

People of Parliament: Governor

Cloze Passage

Read through the following passage and select the word or phrase from the table that best fits in each space. You can use each word or phrase only once.

Head of State	responsibilities	ceremonial	five	limited	centuries	ministers
Government House	government	parliament	writs	Royal Assent	monarchy	speeches
Executive Council	military parades	Sovereign	laws	travels	pardon	Queen

The role of Governor represents centuries (1) of tradition. In a constitutional monarchy (2), a King or Queen (3), called the Sovereign, rules in combination with a parliament (4), which represents the people. Here in Queensland, the Sovereign (5) is represented by the Governor. Governors are appointed by the Sovereign on the advice of the Premier, usually for a term of five (6) years.

The Governor, like the Sovereign in England, has limited (7) political power and is expected to remain apolitical. As the Sovereign's representative, the Governor is Queensland's symbolic head of state (8) and has the power to appoint and dismiss ministers (9), issue pardons and dissolve Parliament for a general election. Although the Governor does not participate in the political process, the position entails a range of important responsibilities (10).

The Governor's main constitutional responsibility is to ensure Queensland enjoys stable government (11). The Governor presides over meetings of the Executive Council (12), providing legal approval for many of the decisions and actions of government. The Governor plays an important role in the legislative process by granting Royal Assent (13) to Bills passed by the parliament, officially making them laws (14). On the advice of the Premier, the Governor also issues writs (15) for state elections. The Governor may, in the name of the Sovereign, grant a pardon (16) or reprieve to an offender.

The Governor officiates at a range of significant ceremonial (17) occasions and commemorations including the opening of Parliament, military parades (18), remembrance ceremonies and other significant occasions. The Governor also hosts ceremonies at Government House (19) to confer Queensland awards and honours. As patron to a wide range of community groups, the Governor travels (20) to all areas of Queensland to make visits, give speeches (21), and to attend receptions and celebrations of many milestones and anniversaries.