

**FIGURE 1.2**

How laws are made—simplified Senate process for House bills. (Adapted by Fred Kuglin from <https://votesmart.org/education/how-a-bill-becomes-law>.)

invoked, and the Senate voted 97–1 to begin working on the bill with no amendments. Senator Vitter was the only no vote.¹⁰

On November 18, H.R. 3204 was passed in the Senate by voice vote. The bill immediately was sent to President Obama for his signature (Figure 1.2).¹¹

As I mentioned in the introduction, President Obama signed H.R. 3204 into law on November 27, 2013. H.R. 3204 officially became the Drug Quality and Security Act. The president completed the cycle of a bill being introduced into the House of Representatives by the signing of the bill into law. The sausage was made!

As President Obama was signing H.R. 3204 into law, I was in the recovery room with my wife. In recovery, I had no idea what drugs were given to me or if they were compounded to accommodate my surgery. In addition, I had so many presurgery tests that I had no clue if I had used a compounded drug for any of them (i.e., CT scan with a myelogram). As a patient, I had faith that everyone—from my surgeon to my primary care physician, from the nurses to the supporting staff at the hospital, from the numerous specialists to the janitorial staff that clean the operating and recovery rooms, and from the pharmaceutical companies to all of their supply chain partners—was doing their job and my surgery would be a success.