ELEVEN STEPS A BILL TAKES TO BECOME A LAW - ANSWER KEY

____  **STEP #1** - ANYONE MAY PROPOSE LEGISLATION, BUT ONLY A CONGRESSMAN MAY INTRODUCE IT ON THE FLOOR OF CONGRESS.

____  **STEP #2** - A BILL IS INTRODUCED ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

____  **STEP #3** - ONCE THE BILL IS INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE, IT IS THEN SENT TO A COMMITTEE TO BE STUDIED AND, POSSIBLY, AMENDED. IF THE COMMITTEE APPROVES OF THE BILL IT IS SENT BACK TO THE FLOOR OF THE FULL HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR A VOTE.

____  **STEP #4** - ONCE A BILL ARRIVES ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE FROM COMMITTEE IT IS VOTED ON. IF THE HOUSE APPROVES THE BILL BY A MAJORITY THEN IT Passes TO THE SENATE.

____  **STEP #5** - UPON ARRIVAL IN THE SENATE, THE BILL IS THEN SENT TO AN APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE TO BE STUDIED AND, POSSIBLY, AMENDED.

____  **STEP #6** - IF THE COMMITTEE APPROVES OF THE BILL, IT IS SENT BACK TO THE FLOOR OF THE FULL SENATE.

**FILL-IN-THE-BLANK**

____  **STEP #7** - ONCE A BILL ARRIVES ON THE FLOOR OF THE SENATE FROM COMMITTEE, IT IS VOTED ON. IF THE SENATE APPROVES THE BILL BY A MAJORITY, THEN A COUPLE THINGS COULD HAPPEN. IF THE ORIGINAL BILL PASSED BOTH HOUSES WITHOUT CHANGE THEN (Fill-in-the-Blank):

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OR

TURN PAGE~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
STEP #8 - IF THE ORIGINAL BILL FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS BEEN CHANGED IN THE SENATE, THEN THE BILL MUST GO TO A JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE. HERE THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE WILL CREATE A COMPROMISE BILL.

STEP #9 - THE COMPROMISE BILL THEN GOES TO BOTH HOUSES FOR A VOTE. ONCE A BILL IS PASSED BY BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS, THE BILL THEN GOES TO THE PRESIDENT.

STEP #10 - ONCE A BILL GETS TO THE PRESIDENT, THE PRESIDENT CAN SIGN THE BILL INTO LAW OR VETO THE BILL.

STEP #11 - IF THE BILL IS VETOED, THE BILL GOES BACK TO CONGRESS. THE CONGRESS MUST ACHIEVE 2/3RDS MAJORITY IN FAVOR OF THE BILL TO OVERRIDE THE PRESIDENTIAL VETO. OTHERWISE THE BILL IS KILLED.

FOUR THINGS THE PRESIDENT CAN DO ONCE A BILL REACHES HIS/HER DESK

1. veto the bill - the bill goes back to Congress.
2. sign the bill - the bill becomes law.
3. ignore the bill - in ten days the bill becomes law.
4. ignore the bill. If, during the next ten days, Congress goes out of session then the bill is killed. This is known as a POCKET VETO.