

Mock Legislature Project  
How to Write a Bill  
Bill Template:

A Bill to ***[What will your bill be doing?]***

(notice each line is numbered)

1. **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:**
2. Section 1. [State the new action in a brief declarative sentence, or in as few
3. sentences as possible.]
4. Section 2. [Define any ambiguous terms inherent in the first section.]
5. Section 3. [Name the government agency that will oversee the enforcement of the
6. bill along with the specific enforcement mechanism.
7. A. Go into further details if necessary.
8. B. Go into further details if necessary.]
9. Section 4. [Indicate the implementation date.] **"This bill will go into effect..."**
10. Section 5. [Include the following statement] **"All laws in conflict with this legislation**
11. **are hereby declared null and void."**

Introduced by [insert name(s)]

**A Bill to Alter Election Day Voting**

1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:
2. Section 1. The State decree that Election Day be changed from the first Tuesday
3.                   of November to the first Sunday of November.
4. Section 2. The first Tuesday of November will cease to be Election Day.
5. Section 3. The Maine Secretary of State will be in charge of executing this legislation.
6. Section 4. Any town not willing to accept this law will be fined two thousand dollars
7.                   (\$2000.00) by the State of Maine
8. Section 5 All absentee ballots and Early Voting will still exist but predetermined schedules
9.                   for said voting will be adjusted to reflect the new schedule of voting.
10. Section 6 This legislation will take effect during the 2014 November Election cycle.
11. Section 7 All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

(Sample bill adapted from Congressional Debate bill, 2013 submitted by Bangor HS)

**Note that bill has a title that says what bill will do (be creative)**

**Note that line one is “Be it Enacted...” -- type this word for word**

**Since no definitions are needed (line 2 and 3 are pretty basic), notice that no definitions are given - bill’s author added more information in Section 2**

**Notice that the bill says who is responsible for executing the law**

**The author then added a fine (section 4) if the law is violated.**

**The final two sections (number them as you go - in this case #6 and 7) typically close the bill with when the bill will go into effect and the last line. Type “All laws in conflict...” verbatim.**

**\*\*\* Be sure to put your name on the bill.**