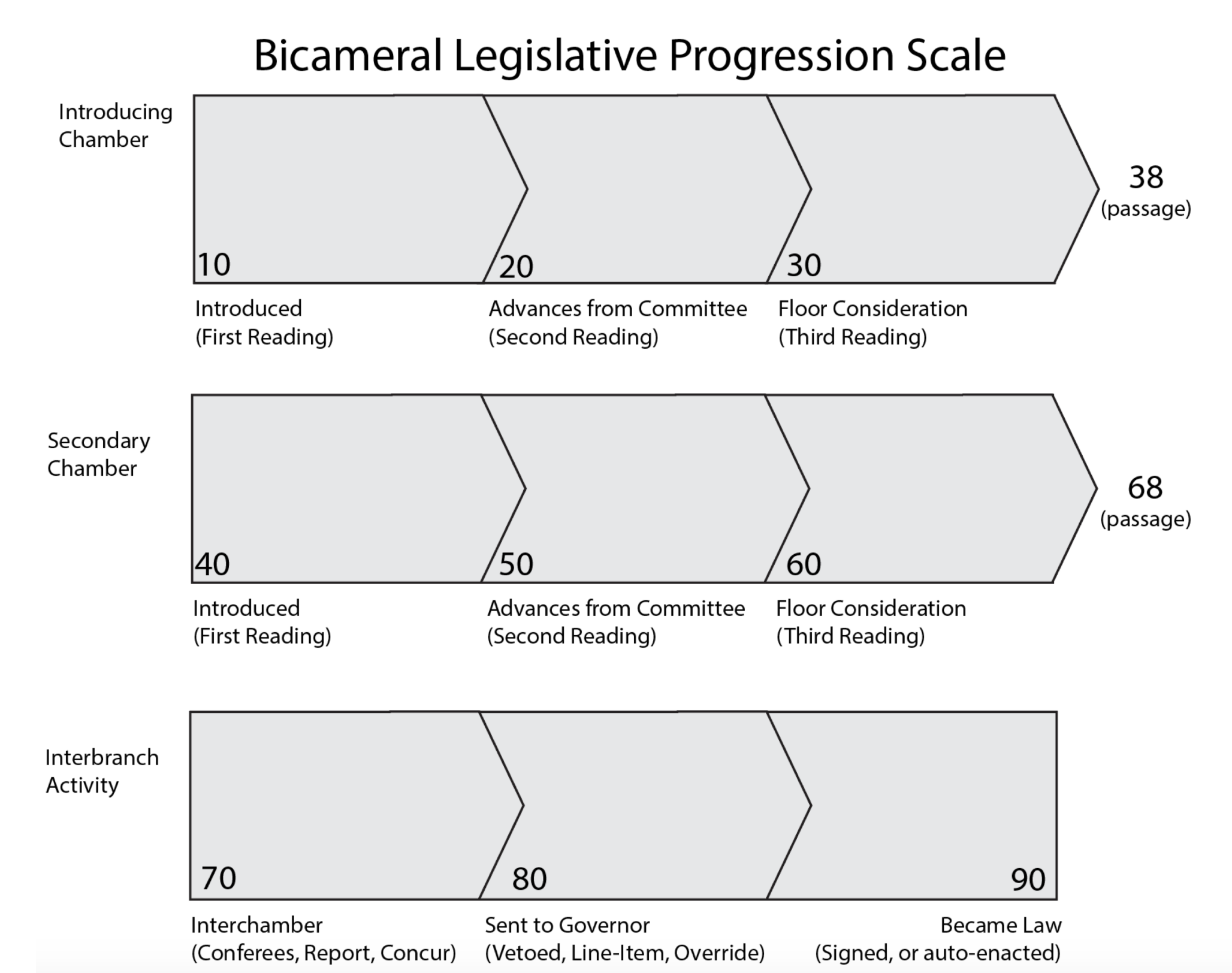


State Legislative Rules Shape Bill Advancement and Passage Rates

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Measuring Legislative Progression

- 1,058,684 bills from all 50 states (2009-2018) were coded and validated by 23 stages of legislative progression.
- Data collected from the [Open States](#) project, and bill histories were coded by the following scale:



Bill introduction Limits

State	Lower Chamber	Upper Chamber
Arizona	5	-
California	50	65
Colorado	5	5
Florida	6	-
Louisiana	5	5
Montana	7	7
North Carolina	15	-
North Dakota	5	3
Nebraska	-	8
Nevada	5	10
Oklahoma	8	-
Oregon	2	1
Tennessee	15	9
Virginia	20	8
Wyoming	-	10

Figure 1. The number of limits by chamber in the 15 states that impose bill introduction limits.

Bills are more likely to receive floor consideration in states with introduction limits. Bills in these states are also more likely to be enacted into law.

