



**NAFCC**  
National Association for Family Child Care

# How a Bill Becomes a Law – And How You Can Influence It (State Level)

## Laws Shape Your Livelihood. Here's How to Shape the Laws

Ever wondered why some policies feel out of touch with the realities of family child care? Because **they were written without you**. But here's the good news: **YOU have the power to change that**. This guide breaks down the legislative process so you can engage effectively.

### Step 1: The Birth of a Bill

A legislator (state or federal) proposes an idea and drafts it into a bill. This is your first opportunity to take action. Connect with policymakers early—help them shape bills that support FCC from the start.

### Step 2: Committee Review – Where Bills Live or Die

Bills are assigned to a **committee**, where lawmakers debate, amend, and either move it forward or kill it. **THIS is where FCC advocates must step in.**

- ✓ Testify at hearings: Share your experience as an FCC educator.
- ✓ Flood lawmakers with messages: Emails, calls, and social media pressure make a difference.

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## Step 3: The Floor Vote – Your Final Push

If the bill makes it out of committee, it goes to the full chamber for a vote. This is when you rally support.

Contact your legislators: Make it clear they should vote YES or NO.

Mobilize other FCC educators & parents: Strength in numbers moves votes.

## Step 4: The Finish Line – Governor or President Signs the Bill

If both chambers pass the bill, it heads to the executive for signature. If signed, it becomes LAW. If vetoed, it may be sent back for revision. Your job? Keep advocating until the policy works for YOU.

The laws that govern child care should be shaped by child care educators. YOU have the power—use it.

