

# **PHYSICS MEETS POLICY: A SUMMER ON CAPITOL HILL**

**SARAH MONK  
AIP MATHER POLICY INTERN  
AUGUST 10 2018**



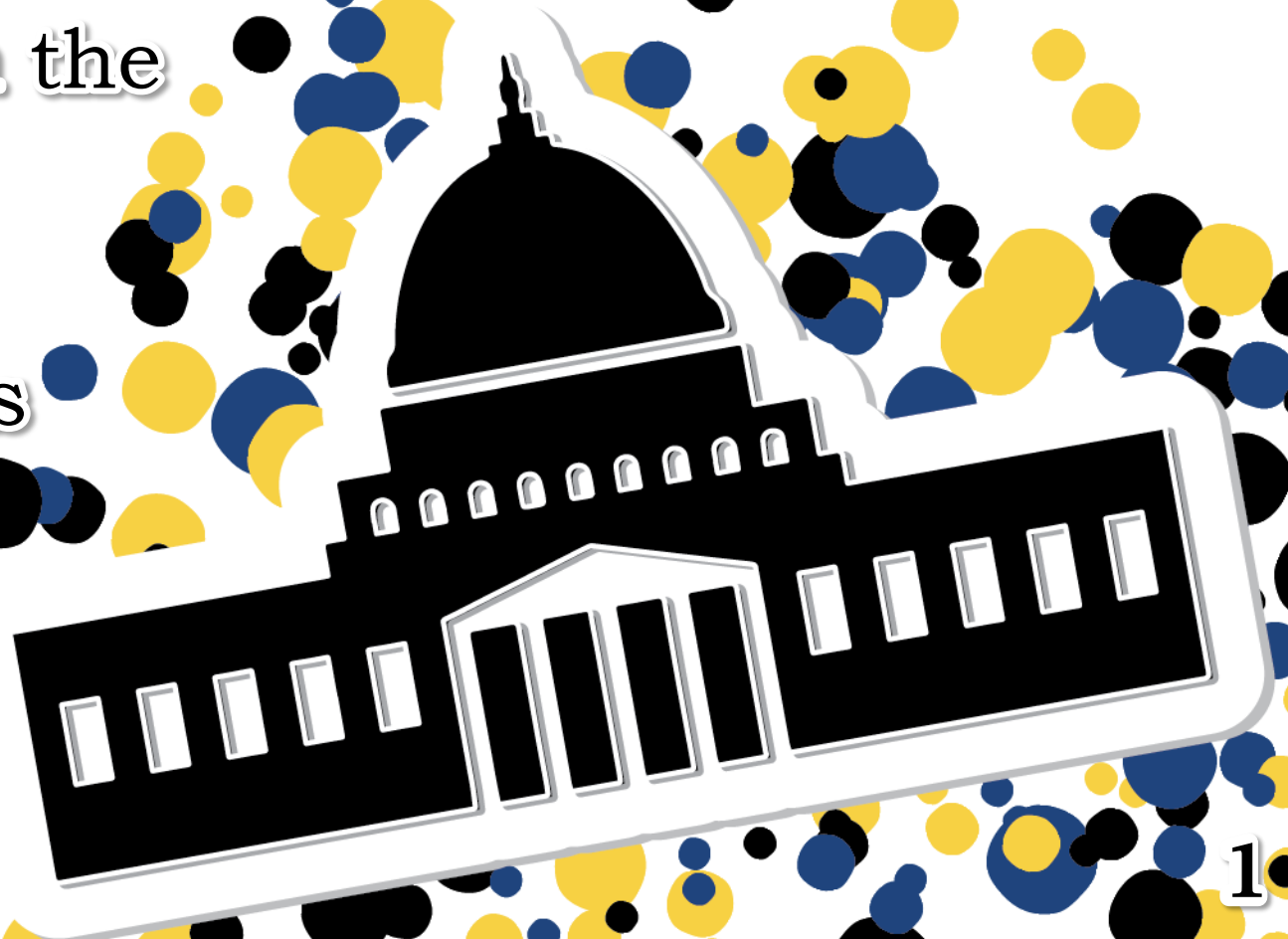
# OVERVIEW

## Working with the Committee

My role in the  
office

Expectations

Lessons  
Learned



# INTRO TO THE COMMITTEE



## COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, & TECHNOLOGY



# WORKING IN THE BACKGROUND



Environment

Oversight



Space



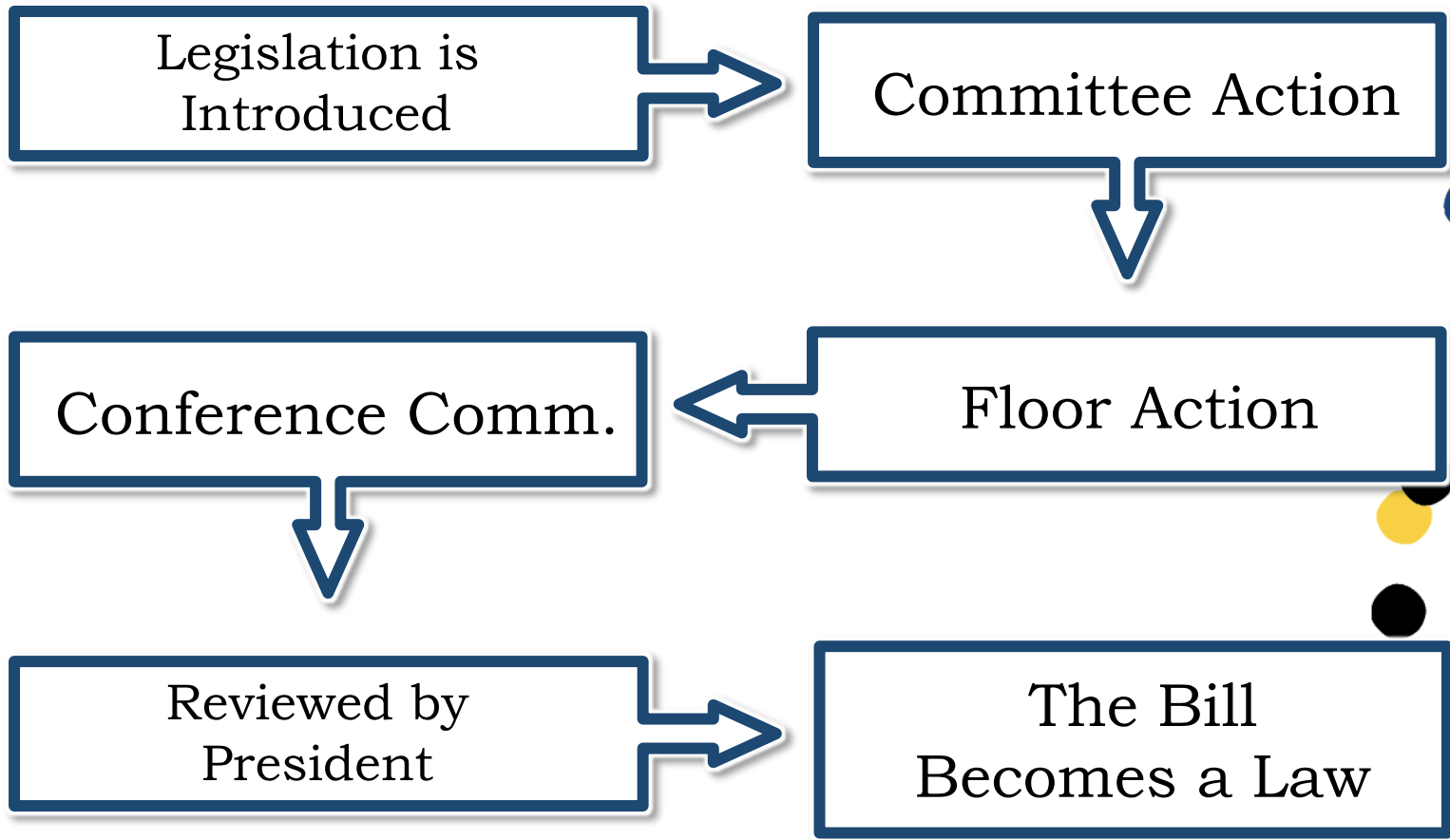
Energy



**NIST**  
Research &  
Technology



# THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



# LIFE IN THE COMMITTEE OFFICE

- Hearings
  - Provide Members with advice from witnesses to make informed decisions
- Markups
  - discussion from Committee Members on submitted Bills
  - Committee vote to send Bills to the Floor
- Legislation
  - Draft bills on scientific issues



# PREPARING FOR A HEARING

- Research the topic, compile a background document - Memo
- Provide opening statements
- Construct Member questions
- Assemble Member binders
- Prepare Hearing Dais
- Photograph hearing
- Review and edit hearing transcript



# EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

- I had to jump in immediately

My first week was one of my busiest

- Jargon, names, and processes
- Writing skills put to the test every day
- Listen and learn

# SOME TAKEAWAYS

- Get to know the rest of the staff
  - Take initiative
- Keep to a timeline
- Participate as much as possible in Hill and non-Hill events and network
- Physicists have an important role to play





# THANK YOU

Dr. John Mather  
Bethany Johns & Jen Greenamoyer  
The House SST Committee  
The SPS Team  
The SPS Interns

