Amendment - A change to an existing bill. Amendments can be as simple as changing a few words or as complex as re-writing the entire bill.

Bill - A written proposal to create or change a law. Most bills can become a law only if two-fifths of the members elected to each chamber vote for it.

Budget - A bill that determines the state’s taxes and spending. Budget bills generally begin in the House.

Committee on Committees - A group of legislative leaders that assigns each bill to the appropriate committee for study.

Calendar - A list of bills that have had one reading and are ready for a second reading (to become a law, bills must have three readings).

Constitutional Majority - Half of all the members of a chamber, plus one. A constitutional majority is needed to pass certain types of bills as well as to override a governor’s veto.

Floor - Where each chamber meets. The term is also used to refer to each chamber as a whole, such as, “sending a bill to the House floor.”

Orders of the Day - A list of bills and resolutions that are ready in each chamber to be debated and/or adopted that day.

Rules Committee - A group of legislative leaders and other members that prepares the Orders of the Day.

Simple Majority - Half of all the votes cast, plus one.

Statute - Another word for a law.

Veto - The governor’s rejection of a bill passed by the General Assembly. If each chamber then approves the bill again by a constitutional majority vote, the veto is overridden and the bill becomes law.
How can I get involved?

Only a state senator or representative can actually sponsor a bill, but anyone can get involved.

Every day, people across Kentucky have ideas about something to make the Commonwealth a better place to live. To change or create a law, you can contact your state senator or representative; to find out more about how a law is implemented, you can contact the state agency that oversees that area.

For more information on the General Assembly, go to LRC’s website at legislature.ky.gov.

One of the ways to find out who your legislators are is to visit the LRC website and enter your mailing address or nine-digit zip code.

Keep in touch with the General Assembly all year long!

LRC Main Switchboard
1-502-564-8100

To leave a message for your legislator, call
1-800-372-7181

For a current agenda of legislative meetings, call
1-800-633-9650

People with speech or hearing impairments may use the toll-free Kentucky Relay Service at 711.

During legislative sessions, toll-free Bill Status and Spanish-language telephone lines are also available. Check local newspapers or the LRC website for those session-only phone numbers.