

**FIGURE 1.1**

How laws are made—simplified House of Representatives process. (Adapted by Fred Kuglin from http://www.house.gov/content/learn/legislative_process.)

the House of Representatives. The idea to protect our pharmaceutical drug supply originated with several representatives. The next step was to get a sponsor for the bill. Representative Fred Upton (R-Michigan Sixth District) sponsored the bill, introducing it to the House of Representatives on September 27, 2013. The Drug Quality and Security Act bill was immediately referred to the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee. The bill was not debated or amended. The House voted on September 28, 2013, to pass the bill in a voice vote.⁸

Fred is the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee chairman. He holds a powerful position in the House, lending credence and importance to the bill by being its sponsor. In addition, there were 3 deaths in Representative Upton's district, while there were 264 infections and 22 deaths in the state of Michigan associated with the New England Compounding Center meningitis outbreak (Figure 1.1).⁹

The H.R. 3204 bill was received in the Senate on September 30, 2013. It was placed on the legislative calendar, and the Senate began debate on the bill on November 12, 2013. Senator David Vitter (R-LA) filibustered the bill to try to get the Senate to amend H.R. 3204 and pass the Show Your Exemption Act. That bill would mandate all House of Representatives and Senators to disclose the members of their staffs they elected to exempt from enrolling in insurance through an Obamacare exchange. Cloture was