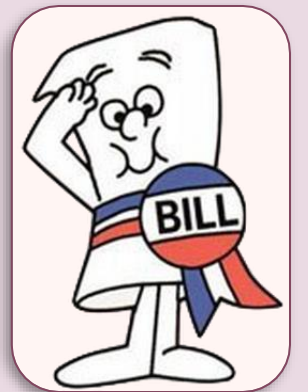


# Demystifying the Legislative Process

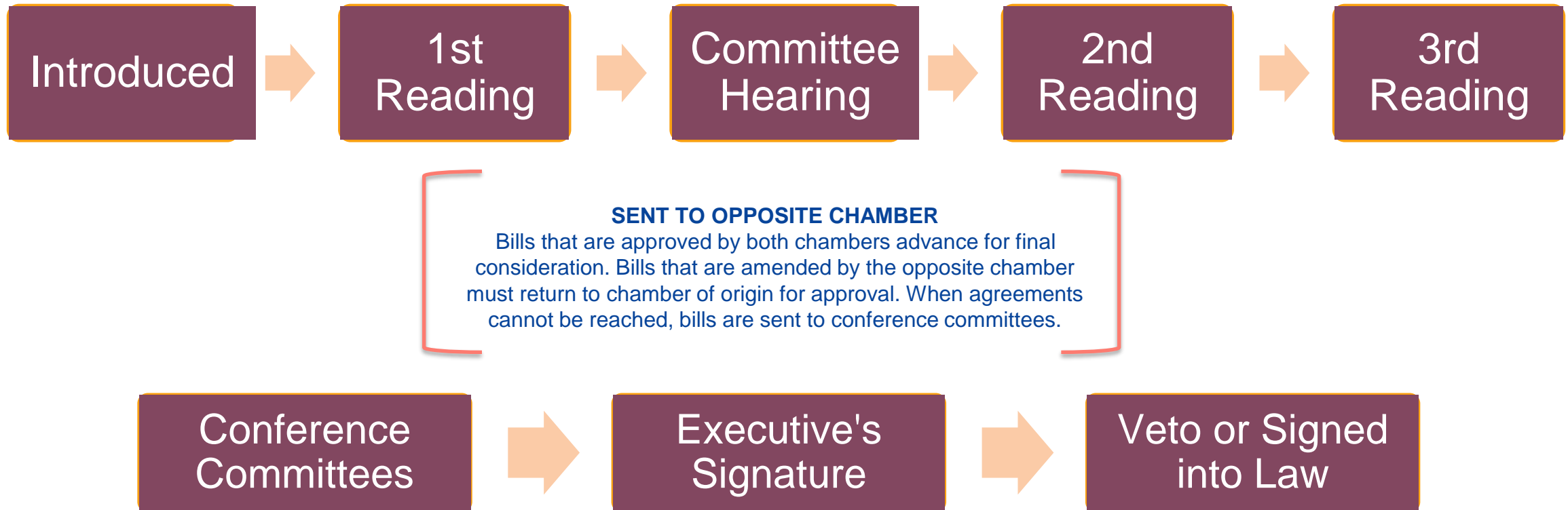
# At all levels of government...

After a policy or bill has been designed and drafted, it is introduced to the entire voting body or assembly. Before they are voted on:

- Bills are assigned to the appropriate committee(s) that are devoted to the issue(s) or topic area(s) the bill would address
- In committee, bills can be voted on as is, debated, changed, amended, or killed all together
- If a bill is approved by the committee, it will go the full assembly for a vote



# How a bill becomes a law



\*NOTE: This process changes from place to place but the moments to take action are largely the same. Reach out to [advocacy@pflag.org](mailto:advocacy@pflag.org) if you have questions about a specific process.

# How to take action

## When the bill is introduced:

- Tell your representative where you stand on the issue as a voter they represent by phone, handwritten letter, email, fax, etc.

## While the bill is in committee:

- Contact members of the committee asking them to support or oppose the bill
- Testify in committee



# How to take action

**During floor votes (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading):**

- Tell your representative to vote for or against the bill

**When the executive branch receives a bill after it has passed:**

- Contact them with an ask to sign or veto it
- Meet with the chief executive (or their office) to share your story and make your ask



# Something to consider...

**Just because a bill is filed, does not mean it will receive a hearing or move through the legislative process.**

- A lot goes into determining which bills are heard and which are not such as which committee it is assigned to, who the bill author is, the caucus' legislative priorities, etc.
- Sometimes shedding too much light on a piece of legislation can do more harm than good.
- It is important to check in with your state equality group or PFLAG National when considering taking action on a piece of legislation.



