

# **README: UK House of Commons Standing Orders Dataset, Version 1.0.0, *ParlRulesData Project*. 2019.**

## **Creators:**

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## **Data coverage:**

Dataset covers all the UK House of Commons' permanent Standing Orders relating to Public Business, between 21 June 1811 and 26 March 2015.

## **Terms of use:**

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## **Preferred citation formats:**

Users of this dataset are kindly requested to use the following two citations:

- UK House of Commons Standing Orders Dataset, Version 1.0.0, *ParlRulesData Project*. 2019.; and
- Goet, Niels D., Thomas G. Fleming, and Radoslaw Zubek. 2020. 'Procedural Change in the UK House of Commons, 1811-2015'. *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 45(1), pp. 35-67.

## Data structure:

The dataset is organised into consolidated versions – new versions of the standing orders created on each date when they were amended. This only reflects permanent amendments, so excludes those which were made on a temporary or ‘sessional’ basis. Each consolidated version is divided into sub-articles, defined as the smallest unit of separately labeled or numbered text.

For each sub-article in a consolidated version, we provide three pieces of information. First, we provide the text of the sub-article as it stood on that day. Second, we provide a ‘root number’. This is a unique identifier allocated at birth to each sub-article in the data, allowing sub-articles to be traced over time, *across* consolidated versions, even where they are amended. Third, we provide a ‘current number’. This indicates the order of sub-articles *within* each consolidated version. It consists of two parts – the actual number of the standing order of which a sub-article is a part, and a further number (after a decimal point) showing the order of sub-articles within each standing order. For example, the sixth sub-article in standing order 4 would have the current number 4.06.

## Data sources:

The following sources were used to create this dataset:

- UK Parliamentary Papers database ([parlipapers.proquest.com](http://parlipapers.proquest.com)).
- UK Parliament website ([parliament.uk](http://parliament.uk)).
- UK House of Commons Hansard ([hansard.parliament.uk](http://hansard.parliament.uk)).
- UK House of Commons Journal ([publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmjournal.htm](http://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmjournal.htm))