

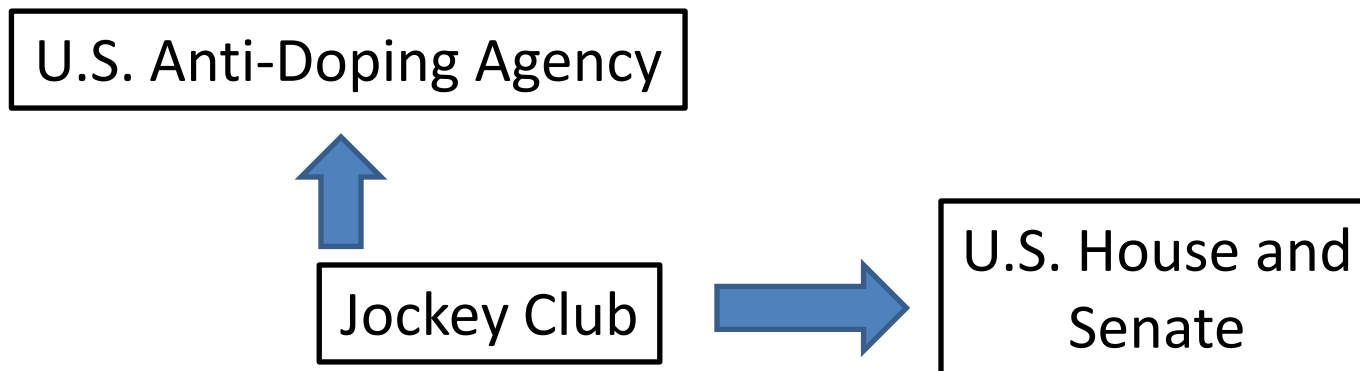
OVERVIEW OF FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



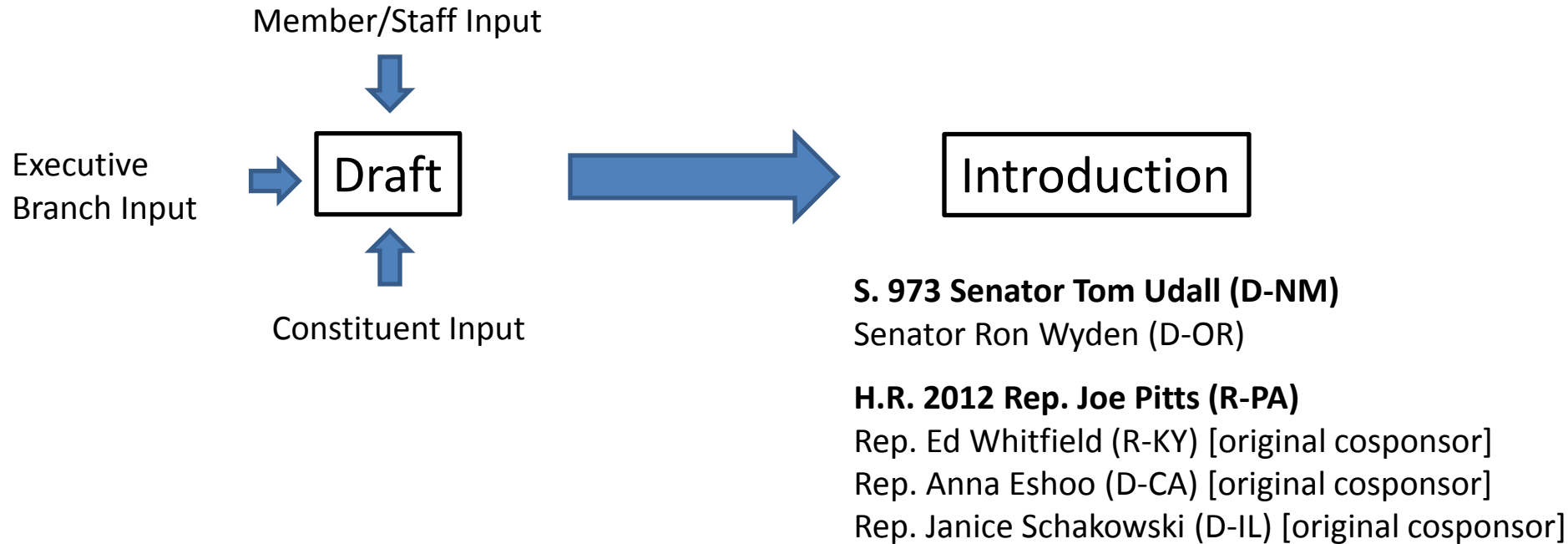
NHBPA SUMMER CONVENTION

I. ORIGIN OF FEDERAL LEGISLATION

- Legislation starts with an idea from:
 - Members of Congress
 - Executive Branch
 - Constituents
- How did the medication legislation start?



