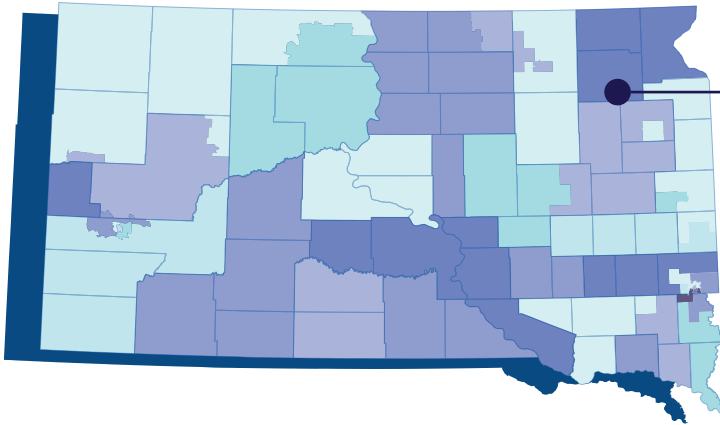





MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

A Guide to the South Dakota Legislature

HOW THE LEGISLATURE WORKS

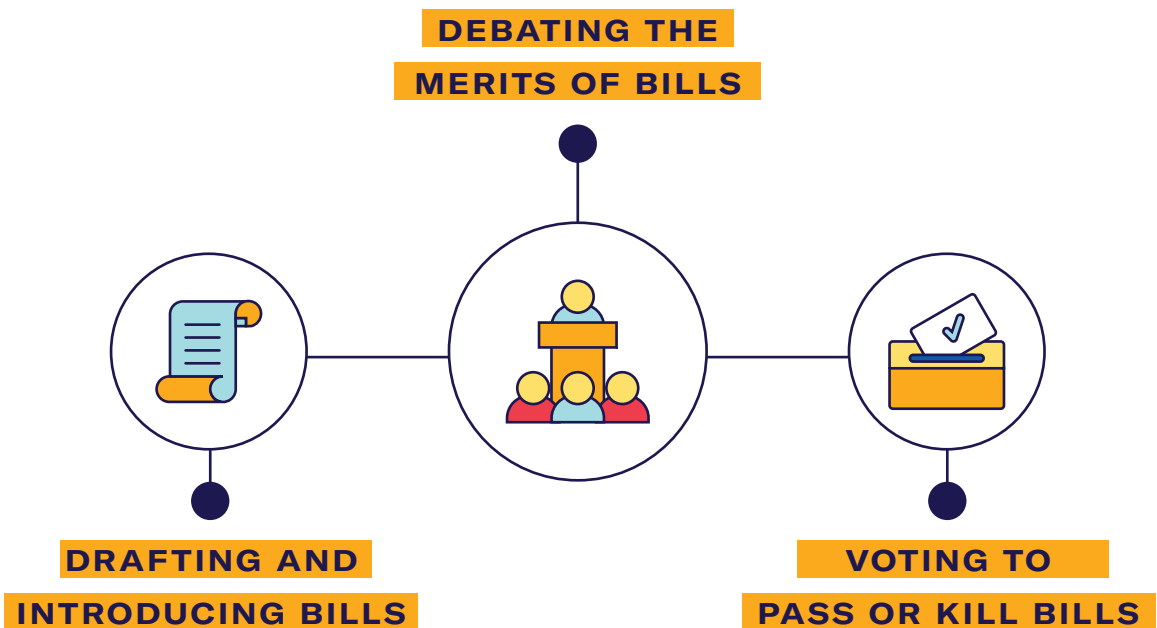


35
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

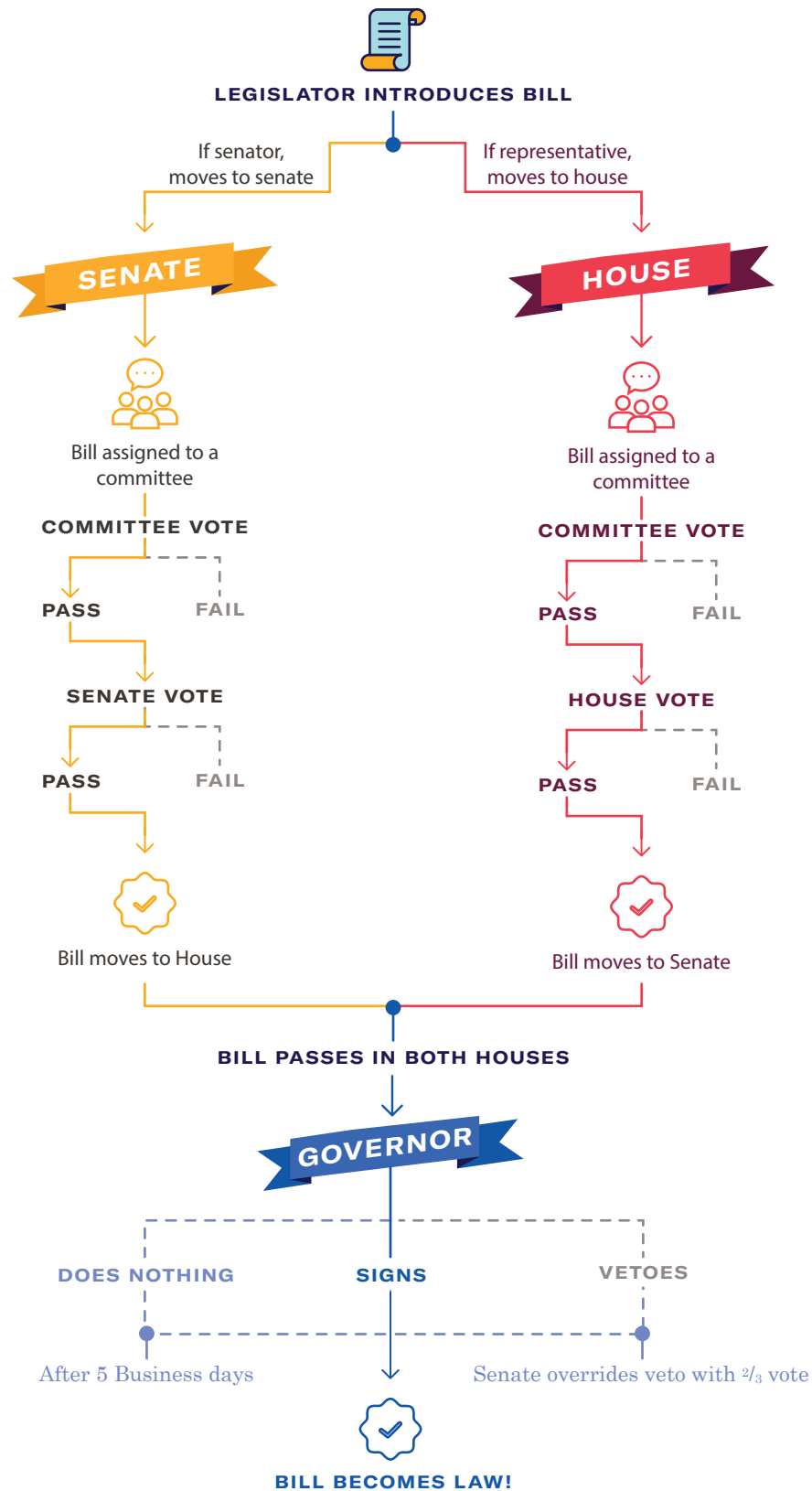
District boundaries change with the U.S. Census 

