

HOW AN MNA BILL BECOMES LAW

WHAT IS A BILL?
 A bill is a document based on an idea that someone has. It can direct state government agencies to do things like increase spending on healthcare or change policy regarding how many patients a nurse can care for at one time. It can influence corporate behavior by requiring data transparency and financial accountability with taxpayer money, or by directing government agencies to investigate claims of malpractice.

THE BASICS
 The House of Representatives, the Senate, and the Governor must agree to a bill in which the language is exactly the same in order for it to become law.

WHAT IMPACTS THE PROCESS?
 Various outside factors may impact the legislative process. Things like politics, election years, budget deficits, emergencies, and natural disasters may make it harder for legislation to pass.

WHY NURSE VOICES ARE IMPORTANT
 One way we can try to mitigate the unpredictable is to ensure that nurse voices are front and center in the process. Your stories create political pressure on elected officials and ensure that nurse issues are included in discussions about changes to Minnesota's healthcare system.

