# Great Britain Government and Politics

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# **By-elections**

□ take place **when a seat** in the House of Commons **becomes vacant** between general elections.



## Reasons

## an MP:

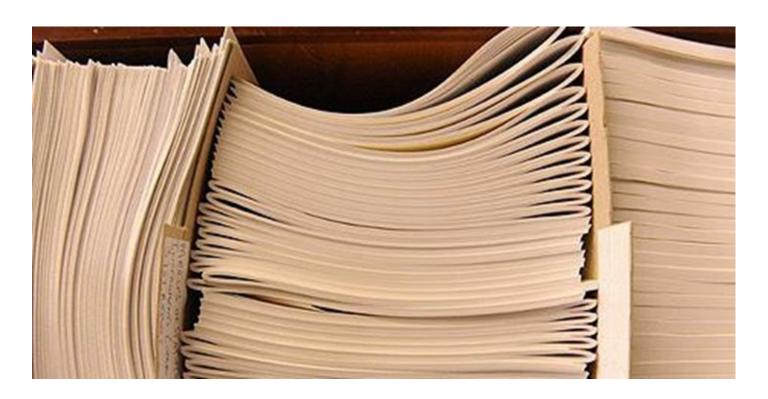
- resigns;
- dies;
- bankrupt;
- mentally ill;
- convicted for a serious criminal offence.

# 'Moving the Writ'

- a motion moved in the House of Commons Chamber
- 1. initiated by the Chief Whip of MP whose seat becomes vacant.
- 2. The Speaker puts the question to the House for a decision.
- 3. If agreed it becomes an Order for the Speaker
- 4. Clerk of the Crown who then sends the writ to the relevant Returning Officer.

# Private Members' Bills

- Public Bills introduced by MPs and Lords who are not government ministers.



# Purpose and Introduction

**Purpose**: to change the law as it applies to the general population.

- can be introduced in either House;
- must go through the set stages

Third Reading
Third Reading
Final Approval by Assembly
Report to House
Receipt of Bill from Committee
Receipt of Bill from Committee

First Reading
Introduction

Draft Bill

Idea

## Bills In the House of Commons

### Three ways of introducing:

#### 1. The Ballot

The names of Members applying for a Bill are drawn in a ballot held on the second sitting Thursday.

#### 2. The Ten Minute Rule

Members make speeches outlining their position, which another Member may oppose in a similar short statement.

#### 2. Presentation

Members formally introduce the title of the Bill but do not speak in support of it.

# Bills in the Lords

- are introduced through a ballot held on the day after State Opening of a new session;
- if an MP supports the Bill, it continues in the Commons;
- Lord Bills are of a lesser priority.

# The Shadow Cabinet

- the team of senior spokespeople chosen by the Leader of the Opposition.
- mirrors the Cabinet in Government.
- Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition

#### Each member:

- leads on a specific policy area;
- questions and challenges their counterpart in the Cabinet.

# An Alderman

- a senior member of a local authority, elected by its directly elected members.
- phased out by the Local Government Act 1972.

#### **Today**

- <u>active rank</u> **only** in the City of London;
- honorary rank county, district, and London borough councils.

# White-collar Worker

- a person who performs professional, managerial, or administrative work.
- performed in an office or other administrative setting.

#### Some others

- a blue collar non-agricultural manual labour;
- a pink-collar in the service industry;
- a green-collar in the environmental sectors of the economy.

# THANK YOU FOR WATCHING