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| A close up of a logo  Description automatically generated | **Lawmaking Processes** |
| * **I can understand the state and lawmaking processes** * **I can compare and contrast the state and federal lawmaking processes.** |

It is the job of local governments to make communities better places to live. To do this job, local lawmakers have the power to pass ordinances. Ordinances are laws that govern a local community. Ordinances must not conflict with state laws, called statutes, or with federal laws, called acts.

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| **Types of Laws** | | |
| **Type** | **Definition** | **Example** |
| Ordinance | Local Laws | School Zoning |
| Statute | State Laws | Designated River Protection Area |
| Act | Federal Laws | Immigration law |

**Lawmaking at the State Level**

An idea for a state law can come from state legislators, the governor, or even ordinary citizens. The process for creating state laws (statutes) can be just as difficult as it is to create federal laws (acts). See the process on the next page.

**Similarities between the Federal and State Lawmaking Processes**

If the Florida process of how a bill becomes a law seems similar to the federal process, that is because the two processes are almost identical. The state legislature has various committees like Congress. Also like Congress, the state legislature committees study bills, hold hearings, and revise bills if necessary. Finally, both legislative chambers (the Florida House of Representatives and the Senate) must approve a bill, and the governor must sign it before it becomes law. This is similar to how the president must sign a bill before it becomes law.

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