II. INTRODUCTION OF FEDERAL LEGISLATION



- Sponsors often seek to recruit “original cosponsors”
- The Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act of 2013 was introduced simultaneously into both chambers

III. REFERRAL TO CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE

Who determines the committee(s) of jurisdiction?*

Senate → Senate Parliamentarian

House → House Parliamentarian



S. 973 → Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, chaired by Senator Rockefeller (D-WV)

H.R. 2012 → House Energy and Commerce Committee, chaired by Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI)

- *Legislation can trigger multi-committee jurisdiction
- Once assigned, the committee can assign the bill to a subcommittee

IV. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE PROCESS

Introduction



Hearing(s)

- Before full committee or subcommittee
- Expert testimonies
- Member questions



Mark-Up

- Offer and vote on amendments



Report Out/Approve

- Bill sent to floor

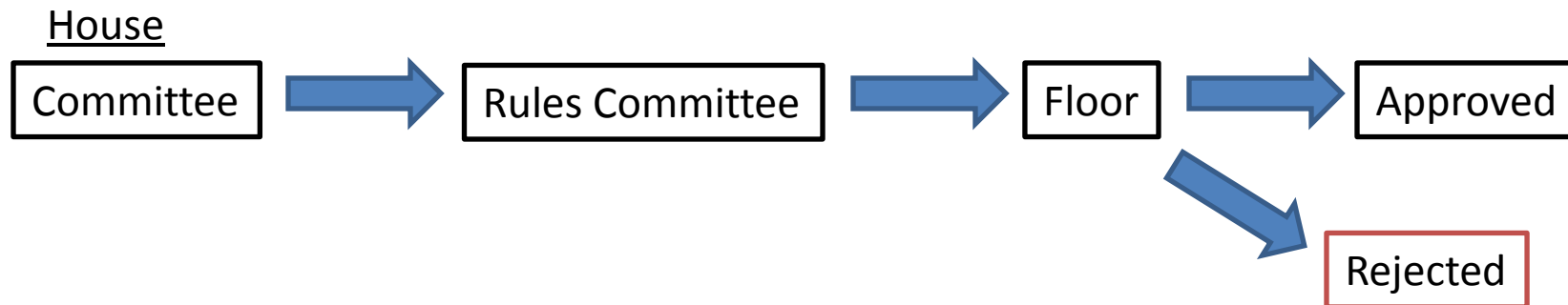
IV. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE PROCESS

Medication Bill in the 112th Congress

- House Energy and Committee, Health Subcommittee, conducted one hearing in the congressional district of the Subcommittee Chair, Rep. Pitts (R-PA), who chaired the hearing.
- The Senate Commerce Committee held one full committee hearing that was chaired by the Senate bill's sponsor, Senator Udall. Chairman Rockefeller allowed Senator Udall to chair the full committee hearing as a courtesy.

V. FLOOR CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

- After committee approval, if there is sufficient support, the legislation will head to its respective chamber floor for consideration
 - Before hitting the floor *in the House*, the Rules Committee must vote on a “rule” governing the terms of floor debate, including what amendments will be allowed to be offered



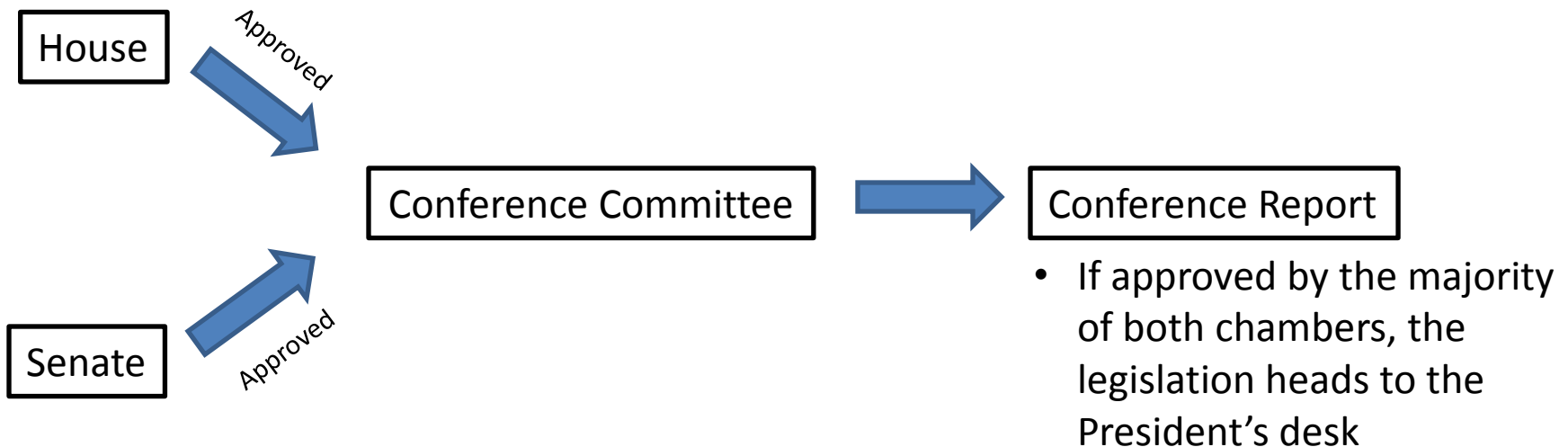
V. FLOOR CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

- In the Senate, there is no Rules Committee – instead the Majority and Minority leadership attempt to come to an agreement
 - No agreement on debate terms → procedural vote
 - Cloture vote (requires 60 votes) – puts limit on time and terms of floor debate
- If a bill is approved, it is sent to the other chamber for consideration



VI. CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

- If the House and the Senate pass bills involving the same subject matter but are not identical, the House and Senate leadership can send the bill to a conference committee to resolve the differences
 - A conference committee can be avoided by having identical bills approved by both chambers



VII. PRESIDENTIAL ACTION

- Once identical bills have been approved by both the House and the Senate, the bill will be sent to the President who can choose to sign or veto the bill
 - Congress can override the President's veto with a 2/3rds vote in both chambers, in which case the bill becomes law