# Remember: Your voice is needed!

UNLESS SOMEONE LIKE YOU  
CARES A WHOLE AWFUL LOT, NOTHING  
IS GOING TO GET BETTER. IT'S NOT!

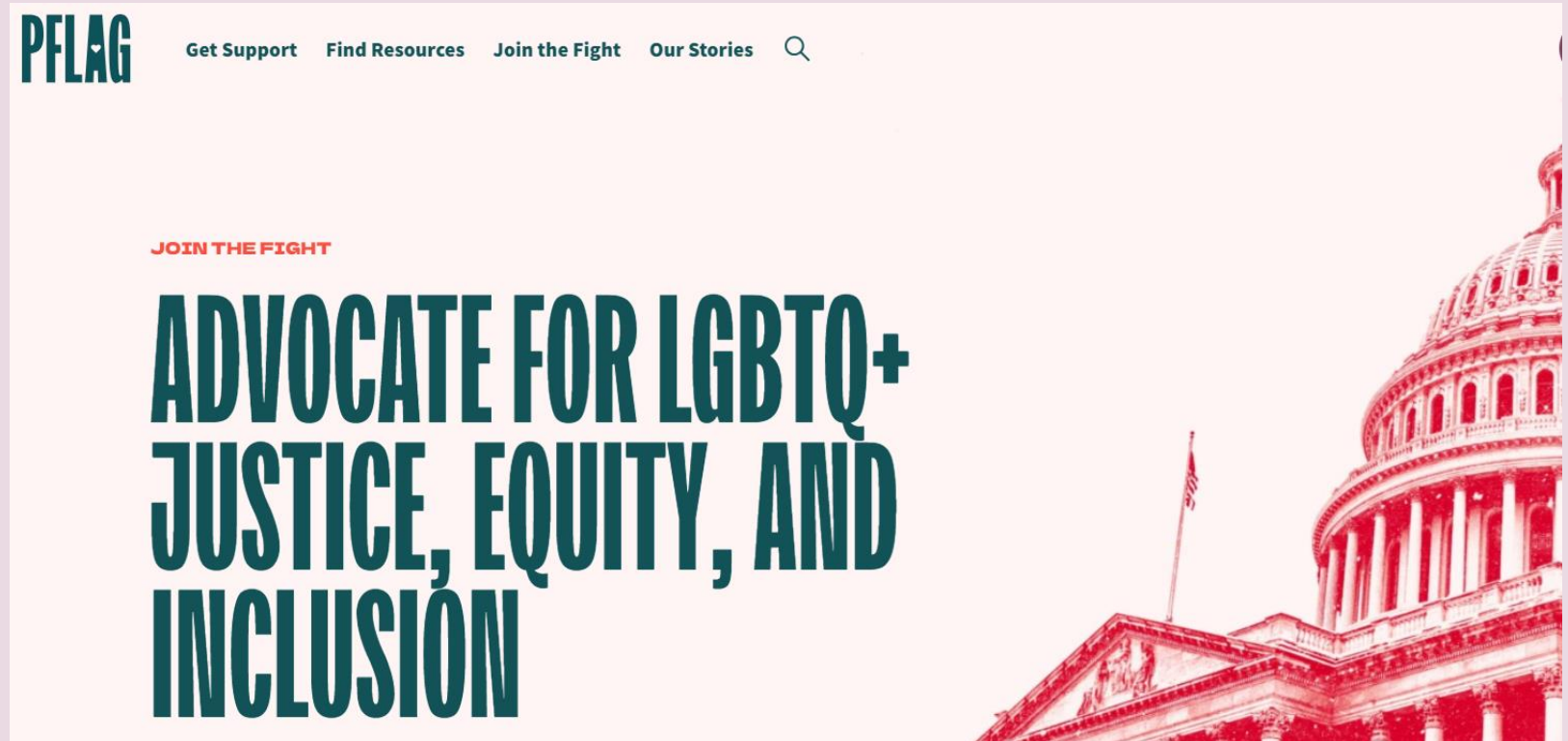
*-Dr. Seuss*



Demystifying the Legislative Process

[pflag.org/jointhefight](https://pflag.org/jointhefight)

Find advocacy tools for your PFLAG Chapter, resources to help you protect LGBTQ+ kids and families, and more!



[#PFLAGVOTES](https://pflag.org/jointhefight)





# THANKS YOU

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