The State Budget's journey through Parliament

1. The State Government prepares the State Budget
2. The proposed budget is debated in the Legislative Assembly
3. The Legislative Council also considers the Appropriation Bill
4. The Public Accounts and Estimates Committee (PAEC) scrutinises the Government's spending plan at the Budget Estimates Hearings
5. PAEC's report contains recommendations to the Government and is tabled in Parliament
6. The Budget Estimates process leads to improved outcomes

Outcomes can include increased transparency of spending and changes to the presentation of the Budget papers

The Victorian Parliament grants the State Government the authority to spend money on services and infrastructure
The Budget papers must form part of the Appropriation Bill in order to have legal standing
Once the Bill is passed, it is presented to the Governor for Royal Assent and becomes law

At the hearings, PAEC asks Ministers questions about spending, revenue and funding, performance measures, resource management and public administration

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