

Bill Writing Practice

But

Keep your own copy for reference

TRY WRITING THESE BILLS

REMEMBER

- ✘ 1. Determine requirements, details or definitions needed. Short title.
- ✘ 2. Determine who will carry it out
- 3. Determine when it will be effective
- ✘ 4 Punishment

LOOK AT THE BILL FORMAT

- ✘ Use the form to fill out the Sections for your bill

REQUIREMENTS – SECTION 1

Put in the details to perform the Bill

Do not worry about money – Assume we have it!

Keep it to the point, do not add a lot of extras!

[Include any definitions you may need to make]

WHO WILL CARRY IT OUT? – SECTION 2

× Wording You Can Use:

“ This bill will be carried out by the.....”

(whatever branch or Dept. you think will be most responsible)....

Ask teachers for help in determining this

WHEN WILL IT BE EFFECTIVE – SECTION 3

× Wording You can use:

“This bill will become effective within (#) months after passage by both houses of Congress and signed by the President”

PENALTIES - SECTION 4 (IF NEEDED)

Wording You Can Use:

“Any person found in noncompliance or who knowingly violates this law and its requirements will have the following penalties, fines and or punishment”

- + 1st Offense Jail Time (Federal Prison) or Fine
- + 2nd Offense Jail Time or Fine
- + 3rd Offense Jail Time or Fine

Start with lower fines or no jail time and then
Increase them for the second or third offense

Do not put Death Penalty!

YOUR TURN TO TRY A BILL !!!!!

- ✘ Think about the details and put them in Section 1
- ✘ Think about who might carry out the bill in Section 2
- ✘ Think about when it should be effective Section 3
- ✘ Think about any penalties **(May not be required)** in Section 4

BILL IDEA 1

- ✘ This bill idea is to stop all importing of any animals that are not indigenous to the United States.

Indigenous means – “Native to U.S.”

Fines and or Jail should be given to individuals or companies that will severely discourage this type of trade.

BILL IDEA 2

- ✘ This bill idea is to allow filming of court cases in all Federal Courts including the Supreme Court of the United States.

BILL IDEA 3

IS THIS AN AMENDMENT?

- ✘ My idea is to put an age limit on Federal judges for the Supreme Court. Now they serve til they die or retire!
- ✘ When a judge turns 70 they have three years to retire. After three years they must resign.

The current President can then appoint a new judge.

BILL IDEA 4

- ✘ This bill is to officially withdraw the United States from the United Nations (UN) within 4 years from its passage.
- ✘ The UN must also move its headquarters from New York City to some other nation within 6 years of its passage.

BILL IDEA # 5

- ✘ My idea for a bill is to eliminate the U.S. Postal Service and have all mail delivered by private companies.
- ✘ This would take ten years to phase in and postal employees would be given top priority for jobs with the companies.

BILL IDEA 6

My idea is to make the sale of tobacco products illegal in all of the United States. It should take two years to set this up since many people will need to find new jobs. Fines and punishment could be set up for selling, manufacturing or consuming these products. Violators should be punished. Individuals who still just 'use the product' should only face minor punishments such as fines or local jail.