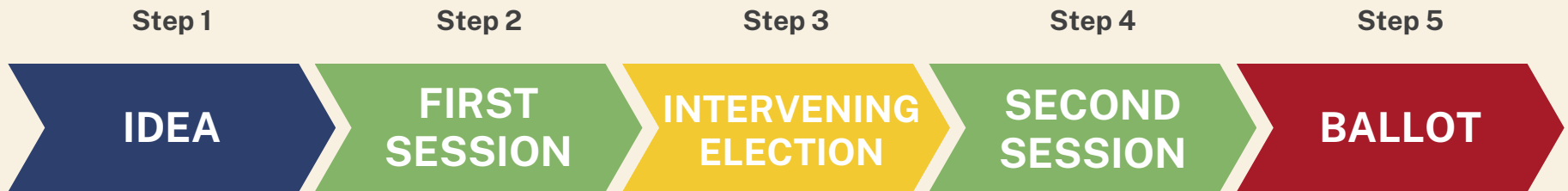




VIRGINIA

Constitutional Amendment Process



IDEA

- An idea is formed
- An amendment is drafted
- It's introduced in either the House or Senate or two companion bills are introduced in both chambers.



FIRST SESSION

- The amendment must follow the process through committees
- The amendment has to be approved by both chambers.
- Amendments cannot be vetoed by the governor.



INTERVENING ELECTION

- An election of the House of Delegates must occur before the amendment is taken up again.



SECOND SESSION

- The amendment is introduced again, as passed in the first session.
- The language of the amendment cannot be altered.
- The amendment must pass both chambers.



BALLOT

- The language as passed twice goes to the ballot for the people to decide.
- People vote yes/no to add the language to the state constitution.
- This is the final step. If yes, the amendment becomes part of the state constitution. If no, it dies.