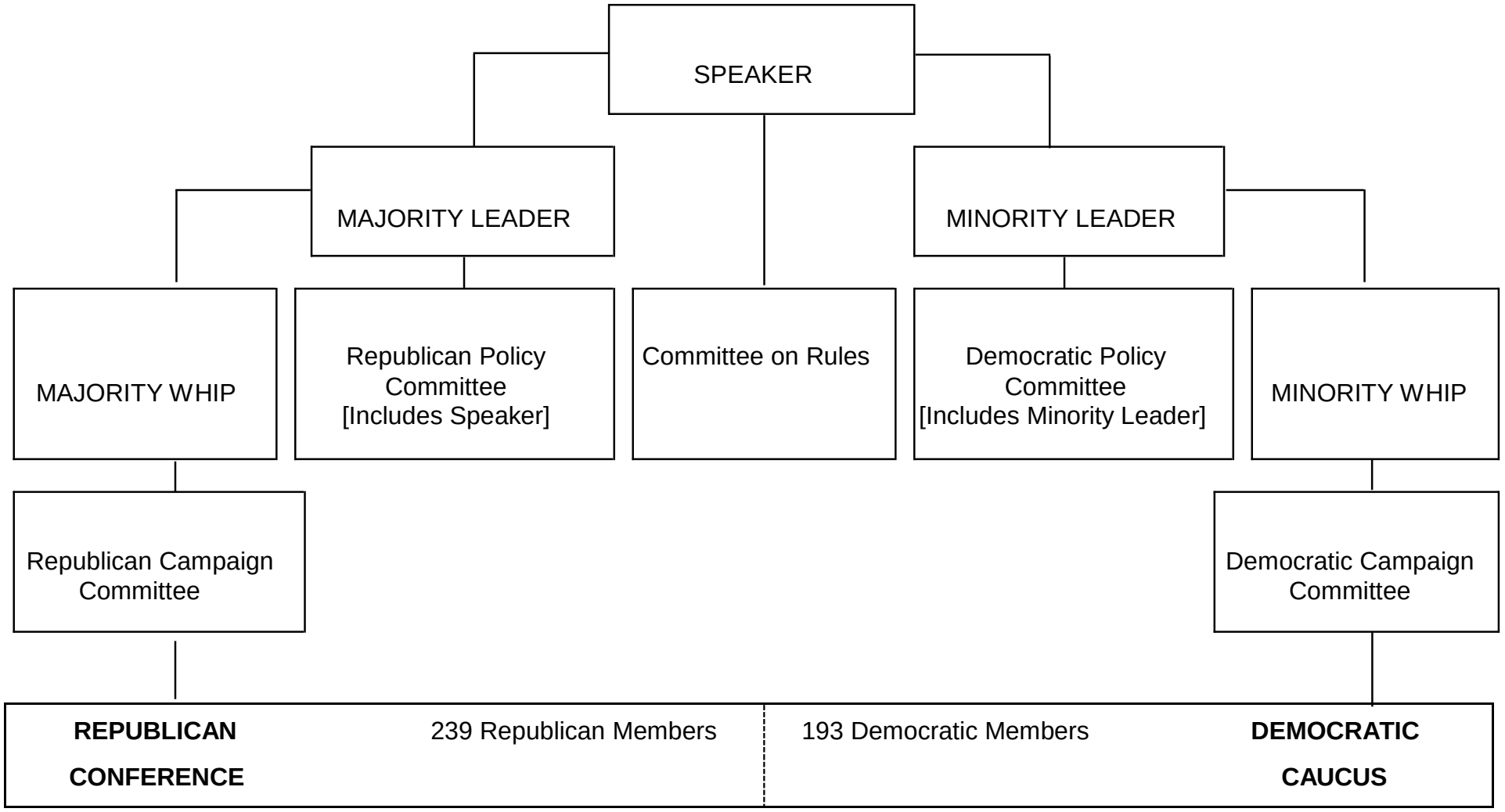
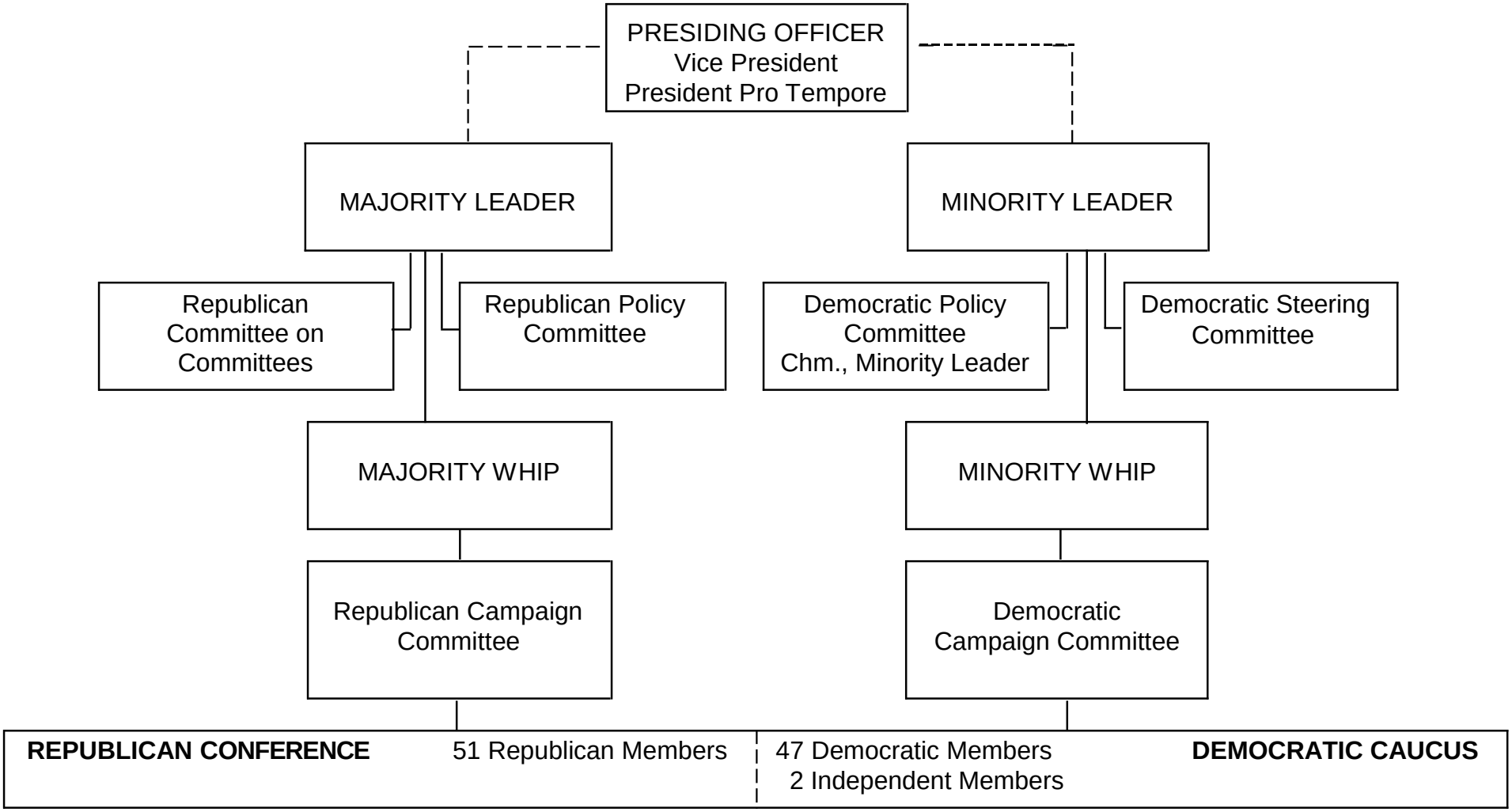
ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 115TH CONGRESS (2017-2018)



