



# The legislative process

FACTSHEET

## YOU CAN...

Raise important issues with the Assembly and MLAs

## DRAFTING

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office (PCO) receive directions to write a new bill. Ideas for bills can come from campaign promises, petitions, community feedback, or intergovernmental agreements.

## YOU CAN...

Share how to get involved with your local community

## PRESENTATION

The bill is presented in the Assembly by a member. Debate is then typically adjourned to give members time to read and consider the contents of the bill.

## YOU CAN...

Write a submission or appear at a public hearing

## SCRUTINY & INQUIRY

All bills are sent to two committees while debate is adjourned. They are sent to the scrutiny committee to make sure that the bill is well-written and complies with the *Human Rights Act 2004*. They are also sent to a relevant subject area committee which can choose either to hold an inquiry into the bill or to send it back to the Assembly without inquiry. Both committees must report back before debate can continue.

## READ IT ONLINE

Find inquiry details online [parliament.act.gov.au](http://parliament.act.gov.au)

## AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE

Members debate the general ideas of the bill and vote on whether they agree with them. Bills require a majority of votes in favour to pass. If it doesn't or the vote ties, the bill fails.

## YOU CAN...

Encourage MLAs to change parts of a bill

## DETAIL STAGE

Members can choose to make changes to a bill during the detail stage. Each proposed change is voted on and requires a majority in favour to pass.

The Assembly can choose to skip this stage if no one wants to make any changes. This happens regularly.

## YOU CAN...

Encourage MLAs to vote in favour or against a bill

## AGREEMENT

Members vote on whether they want to adopt the bill as law.

## NOTIFICATION

The Speaker writes to PCO to ask them to change its status on the online Legislation Register. Once this is done, it becomes a law!

## READ IT ONLINE

Check a bill's status online [legislation.act.gov.au](http://legislation.act.gov.au)