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| I'm Just a Bill  **Music & Lyrics:** Dave Frishberg  **Performed By:** Jack Sheldon  **Animation:** Phil Kimmelman and Associates  **First Aired:** 1975 |
| **Boy: Woof! You sure gotta climb a lot of steps to get to this Capitol Building here in Washington. But I wonder who that sad little scrap of paper is?**  I'm just a bill. Yes, I'm only a bill. And I'm sitting here on Capitol Hill. Well, it's a long, long journey To the capital city. It's a long, long wait While I'm sitting in committee, But I know I'll be a law someday At least I hope and pray that I will, But today I am still just a bill.  **Boy: Gee, Bill, you certainly have a lot of patience and courage.**  **Bill: Well I got this far. When I started, I wasn't even a bill, I was just an idea. Some folks back home decided they wanted a law passed, so they called their local Congressman and he said, "You're right, there oughta be a law." Then he sat down and wrote me out and introduced me to Congress. And I became a bill, and I'll remain a bill until they decide to make me a law.**  I'm just a bill Yes I'm only a bill, And I got as far as Capitol Hill. Well, now I'm stuck in committee And I'll sit here and wait  While a few key Congressmen discuss and debate Whether they should let me be a law. How I hope and pray that they will, But today I am still just a bill.  **Boy: Listen to those congressmen arguing! Is all that discussion and debate about you?**  **Bill: Yeah, I'm one of the lucky ones. Most bills never even get this far. I hope they decide to report on me favourably, otherwise I may die.**  **Boy: Die?**  **Bill: Yeah, die in committee. Oooh, but it looks like I'm gonna live! Now I go to the House of Representatives, and they vote on me.**  **Boy: If they vote yes, what happens?**  **Bill: Then I go to the Senate and the whole thing starts all over again.**  **Boy: Oh no!**  **Bill: Oh yes!**  I'm just a bill Yes, I'm only a bill And if they vote for me on Capitol Hill Well, then I'm off to the White House Where I'll wait in a line With a lot of other bills For the president to sign And if he signs me, then I'll be a law. How I hope and pray that he will, But today I am still just a bill.  **Boy: You mean even if the whole Congress says you should be a law, the president can still say no?**  **Bill: Yes, that's called a veto. If the President vetoes me, I have to go back to Congress and they vote on me again, and by that time you're so old...**  **Boy: By that time it's very unlikely that you'll become a law. It's not easy to become a law, is it?**  **Bill: No!**  But how I hope and I pray that I will, But today I am still just a bill.  **Congressman: He signed you, Bill! Now you're a law!**  **Bill: Oh yes!!!** |