

The Legislative Process

Cloze Passage

Read through the following passage and select the word or phrase from the table that best fits in each space. You can use each word or phrase only once.

One of Parliament's main function is to _____ and change laws. Parliament looks at drafts laws, called _____, _____ (1) _____, and then decides (by voting) whether it should become law. A bill can be _____ (2) _____ by any Member of Parliament, not just government members. _____ (3)

Before introducing a bill to Parliament a Minister or Member of Parliament will draft a proposal for a bill. Ministers need to present a Bill proposal to Cabinet for approval. If _____ (4) _____ approves the proposed Bill, the Parliamentary Counsel will prepare it. The Bill is then taken back to Cabinet for final approval before it is introduced into Parliament.

There are steps, or stages, through which a bill must _____ (5) _____. The Parliamentary stages of law making are stated below.

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| 1. Introduction and First Reading | 4. _____ (6) |
| 2. Committee consideration | 5. Third reading and Long Title |
| 3. Second reading | 6. _____ (7) |

The three formal _____ (8) _____ of a Bill's passage through the Parliament include the First Reading - permission to _____ the Bill; the Second Reading - debate on the Bill's _____ (9) _____ underlying principles and including the Committee Stage; and the Third Reading - the final stage prior to the Bill being _____ (10) _____. If the majority of Members _____ (11) _____ yes, the Minister or Member of Parliament will move that the long title of the bill be read.

After the third reading stage, the Bill is presented to the _____ (12) _____, as the Queen's representative, to sign. This is called _____ (13) _____ Assent. After this, the Bill becomes law.