



PROPOSED BILLS ENACTED INTO LAW

By: Eva Jacobson, Legislative Fellow

ISSUE

How often are proposed bills enacted into law?

ENACTED PROPOSED BILLS

Since proposed bills can only be introduced during a regular session, this report does not include special sessions, which consider only emergency certified bills. Between 2009 and 2014, the legislature enacted 1,590 bills into law during regular sessions. Of those bills, 208 started as [proposed bills](#), which means that they were introduced by an individual legislator at the beginning of session and were not fully drafted at that point.

A committee may decide to separately introduce [raised bills](#) during session. Raised bills are distinct from proposed bills since they are fully drafted when raised by the committee. Across the six years, the legislature introduced 4,864 proposed bills and enacted 208 of those into law (i.e., about 4% of proposed bills became law). See Table 1 for the breakdown of proposed bills enacted into law by year.

Table 1: Proposed Bills Enacted into law

<i>Year</i>	<i>Proposed Bills Introduced</i>	<i>Proposed Bills Enacted into Law</i>	<i>Bills Enacted into Law</i>
2009	1995	66	259
2010	148	2	200
2011	1137	63	273
2012	115	0	265
2013	1271	75	335
2014	198	2	258
Total	4864	208	1590

The total number of proposed bills introduced and the total number of proposed bills enacted into law (columns 1 and 2, respectively) significantly dropped in 2010, 2012, and 2014. This can be attributed to the nature of even-year sessions when the subjects of [proposed bills](#) are restricted to fiscal matters.

The total number of bills enacted into law (column 3) includes both [public acts](#) and [special acts](#) passed by the General Assembly. Public acts are passed bills that amend the Connecticut General Statutes and, once enacted, they are codified in the statutes. Special acts, on the other hand, do not change the statutes and have either a limited application or is of limited duration (e.g., an act creating a limited duration task force).

SOURCE OF THE TERMS & DEFINITIONS

Connecticut General Assembly, Glossary- Legislative Terms & Definitions, available at <http://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/content/terms.asp>

EJ:cmg