How a Bill is Passed
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This chart traces a bill introduced in the House. A bill introduced in the Senate would follow the same procedure shown in the chart with Senate and House action reversed. Bills to appropriate money and raise revenue must originate in the House.

* Legislative rules allow committees to provisionally hear and report prefilled bills before the session starts. Process depicted here assumes bill has not been heard and reported prior to the start of the session.

** Legislative rules allow duplicate bills to bypass committee hearing in second house.

Prepared by Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, Inc.
How a Bill is Passed

1. Introduction (filed)
2. Assigned to Committee
3. Floor Action
4. Assigned to Committee
5. Floor Action/Final Passage
6. Governor’s Signature
Let’s follow a House Bill through the Legislative Process

• The Bill is introduced and waits to be scheduled for a committee hearing

• Example: Environmental bills are assigned to the House Environment Committee and the Senate Environment Committee
The bill is amended in Committee

• 25% of bills never make it out of committee
• If it survives the bill goes to the floor
On the floor, the bill awaits final passage
• If passed, the bill goes to the other side (House bills go to the Senate and vice versa)

• The bill is then assigned to a committee and may be doused with more amendments
• A House bill then goes to the Senate floor for final passage
• By this time some may prefer to put the bill out of its misery
• If either the House or Senate disagrees with the other’s amendments the Bill is sent to a conference committee
• The conference committee consists of three senators and three representatives responsible for ironing out any differences
• If both the House and the Senate agree with the Conference Committee the bill is adopted
• If either rejects it the bill is dead
If adopted, the bill is sent to the governor, who can choose to veto it, sign it or allow it to become law without his or her signature.
ENVIRONMENT/FEES: Establishes a fee for expedited permits

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 30:2014(E), relative to expedited permits; to provide for fees paid to the Department of Environmental Quality for processing certain permits; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 30:2014(E) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
§2014. Permits, licenses, registrations, variances, and monitoring fees

E. The fee for an expedited permit shall not exceed the maximum per hour overtime salary, including associated related benefits, of a civil service employee of the department. This fee shall be charged each applicant for every overtime hour or portion thereof a department employee works processing the expedited permit or for every hour or portion thereof a contractor works processing the expedited permit.

The department may require an applicant to pay an advance fee based on the estimated time to process the application.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective if and when Senate Bill No. ___ of this 2006 Regular Session is enacted and becomes effective.

Coding: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.
HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by House Committee on Environment to Original House Bill No. 870
by Representative Damico

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1
2 On page 1, line 2, after "enact" change "R.S. 30:2014(E)" to "R.S. 30:2014.5"

3 AMENDMENT NO. 2
4 On page 1, line 6, change "R.S. 30:2014(E)" to "R.S. 30:2014.5"

5 AMENDMENT NO. 3
6 On page 1, delete lines 7 and 8 in their entirety, and insert the following:

   "$2014.5. Expedited permit program
   A. The department shall report to the House Committee on Environment and
   the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality no later than May 1, 2007, on the
   status and progress of the expedited permit program. The report shall include a
   comparison of the average time required for the expedited permit process and the
   average time required to process similar permits under the normal permit process.

7 AMENDMENT NO. 4
8 On page 1, at the beginning of line 9, change "E." to "B."

9 AMENDMENT NO. 5
10 On page 1, delete lines 14 through 17 in their entirety and insert the following:

11 Section 2. The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby directed to redesignate
12 the provisions enacted in Section 1 of Senate Bill No. 292 of the 2006 Regular
13 Session of the Louisiana Legislature as Subsection A and redesignate the provisions
14 enacted in Section 1 of this Act as Subsections B and C of R.S. 30:2014.5 as enacted
15 in this Act."
AN ACT

To enact R.S. 30:2014.5, relative to expedited permits; to authorize the secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality to develop and implement an expedited permitting processing program; to provide for fees paid to the Department of Environmental Quality for processing certain permits; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 30:2014.5 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2014.5. Expedited permit program

A. The department shall report to the House Committee on Environment and the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality no later than May 1, 2007, on the status and progress of the expedited permit program. The report shall include a comparison of the average time required for the expedited permit process and the average time required to process similar permits under the normal permit process.

B. In addition to the fees charged pursuant to R.S. 30:2014, the fee for an expedited permit shall not exceed the maximum per hour overtime salary, including associated related benefits, of a civil service employee of the department. This fee shall be charged each applicant for every overtime hour or portion thereof a department employee works processing the expedited permit or for every hour or portion thereof a contractor works processing the expedited permit.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective if and when Senate Bill No. 292 of this 2006 Regular Session is enacted and becomes effective.