

How We Make And Enforce Laws

Oct. 25th / 10

BILLS - Much of business of parliament involves the consideration and passage of bills, the term used for proposed laws.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL - A bill introduced into the legislature by a member of parliament who is not a member of the cabinet.

- Any member of the house of commons or senate can introduce a bill.

100 people in senate

so introduce new laws

- After cabinet has decided how to change the law, government lawyers draft a bill that puts into language, what the government wants.

- A federal bill must pass three readings in both the house of commons and senate before it can be signed into law.

FIRST READING - The bill is introduced and read a first time in either the House of Commons or the senate, and then printed up for study.

SECOND READING - Members debate and vote on the principle of the bill.

CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE - Committee study the bill clause by clause. They ask for witnesses and experts to provide information on the bill and changes.