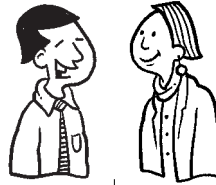


How Australia is ruled

At elections **voters** choose people to **represent** them.



Those elected go to **Parliament** to make Australia's laws.



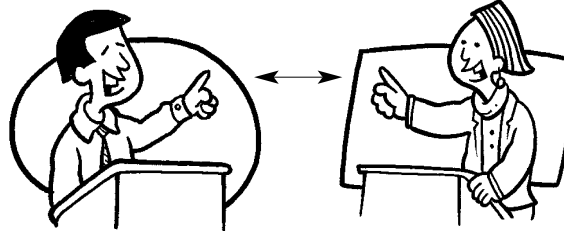
Federal Parliament has two 'houses'.



The House of Representatives

Members are elected for 3 years and represent local areas (electorates).

Members propose laws.

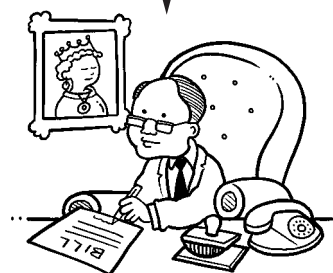


The Senate

Senators are elected for 6 years and represent a State or Territory.

Senators check the proposals.

When **both** houses have agreed, the Governor-General has to sign it before it can become a **law**.



Then everyone in Australia has to obey the new law. And if the voters do not like the way the government rules Australia they can elect someone *else* next time!

Did you know ...?
There is a Queen of Australia. Australia's Governor-General represents the Queen.