How a bill becomes law

**THE PUBLIC**
- MPs may be lobbied to create or change laws.
- The public make submissions on the bill.
- MPs may be lobbied to accept or reject the bill.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
- **Introduction**
  The bill is introduced, and MPs have time to read and consider it.

**SELECT COMMITTEE**
- **First reading**
  MPs debate and vote on the bill. If the vote is lost, the bill goes no further. If successful, it is sent to a select committee.

**SELECT COMMITTEE**
- The select committee usually has 6 months to gather information and prepare a report on the bill for the House. The report includes recommendations on any changes that may be needed.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
- **Second reading**
  The House debates the select committee report and votes on the bill. If the vote is lost, the bill goes no further. If successful, the bill is ready for the committee of the whole House.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**
- MPs consider the bill in detail and vote on proposed changes. The committee reports to the House.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
- **Third reading**
  Final debate and vote. If the vote is lost, the bill goes no further. If successful, the bill has been passed.

**ROYAL ASSENT**
- Bill signed by Governor-General and becomes an Act.

**COPY AVAILABLE**
- First copy published. Copies are available at legislation.govt.nz
- Second copy published if changes are recommended by select committee.
- Third copy published if changes have been made.
- Statute copy published.