

# Branches of Government & How a Bill Becomes a Law

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## LEARNING OBJECTIVE

---

The student will diagram the three branches of government and the legislative process using a hands-on flowchart.

## MATERIALS NEEDED

---

- paper
- ruler
- colored pencils
- index cards
- string or yarn (optional)

## HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

---

1. Draw a large 3-column chart labeled Legislative, Executive, and Judicial, and list the main role and one key power of each branch.
2. On separate index cards, write each of the following steps out of order: Bill Introduced, Committee Review, House Vote, Senate Vote, President Signs/Vetoes, Becomes Law.
3. Physically arrange the index cards in the correct order on a table or floor, then connect them with string or drawn arrows to form a flowchart.
4. Glue or tape the ordered cards onto a poster or paper to create a permanent flowchart, adding a one-sentence explanation under each step.
5. Add a 'Checks and Balances' note on your chart showing one way each branch can limit the power of another (e.g., presidential veto, judicial review, Senate confirmation).

## QUESTIONS

---

1. What is one key power of each of the three branches of government?
- 

2. List the 6 steps of how a bill becomes a law in the correct order.
- 

3. Give one example of checks and balances from your chart.
-

---

**4. Why did the framers of the Constitution divide government power into three separate branches?**

---