Appendix B  Passage of legislation

Bills may be introduced in either the Legislative Assembly or the Legislative Council but must be considered by each House in turn. The following sets out the steps for the passage of legislation through the Legislative Assembly.

Notice of Motion
by Minister or Private Member.

Introduction (First Reading)
Formal motion to introduce Bill
“I move, that a bill for an Act to [long title] be introduced”.
The mover hands three copies to the Clerk.

The second reading is moved by Minister (or private member).
“I move, that this bill be now read a second time”.

Debate on Bill is usually adjourned at this point for some days. (5 clear days after the mover’s speech unless standing orders have been suspended or the bill has been declared an urgent bill).

Second reading debate.

Possible reference to a legislation committee or to a specific committee for inquiry

Amendments may be moved to the second reading to “dispose of the bill” (S.O. 199) or to defer consideration of the bill for a specified time period (S.O. 200)

Consideration in detail – amendments may be proposed and voted on.

Unless a member requests consideration in detail, either immediately or at a later time, or there is a motion for a pro forma consideration the Speaker will call on the mover to move the third reading.

After consideration in detail the member in charge of the bill will move the motion “That this bill be now read a third time”.