



# Functions of Parliament: Making law

## INQUIRY QUESTION

How are laws made?



## SUCCESS CRITERIA

Students will be able to:

- Explain that one function of Parliament is to make law.
- Identify where ideas for new laws can come from.
- Describe how laws are made in Queensland.
- Gather relevant data and information.
- Organise and represent data in a table.

## STUDENT ACTIVITY 1

### *DIAMANTINASAURUS MATILDAEAS* THE QUEENSLAND STATE FOSSIL

Eligibility - Queensland residents

<b>Principal Petitioner:</b>  Naomi Miles Business Development Manager Lot 1 Dinosaur Way WINTON QLD 4735  <b>Total Signatures - 775</b>	<b>Sponsoring Member:</b> The Clerk of the Parliament  <b>Posting Date:</b> 8/9/2020  <b>Tabled Date:</b> 8/9/2020  <b>Responded By:</b> Hon Anastacia Palaszczuk MP on 16/2/2021
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**TO: The Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland**

The petition of citizens of Queensland and residents of the State of Queensland draws to the attention of the House the creation of a State Fossil for Queensland.

Your petitioners therefore request the House to consider the installation of *Diamantinasaurus matildae* as the Queensland State Fossil.

(The original can be viewed [here](#)).

Read the petition above and answer the following questions:

1. Identify the person who created the petition (known as the petitioner).

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2. Identify who the petition was addressed to.

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3. Identify how many signatures the petition received.

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4. Identify the date the petition was tabled.

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5. Identify who responded to the petition.

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## EXIT TICKET

**Ideas for laws can come from lots of different places.** Where did the idea for the law creating a new fossil emblem come from?

### STUDENT ACTIVITY 2

Collecting and using data can help us make decisions.

[View](#) the list of 12 fossils Queenslanders could vote for in 2021, then answer the questions below:

1. Select your favourite fossil from the list. Explain why you chose this fossil.

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2. As a class, create a tally of how many votes each fossil received by asking each student to share their answer to Question 1—it's ok if some fossils get zero votes!

3. Using this information, create a bar graph.

a. The horizontal (long) axis should have the title '*Fossil*' and list the different fossils that receive at least 1 vote.

b. The vertical (up) axis should have the title '*Number of votes*' and show the total number of votes each fossil got.

4. Identify which fossil got the most votes in your class.

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5. Compare your answer to Question 4 with most Queenslanders. Did your class agree or disagree that the *Muttaburrasaurus langdoni* should be our fossil emblem?

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### STUDENT ACTIVITY 3

Watch [this video](#) for an overview of how laws are made in Queensland, before we explain each step in more detail.

## STUDENT ACTIVITY 4

Read the speech and answer the questions below:

**The Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe** (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Tourism, Innovation and Sport and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics and Paralympics Sport and Engagement):

*'I present a Bill for an act to amend...the Emblems of Queensland Act 2005...I table the Bill and the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the Economics and Governance Committee to consider the Bill.*

*I am pleased to introduce the Emblems of Queensland and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023. As noted, this Bill will officially recognise the Muttaborrasaurus langdoni as our state's fossil emblem.'* (Record of Proceedings, 14 September 2023, p. 2711)

(As all speeches are recorded in written and audio-visual form, you can also watch this speech being made [here](#) by clicking the 'film camera' symbol).

1. Identify the name of the MP who presented the Bill.

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2. Identify the name of the electorate they represent.

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3. Identify the three documents the MP tabled in Parliament.

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4. Explain the reason the new law is being proposed.

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## STUDENT ACTIVITY 5

In Activity 4 you read that the Emblems of Queensland and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 was given to the Economics and Governance Committee to look at.

This committee had 6 members:

Mr Linus Power MP, Member for Logan (Chair)	Mr Ray Stevens MP, Member for Mermaid Beach (Deputy Chair)	Mr Michael Crandon MP, Member for Coomera	Mrs Melissa McMahon MP, Member for Macalister	Mr Dan Purdie MP, Member for Ninderry	Mr Adrian Tantari MP, Member for Hervey Bay

1. Using the Electoral Commission of Queensland 2020 results [web page](#), colour the boxes above each member’s name to show which party they belong.
  - a. Colour Red—Australian Labor Party (State of Queensland) (ALP)
  - b. Colour Blue—Liberal National Party of Queensland (LNP)
  - c. Colour Pink—Other
2. Identify the number of government (ALP) and non-government (LNP and other) MPs were on the committee.

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3. Explain why having a mixture of government and non-government MPs on a committee is beneficial. Infer whether having a varied group of MPs might be negative.

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## STUDENT ACTIVITY 6



### Recommendations

#### Recommendation 1

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The committee recommends the Emblems of Queensland and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 be passed.

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Above is an extract (or a part) of the Committee report.

1. Identify what the committee recommended in their report.

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## STUDENT ACTIVITY 7

**Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP)(Leader of the Opposition): The opposition will be supporting this Bill...I note that the ACT, New South Wales, Western Australia, and South Australia already have fossil emblems. This is important for us as a state, ensuring our identity is represented and celebrated. The selection of a fossil emblem will aid in the promotion of Queensland as a palaeo tourism destination... (Record of Proceedings, 15 November 2023, p. 3568)





## STUDENT ACTIVITY 8

You can see what the Governor of Queensland does by looking at her program (or diary).

View the [Governor's Program](#) for 4 to 8 December 2023.

**Identify the date the Governor gave this Bill Royal Assent:** Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM granted Royal Assent to the Emblems of Queensland and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 on \_\_ December 2023.

## EXIT TICKET

Arrange the steps a Bill follows to become an Act in the correct order:

- Consideration-in-detail
- Presentation and first reading
- Committee consideration
- Second reading
- Royal Assent
- Third reading
- Committee report