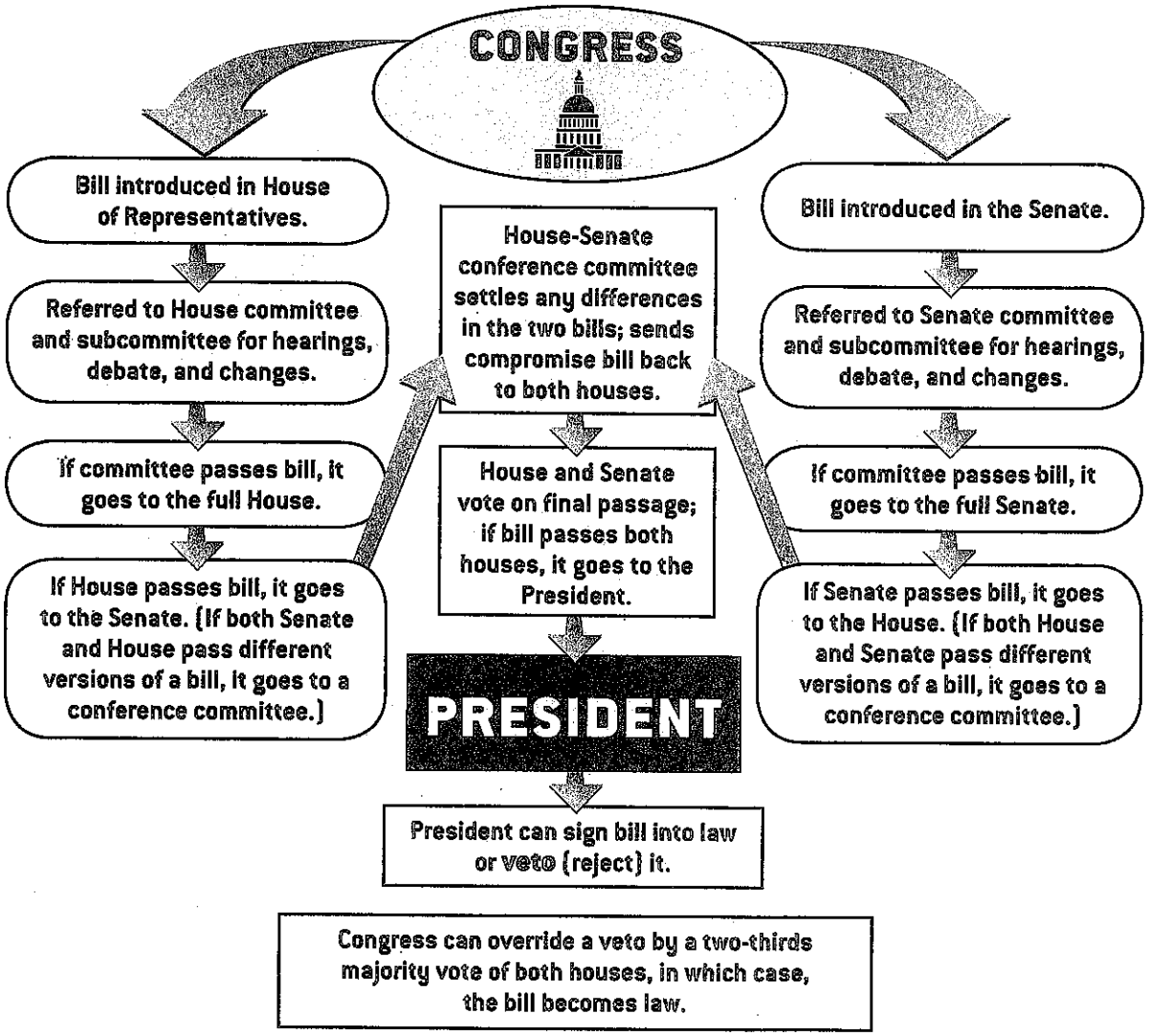
NAME_____

How a Bill Becomes a Law

In a typical year, Senators and Representatives introduce up to 5,000 bills (proposed laws). Only about 150 become law. Read the diagram from top to bottom to see how laws are made.

Note: This diagram shows a bill going through the House and Senate at the same time. A bill can also be passed by one house of Congress and then go to the other for action. Tax bills must be introduced in the House first; all others can begin in either the House or Senate.



Questions

Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What is a bill?
2. What type of bill must be introduced in the House?
3. After a bill is introduced, it is referred to what?
4. If committee action is favorable, where does the bill go?
5. If one chamber of Congress passes a bill, what happens next?
6. What does a conference committee do?
7. If both houses of Congress pass the same bill, where does it go next?
8. If the President approves a bill, what happens?
9. What happens if the President vetoes a bill?
10. What does it take to override a presidential veto?