 SOUTH DAKOTA ELECTS **35** AND **70**
SENATORS REPRESENTATIVES

LEGISLATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR



HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW



LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY



ELECTED OFFICIALS

CONSTITUENTS

— If legislators don't hear from you, they assume you approve of their actions.

WAYS TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR



CALL THEM OR WRITE THEM



- ✔ **TIP 1**
Know your district and name of your legislator
- ✔ **TIP 2**
Plan out what you will say
- ✔ **TIP 3**
Remember to mention the bill number (if there is one) and why you are calling or writing

- ✔ **TIP 4**
Make it short and sweet and get to your point quickly
- ✔ **TIP 5**
Tell a personal story they can connect to
- ✔ **TIP 6**
Problem, solution, action (ie. "Vote yes on HB xxxx!")



MEET THEM IN PERSON



STEP ONE
Schedule your meeting



STEP TWO
Be flexible and patient



STEP THREE
Prepare and educate yourself and establish a clear goal



STEP FOUR
Follow up and say thank you!

**FIRST THINGS FIRST,
RESEARCH YOUR LEGISLATOR**

WWW.SDLEGISLATURE.GOV



**CONNECT WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS
EARLY AND OFTEN**

IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY



WRITE A **LETTER TO THE EDITOR**



SPREAD THE WORD

Talk with friends and family on social media or in person. Don't be afraid to talk politics, it's important.



WRITE AN **OP-ED**



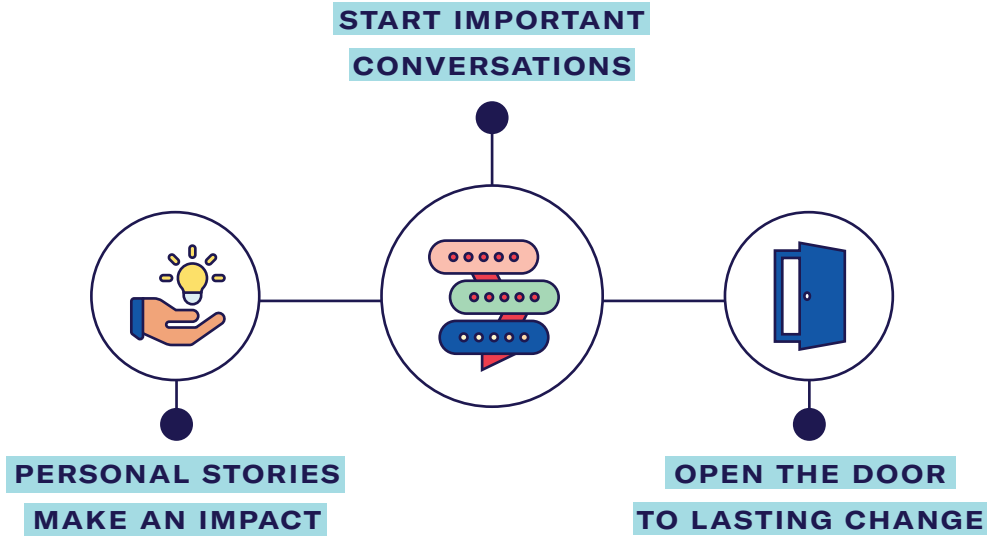
JOIN A **CAUSE** OR ORGANIZATION

→ ATTEND LEGISLATIVE COFFEES  OR CRACKER BARRELS



PUBLIC MARCH OR **PROTEST**

WHY IS SHARING YOUR STORY IMPORTANT?



SHOWING UP IS VITAL. NO MATTER HOW YOU DO IT.

Your efforts, stories, and voices are what will **chip** away at the **boulder of inequality.**