Legislative Progression Across Four Categories of States

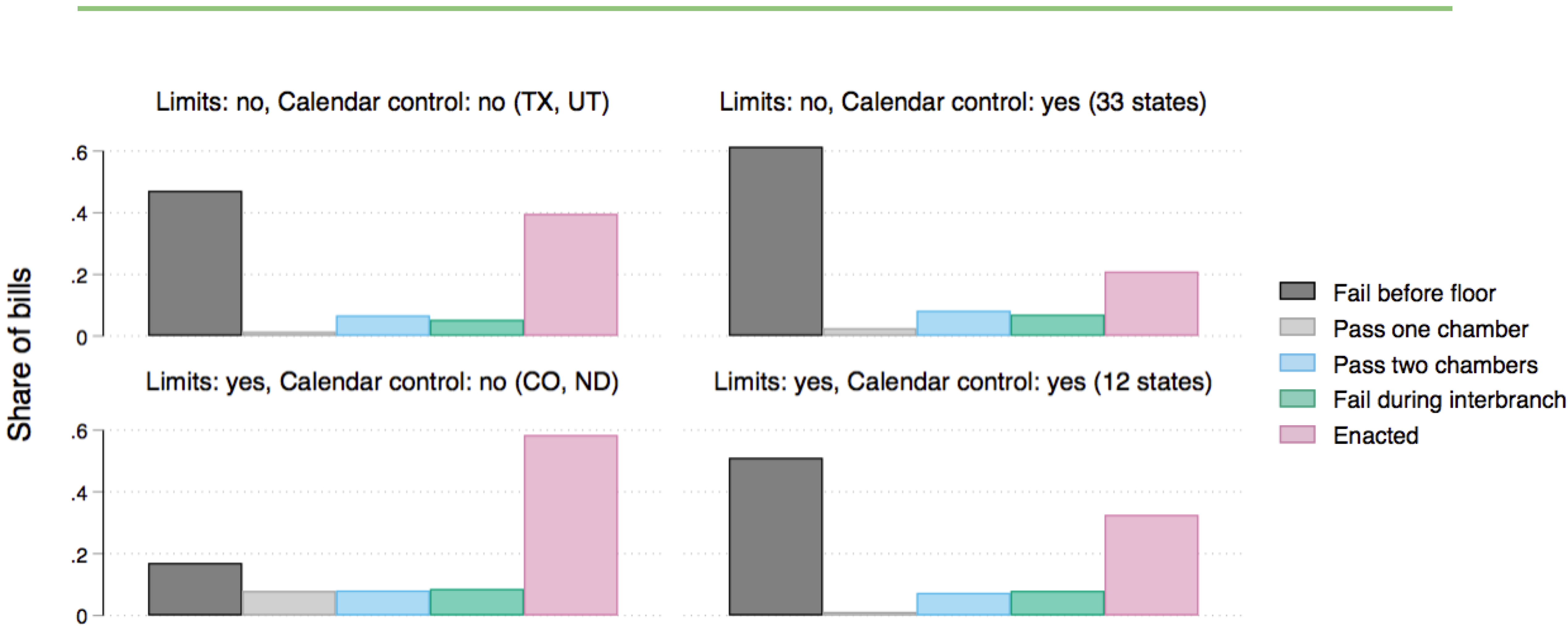


Figure 2. These 4 graphs illustrate the legislative progression of all bills introduced in the given states since 2010.

States where the majority party controls the legislative calendar have a higher share of bill failure before the floor, at the same "winnowing" stage as Congress.

Theory

- Unlike in Congress (Krutz 2002), legislative institutions (rules) will affect patterns of bill advancement.
- We predict that bill introduction limits (which makes individual bills more important) and the majority party's "non-reporting" rights (which allow the majority party to control the legislative calendar) will have a major impact on bill advancement and passage.

Results

	% Passes	% Fails before floor
Bill Limits	0.11** (0.05)	-0.09* (0.05)
Majority Calendar Control	-0.19** (0.08)	0.19** (0.09)
Professionalization	-0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)
Governor (Dem.)	0.01 (0.03)	-0.00 (0.04)
Chamber (Dem.)	0.00 (0.02)	0.02 (0.03)
Total # of bills (log)	-0.05** (0.01)	0.07** (0.01)
Constant	0.70** (0.12)	-0.06 (0.13)
Observations (chamber-year)	811	811

Standard errors in parenthesis, clustered by state.

* p<0.1, ** p<0.05

- Floor consideration:** States with bill introduction limits see a decrease in bill failure before the floor. Majority calendar control leads to a increase in bill failure before the floor.
- Bill passage into law:** In states with bill introduction limits, more bills pass to become law. Majority calendar control leads to a decrease in this overall bill passage.