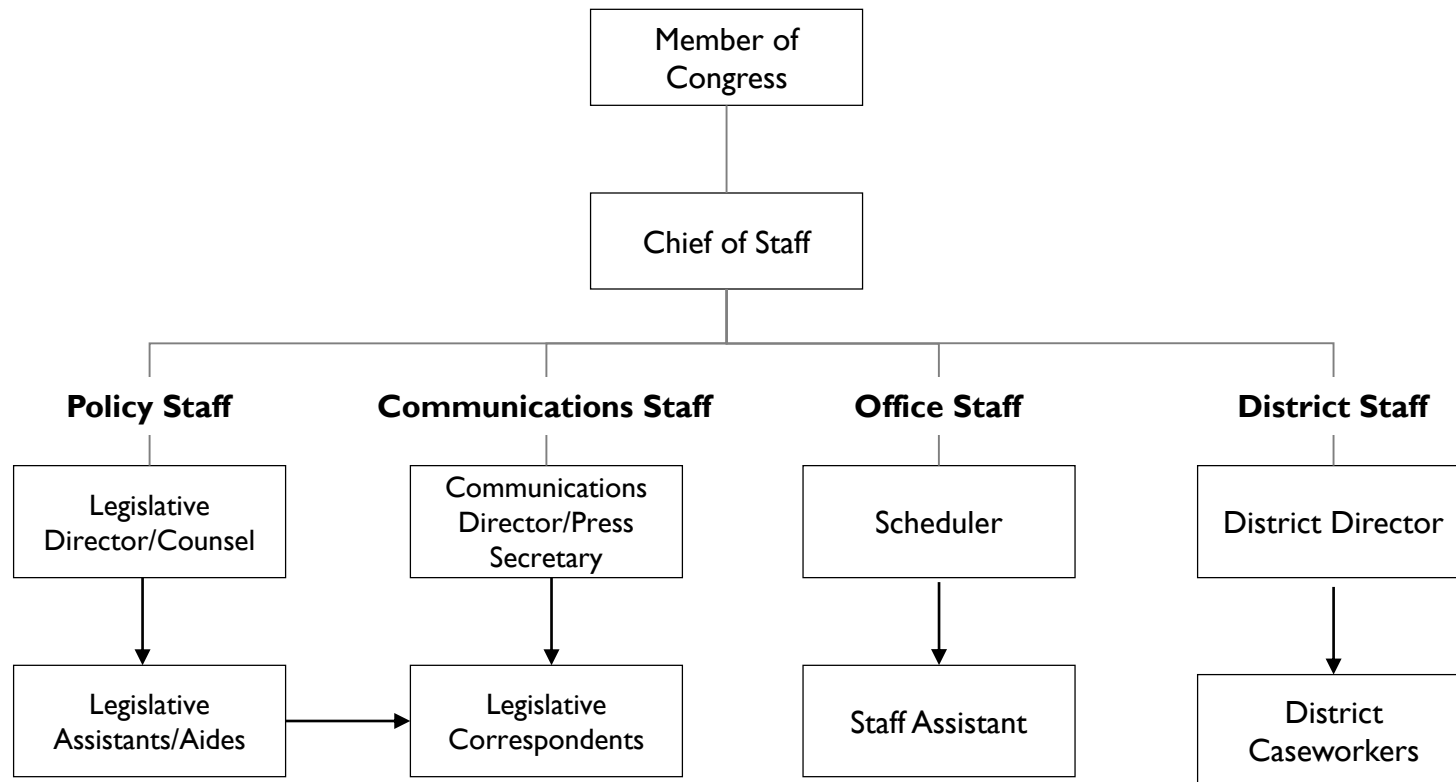


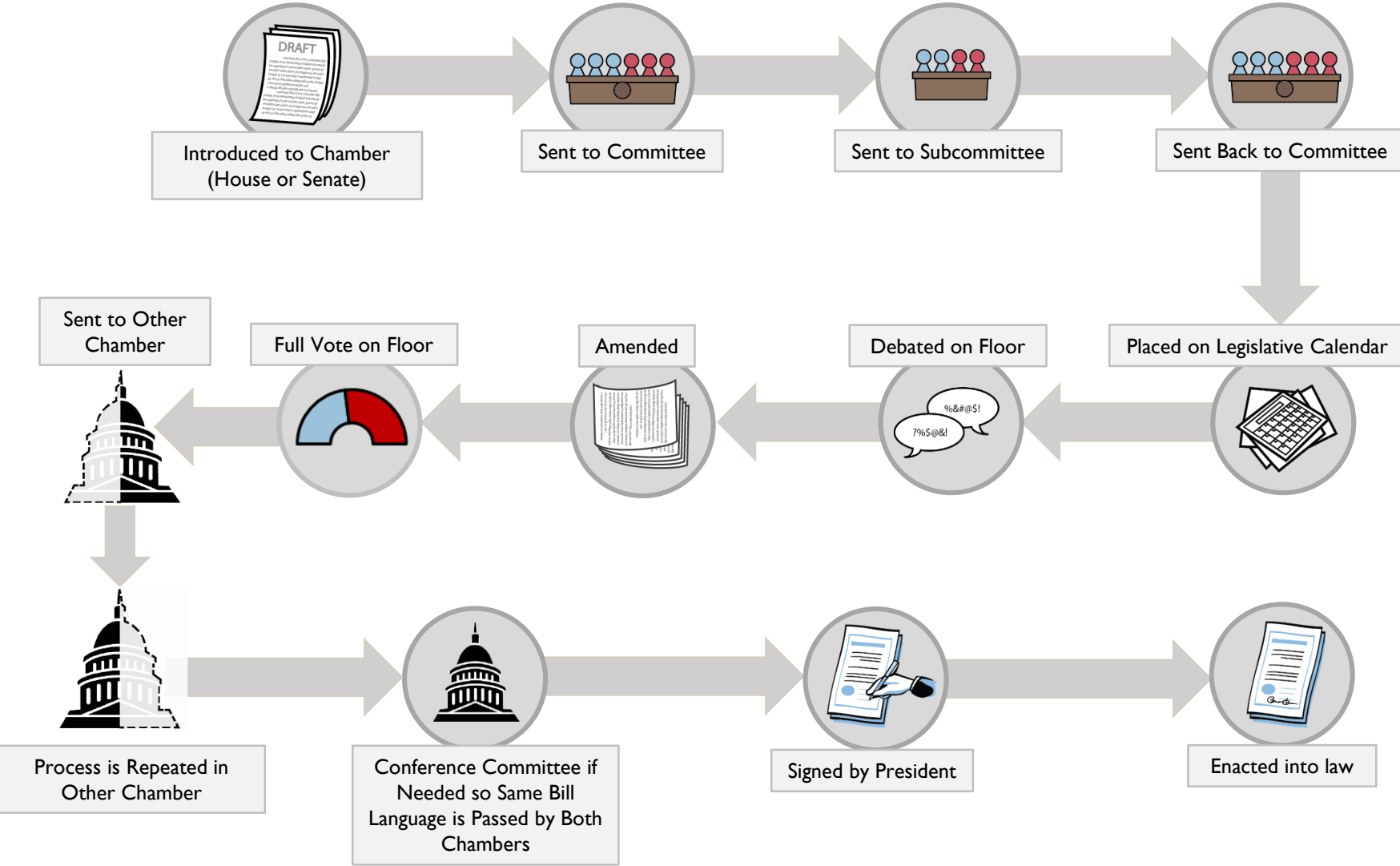
# Sample Organization of a Congressional Office



## Quick Takes

- Members of Congress are advised to structure their office into discrete areas, depending on their staffers' functions
- Nonetheless, almost every office will have a unique structure and series of staff duties
- The vast Congressional workload means that the day-to-day reporting structure of a Congressional staffer may look very different in practice than on paper

# Legislative Process and Obstacles



Look up any bill to find the bill language, cosponsors, and latest legislative activity at [congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov).

Source: National Journal Research

# Legislation vs. Regulation

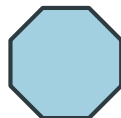
While the process is different, both hold the same force of law



Introduced by...



Altered by...



Can be stopped by...



Finalized when...



Has the effect of...

## Lawmakers

Any senator or congressperson can introduce legislation

## Congress

Committees in either chamber can alter proposed legislation through the amendment process

## Stalling/Failing in Congress

Legislation may be stopped in its tracks if it stalls in the committee phase, fails a vote or cloture motion, is vetoed, or is not brought up by the other chamber

## Signed by President or Congress Overrides Veto

The president can sign the bill into law, or Congress can override a presidential veto by two-thirds majorities in both chambers

## Law

Finalized legislation has the binding force of law

## Federal Agencies

A federal agency may draft a regulation after reviewing or finding ambiguity in a law and realizing a clarifying regulation is necessary; regulations must be based in laws already passed

## The Public

The public and interested parties may attempt to change a proposed regulation by submitting comments, which require consideration and response by the agency

## Congress/The Public

A proposed regulation may be stopped in its tracks by strong, nearly unanimous or very influential public comments, or a resolution of disapproval by Congress (which can be vetoed by the president)

## Published

A regulation becomes a rule when it is published into the Federal Register after final consideration of comments and adjustments

## Law

Exactly the same as legislation; a finalized regulation has the binding force of law

Legislation

Regulation