

Nebraska's Unicameral Legislative Process

A senator finds a problem that might be solved by creating a new law. He or she and their staff will do research prior to the legislative season.

Write a draft with cost estimates, name it (e.g. LB123) and introduce it as a bill in the first 10 days of session.

Committees will vote on the bill's worthiness to advance to the General File. At this time, citizens may attend public hearings and comment on it.

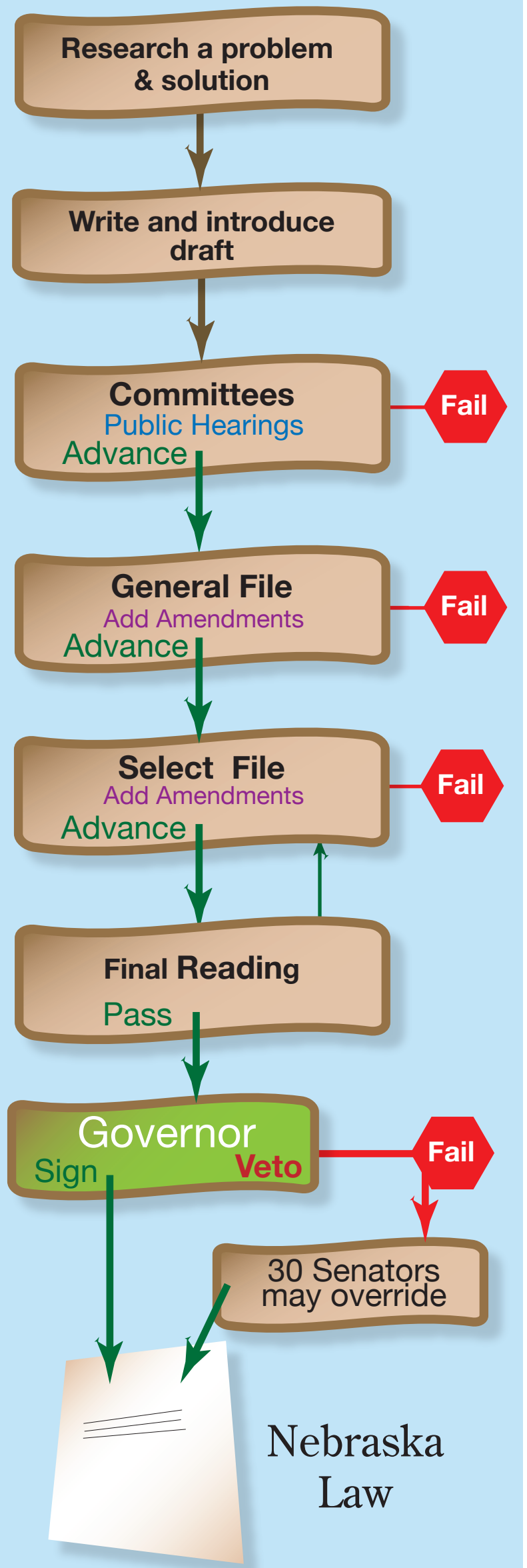
The full legislature debates to advance it or reject it, and may add amendments. A vote of 25 or more is required for advancement.

This step allows senators more time to consider and possibly amend the bill again. A vote of 25 or more is required for advancement.

The bill must be read aloud unless 30 members vote to waive that rule. The bill may not be amended or debated, but can be sent back to Select File.

The Governor has five days, excluding Sundays, to act on the bill.

Most bills passed become law three calendar months after the Legislature adjourns. Some may take effect sooner if they have a specific date or if they are an emergency.



First Draft 7/20/15