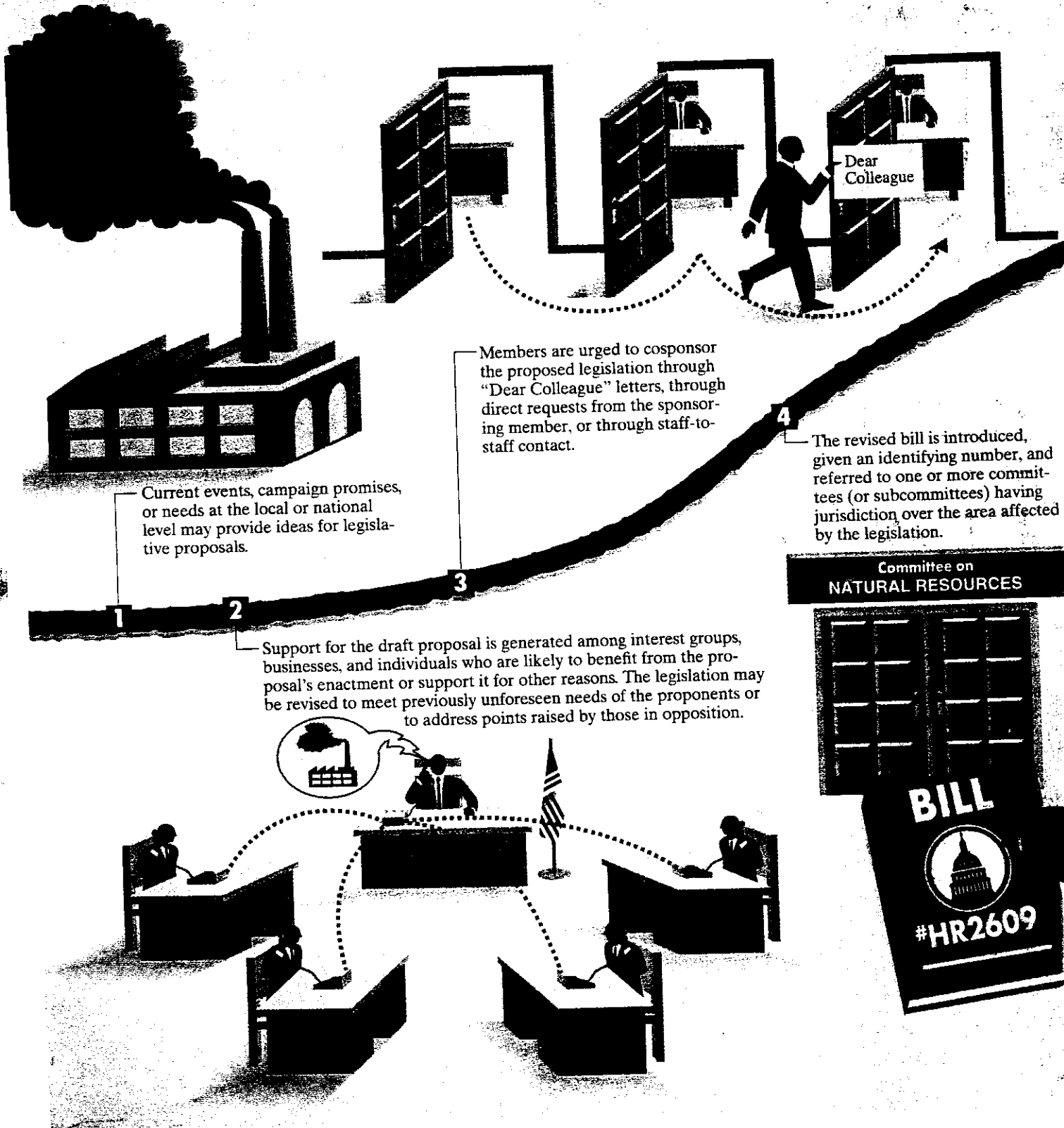


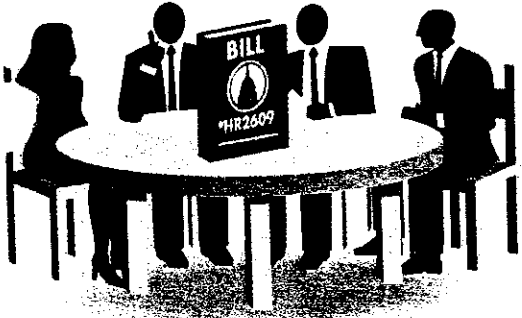
How Does a Bill Become Law?



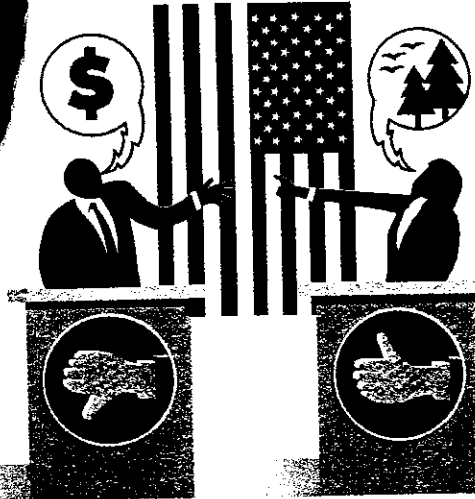


In committee, hearings are held on the legislation, amendments are adopted or rejected, the bill is "marked-up" (edited) in preparation for floor consideration, and a committee report is written describing the intent of the legislation.

5 The Committee on Rules in the House, or the majority and minority leaders in the Senate, determine the conditions under which the bill will be debated.



7 During floor debate, amendments may be offered, accepted, or rejected, and a final vote is taken on the legislation as amended. If passed, the bill is referred to the other chamber for committee, and then floor consideration.



8 If the other chamber is considering similar legislation (or has already passed it) both versions, once passed, will be sent to a conference committee in order to resolve any differences.



9 Both houses must approve the exact same version of a bill before it can be sent to the president for his approval or veto.

