

This study aimed to analyze the policy making process in the Thai political system by means of a case study of the legislative process to amend the 1975 Agricultural Land Reform Act, a process which spanned 1986-1989. Emphasis was placed on the roles and influences of the proposers and opposers of the amendment bill.

The study found that, in the midst of political changes within and between the political parties in the coalition governments, the proposers were able to successfully use their power and influence over the opposers. Three interlinked factors were found to be important in this :

1. The fact that the government agency directly responsible, namely the Agricultural Land Reform office, was fully in support of the amendment.

2. The fact that the government was able to control the MPs' exercise of their voting rights such that the majority of them voted for the bill, eventhough there were changes in the government ranks.

3. The fact that the bill was proposed and went through the legislative process at an opportune time, namely in the early stages of the Chatichai government in 1989.