
Canada, consisting of the Queen, an Upper House styled the Senate and a Lower House known as the House of Commons. Bills may originate in either the Senate or the Commons, subject to the provisions of Section 53 of the British North America Act, 1867, which provides that bills for the appropriation of any part of the public revenue or the imposition of any tax or impost shall originate in the House of Commons. Bills must pass both Houses and receive royal assent before becoming law. In practice, most public bills (whether introduced by the Government or a private member) originate in the House of Commons, although there has been a marked increase recently in the introduction of public bills in the Senate. Private bills -- that is, legislation having a private effect and purpose, such as the incorporation of corporations with Dominion objects -- usually originate in the Senate.

Under Section 91 of the British North America Act, as amended, the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada extends to the making of laws for the "Peace, Order and good Government of Canada". It includes authority to legislate in respect to:

- 1) the amendment of the Constitution of Canada, subject to certain exceptions;
 - 1a) the public debt and property;
 - 2) the regulation of trade and commerce;
 - 2a) unemployment insurance;
 - 3) the raising of money by any mode or system of taxation;
 - 4) the borrowing of money on the public credit;
 - 5) postal service;
 - 6) the census and statistics;
 - 7) militia, military and naval service, and defence;
 - 8) the fixing of and providing for the salaries and allowances of civil and other officers of the Government of Canada;
 - 9) beacons, buoys, lighthouses, and Sable Island;
 - 10) navigation and shipping;
 - 11) quarantine and the establishment and maintenance of marine hospitals;
 - 12) seacoast and inland fisheries;
 - 13) ferries between a province and any country or between two provinces;
 - 14) currency and coinage;
 - 15) banking, incorporation of banks, and the issue of paper money;
 - 16) savings banks;
 - 17) weights and measures;
 - 18) bills of exchange and promissory notes;
 - 19) interest;
 - 20) legal tender;
 - 21) bankruptcy and insolvency;
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