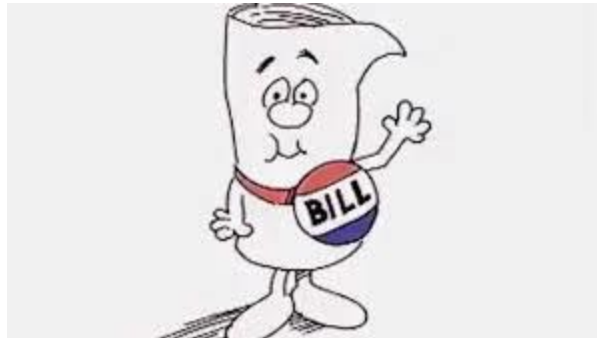
More details at <https://malegislature.gov/ClerksOffice/House/Deadlines>

# Two Year Legislative Calendar

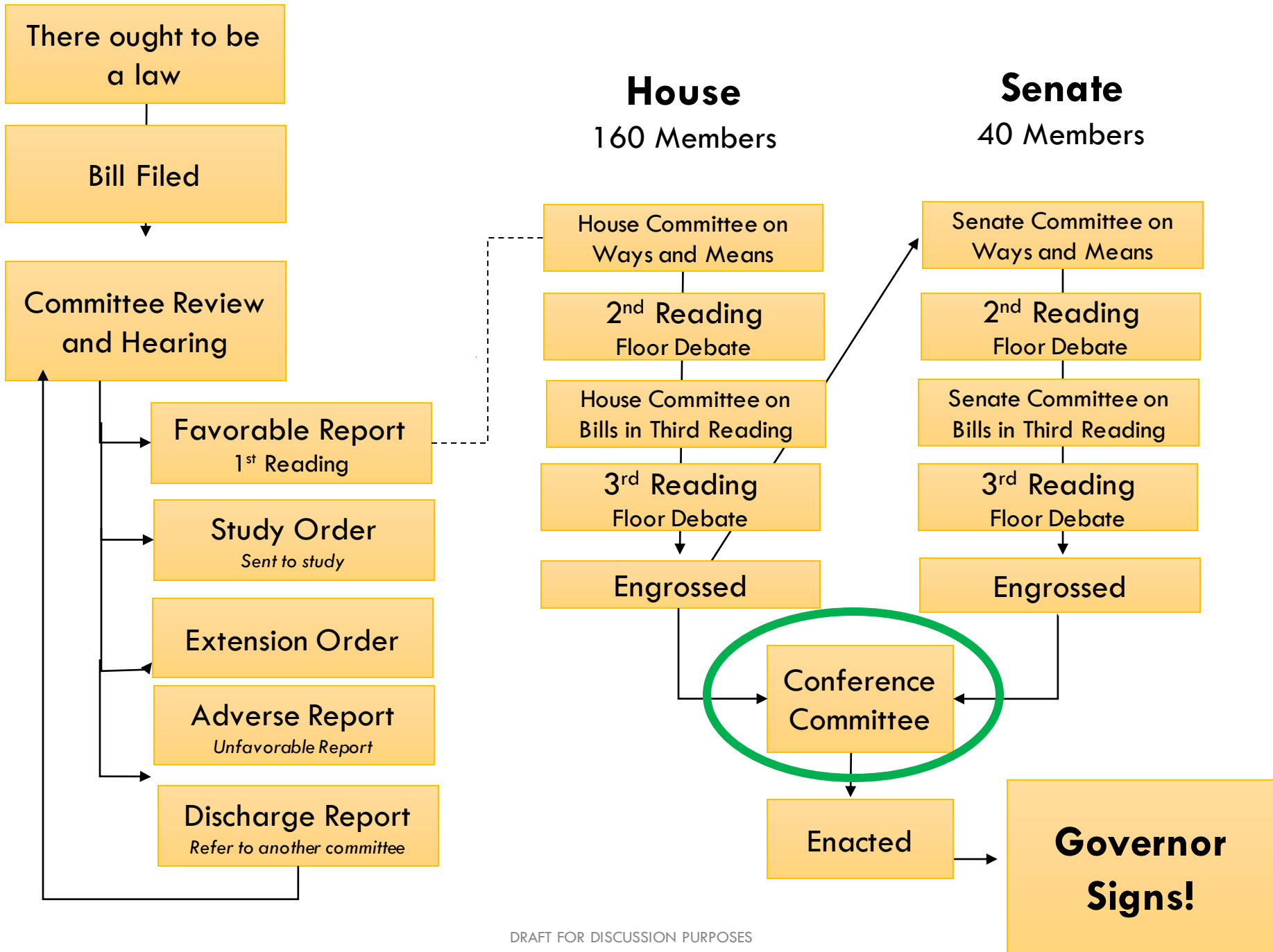
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What's a major bill?





# Conference Committees

## Conference Committees

- 3 members from each chamber (2 majority party, 1 minority party)
- Approval of at least 2 members of each chamber required for a valid report
- Their reports **MAY NOT** be amended

# Major Bills in Conference Committee

**Economic Development  
Bond Bill**

**Transportation Bond Bill**

**Police Reform Legislation**

**Climate Legislation**

**Health Care Legislation**

# FY21 Budget: Not in Conference Committee but still important

Like many bills, the budget has multiple sections

- SECTION 2 has line items with language indicating how they're spent
- The other sections are generally referred to as "outside sections".
  - Originally designed to be a "controlling measure" that is associated with a line-item, these now contain policies that may not be connected to the budget at all.

Amendments

- Each branch will typically file +1,000 amendments during their debates
- HWM and SWM rely on legislators' input to prioritize spending

**In a usual year:**

- **HWM debates** end of April
- **SWM debates** end of May

**This year:**

- Budget debate has not yet occurred
- Partial budget to fund through 10/31
- Consensus revenue hearing in October

# District Local Technical Assistance

- **Requesting \$3 million**
- DLTA funding helps cities and towns throughout the state expand what they can do, enabling them to take on projects they don't have the capacity to complete on their own.
- At least half of Massachusetts communities don't have professional planners to help shape their future economic development, transportation, housing, green spaces, and town facilities.
- Small but impactful increase to funding source available statewide.

# Not quite done yet: Governor's Actions

Governor has 10 days to act

**Sign the bill,  
making it law**

## **Amendment**

- Returns the bill to chamber that gave the bill its 1<sup>st</sup> reading

## **Veto**

- Returns the bill to chamber that gave the bill its 1<sup>st</sup> reading

## **No action**

- Bill becomes law

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# Thank You!

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