

Welcome to the

PARLIAMENT of SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Member of the Legislative Council



Electorate Responsibilities

- ✿ Represents the people in whole of South Australia
- ✿ Attends regular Public Meetings
- ✿ Attends to Constituents: correspondence, petitions, phone calls, emails and visits
- ✿ Grievances - presents issues from local area in Parliament

Functions of Parliament

- ❁ Law making
- ❁ Scrutiny of Government
- ❁ Budget



Constitution Act 1856 (SA)

Law Making ***- same process in both Houses***

- ✿ Initiation – idea
- ✿ First Reading of Bill
- ✿ Second Reading
- ✿ Committee of the Whole
- ✿ Third Reading
- ✿ Transmitted to other House
- ✿ Presented to Governor for Royal Assent

Bill sent to Governor for Royal Assent

- ❁ As the Queen's Representative the Governor signs the Bill with the Royal Seal and it becomes a law



Law Making - Parliament needs to be well informed to make good laws

- ❁ Select Committees are set up to look into issues in depth
for example:
 - Glenside Campus Redevelopment
 - Behavioural Management in Public Schools
- ❁ Standing Committees are set up to look at areas of continuing interest
for example:
 - Social Development Standing Committee
 - Environment, Resources and Development Standing Committee
- ❁ The Committees report to the Houses of Parliament

Scrutiny - Ministers are asked about their portfolio responsibilities at Question Time

- ✿ The Ministers are responsible to the Parliament
This is known as Responsible Government
- ✿ The Members are accountable to the people at Election Time

Budget - The Government must state each year what it is going to spend

✿ *Appropriation Bill*

Budget Bill presented to the Parliament to be passed as legislation which authorises the expenditure

✿ *Estimates Committees*

The Government justifies each departmental budget by answering questions from Members of the House of Assembly