

Committee Voting Procedures

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CMC

Basic Steps

1. Write Bill
2. Introduce Bill
3. Introduction Amendments
4. Motion for Previous Question/Lay on the Table

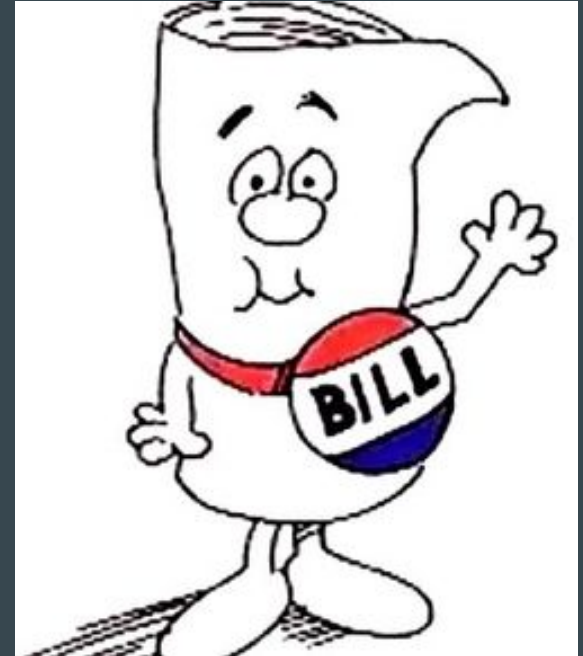
What Could Happen:

- Objection to Consideration
- Divide the Question
- Pass by Acclamation



Writing the Bill

- Parts Review
 - Title
 - Preamble
 - Content
 - Definitions
 - Enforcement
 - Funding
- Signatories=Delegates who want to see debated
- Sponsors=Authors
- When?
 - Mods
 - Speaker's List
 - UNMODS ESPECIALLY



Introduction of a Bill

Before the Motion:

- Required Signatories
 - Senate: 6
 - House: 10
- Submit to Chair
- Wait for approval

A large, stylized cursive signature of John Hancock, written in black ink. The signature is highly decorative, with long, sweeping lines and a prominent circular flourish at the end.

Motion:

- 1 Speaker For || 1 Speaker Against -----> Don't speak on the content of the bill
- Requires support of 1/3 of voting members

Introduction of a Bill–What Happens Next?

- Read for the committee
- New Speaker's List opened
- Amendments may be introduced
- No time limit
- Continues until Motion for Previous Question/Lay on the Table



Introduction of an Amendment

- Why?
 - Change a bill that has already been introduced
- Before Motion:
 - Write amendment
 - Find Signatories
 - House: 8
 - Senate: 2
 - **Submit to Chair**
 - Wait for approval and publication



Introduction of an Amendment

- Author of amendment introduces amendment
- Chair asks authors of original bill if amendment is **FRIENDLY** or **UNFRIENDLY**

Introduction of Amendment

If friendly:	If unfriendly:
<p>Amendment is added to bill and committee returns to general debate on bill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Motion to debate:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ No vote○ No speakers for/against○ Only requires a second to be placed on floor○ Author of amendment gets first pro-speech and author of bill gets first con-speech○ Speaker's List○ Continues until Motion to Lay on the Table/for Previous Question

Outcome - Previous Question

- Motion For Previous Question = Motion to Vote on the Bill/Amendment
- Motion:
 - During debate on amendment or bill
 - One speaker against-->(Don't speak about content)
 - Requires a **2/3** majority to pass
- If motion for previous question passed:
 - Committee votes on amendment or bill
 - To pass bill/amendment: simple majority of votes
 - If bill/amendment fails: discarded

Outcome-Lay on the Table

- Motion to Lay on the Table = Stop debate without making a decision
- Motion:
 - During debate on an amendment/bill
 - No Speakers
 - Requires 2/3 majority
- Result: Debate on amendment/bill ended immediately
- Can be “Removed from the table” to be discussed later
 - No speakers
 - Requires simple majority