3 Vacancies (January 7, 2018)

ORGANIZATION OF THE SENATE, 115TH CONGRESS (2017-2018)

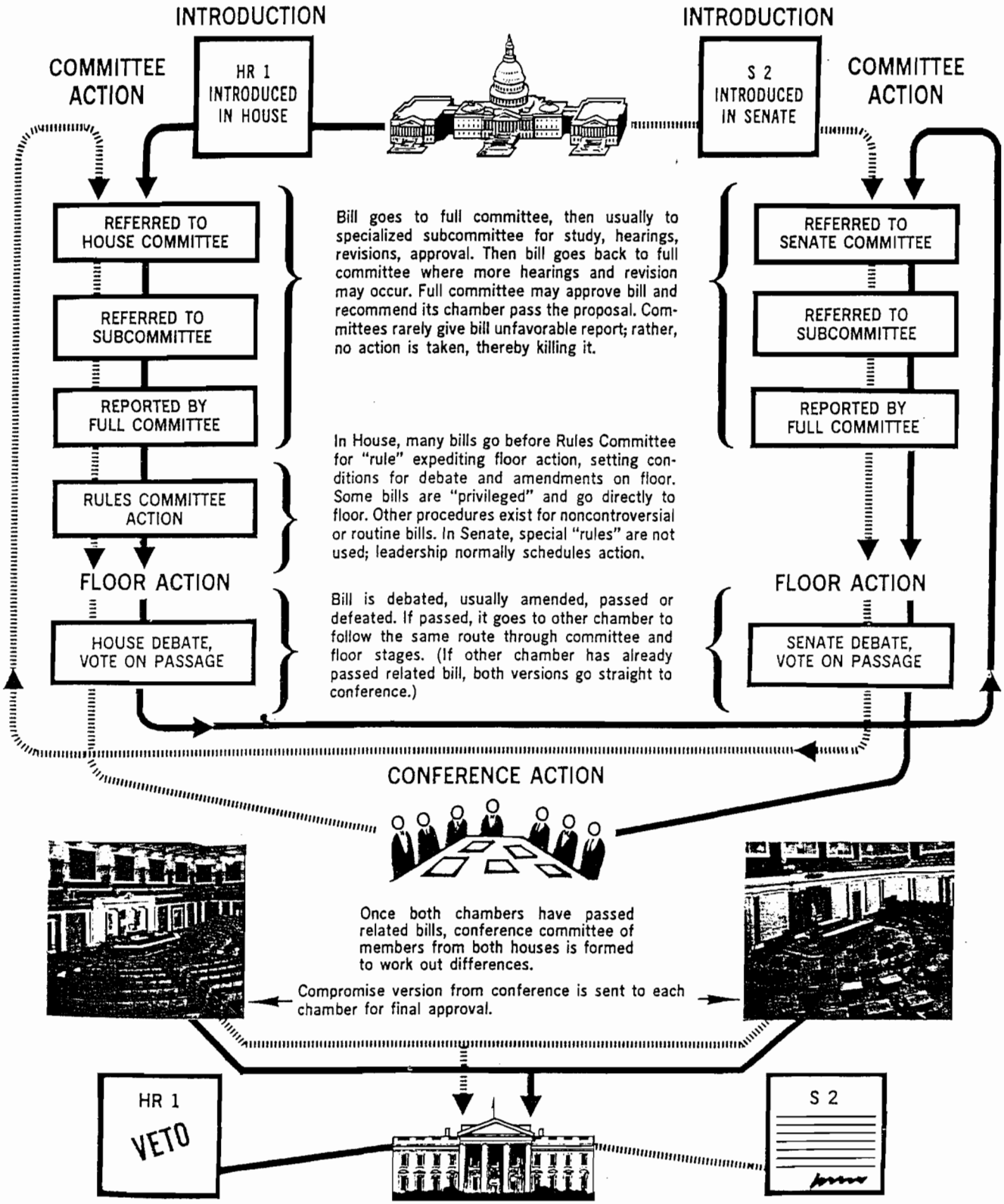


No Vacancies (January 7, 2018)

HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW

This graphic shows the most typical way in which proposed legislation is enacted into law. There are more complicated, as well as simpler, routes, and most bills fall by the wayside and never become law. The process is illustrated with two hypothetical bills, House bill No. 1 (HR 1) and Senate bill No. 2 (S 2).

Each bill must be passed by both houses of Congress in identical form before it can become law. The path of HR 1 is traced by a solid line, that of S 2 by a broken line. However, in practice most legislation begins as similar proposals in both houses.



Compromise version approved by both houses is sent to President who can either sign it into law or veto it and return it to Congress. Congress may override veto by a two-thirds majority vote in both houses; bill then becomes law without President's signature.