Capstone Two Project Proposal: Predicting Bill Passage

Problem Statement: What factors or combination of factors are the strongest determinators of whether a bill introduced in the house will pass?

❏ Context:

Most bills introduced in the House of Reps. are never even called up to vote. Further, many bills with similar purposes are proposed each session. What factors will allow a legislator or lobbyist to predict whether a bill will pass

❏ Criteria for Success:

The creation of a model with better than baseline accuracy.

❏ Scope of Solution Space:

Determining the most relevant factors to bill success/failure

❏ Constraints within Solution Space:

About 1/6th of all bills even make it past committee. About 3/4ths of those bills are brought to vote. Nearly all pass the house, but only about 1/4th of those make it through the senate. This means the model could predict that all bills will not pass and still be over 90% accurate leading to a high probability for bias.

❏ Stakeholders:

❏ Key Data Sources:

ProPublica's API