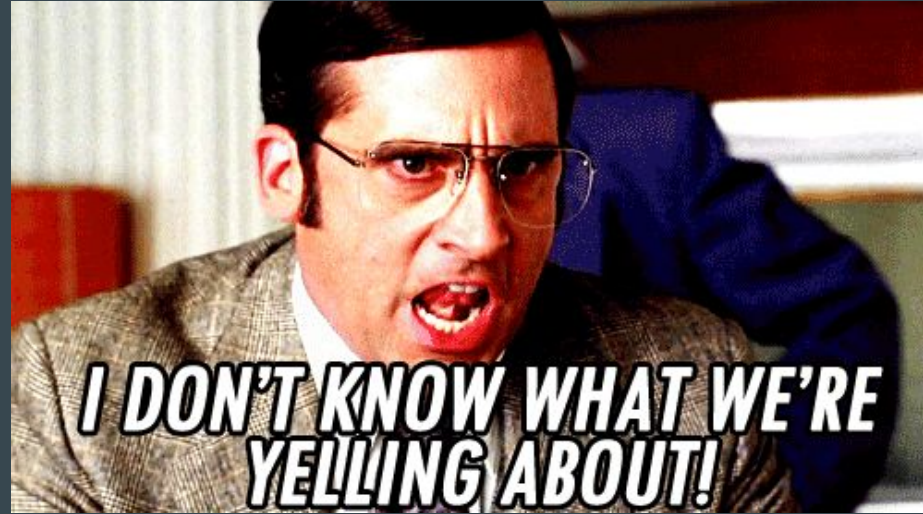
Amendment Outcome–Pass by Acclamation

- Pass by Acclamation=Pass Automatically
- If no objection to an amendment
- Debate ended immediately
- Amendment adopted
- Debate on bill resumes



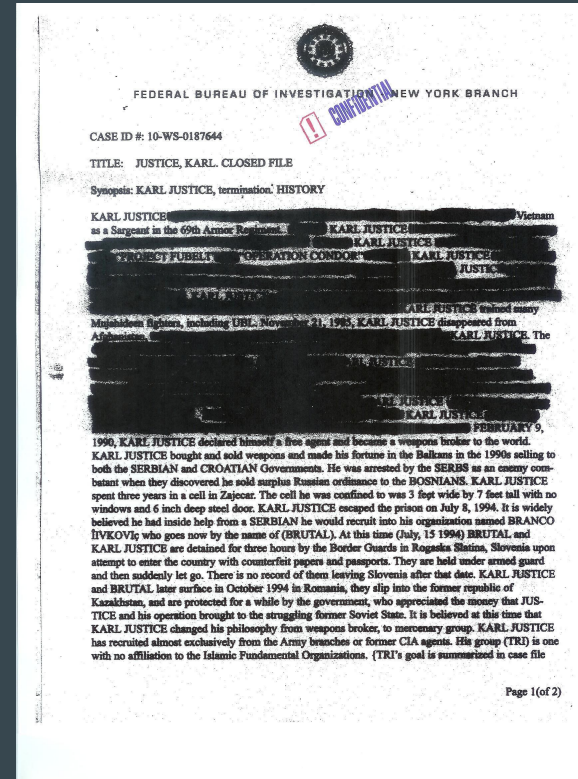
Voting

- Vocal Vote or Placard Vote is standard
- Vocal Vote: Everyone says “Yay” or “Nay” simultaneously
- Placard Vote: Raise your placards when asked
- May Motion for for Roll Call Vote
 - Requires seconds from 1/5th of members
 - Chair will read from member list
 - One by One say “Yay” or “Nay”



Motion To Divide Question

- What?
 - Separates out individual clauses from a bill
- Why?
 - If you agree with all but several clauses of a bill
 - Allows you to remove these clauses
- Motion:
 - During Debate on a bill/amendment
 - Does not require a vote
 - Clearly specify the divisions
- Committee votes on each division
- If pass with a simple majority: Considered part of the bill
- If fail: Discarded
- Then debate will continue on the remaining parts of the bill



Objection to Consideration

- Prevents debate on amendment, bill, or debatable motion
- Doesn't require speakers for/against
- Requires 2/3 majority
- Debatable Motions:
 - Return to Previous Question
 - Introduction of bill/ amendment



