

Procedural Digest

No. 96

27 February -1 March 2012

<i>Feb to Mar 2012</i>				
M	T	W	T	F
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Bills

96.01 *Opposition legislative amendments agreed to*

In summing up the second reading cognate debate of the Social Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 and related bills, the Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Minister indicated that the Opposition was going to move amendments on the Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011 which would be supported by the Government.

During consideration in detail of the Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011, an Opposition Member moved the detailed amendments, which were agreed to on the voices.

The Minister then moved two Government amendments and tabled a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the bill. The amendments were agreed to and the bill was read a third time.

Hansard: 27 February 2012, 1815-7
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1254

SOs 63, 148, 150, 155

Business

96.02 *House meets at 12 noon Monday*

The Speaker took the Chair at 12 noon on Monday 27 February, made the acknowledgement of country and read Prayers.

The late meeting was to accommodate a meeting of the Australian Labor Party caucus to conduct a leadership ballot.

Note: The House usually meets at 10 am on Mondays.

Hansard: 27 February 2012, 1733
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1249

SOs 29, 30, 34

96.03 *Statements by indulgence regarding seventieth anniversary of the bombing of Broome*

Prior to question time, the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition each made a statement by indulgence on the seventieth anniversary of the bombing of Broome. The Leader of the House moved that further statements by indulgence on this matter be permitted in the Federation Chamber and the question was agreed to.

Hansard: 1 March 2012, 2513-4
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1288-9

SO 46

Committees

96.04 *Speaker presents committee and delegation reports*

The Speaker presented five committee reports (including two advisory reports) and one delegation report. In accordance with standing order 39 (e), the reports were made orders of the day and referred to the Federation Chamber for consideration later that day.

Note: Usually on a sitting Monday the Chair or Deputy Chair of a committee will present committee and delegation reports to the House, as determined by the Selection Committee. The five reports in question were originally scheduled to be presented that morning as per the normal convention, but were instead presented by the Speaker because of the late meeting time that day (see entry 96.02).

Hansard: 27 February 2012, 1782-3
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1253

SOs 39, 183, 199, 247

96.05 *Senate refers House bill to joint committee*

A message from the Senate was reported informing the House that the Senate had agreed to a resolution referring the provisions of the Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Trustee Obligations and Prudential Standards) Bill 2012 to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services for inquiry and report by 13 March 2012.

Hansard: 1 March 2012, 2437
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1283
Senate Hansard: 29 February 2012, 1246

SOs 224, 226, 261

96.06 *Proposed powers and proceedings of Joint Committee on Human Rights*

In accordance with the *Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011*, the House agreed to a motion establishing the powers and proceedings of the Joint Committee on Human Rights.

The motion provided that a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it with the resolution and requesting its concurrence.

Hansard: 1 March 2012, 2450-1
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1284-5

SO 224

Federation Chamber

96.07 *First meeting of Federation Chamber*

At 12 noon on 27 February, the Federation Chamber met for the first time.

The Main Committee was renamed the Federation Chamber in accordance with changes to the standing orders agreed to on 8 February (see entry 95.24).

Hansard: 27 February 2012, 1880-984
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1258-61

SOs 2, 3, 183, 186, 187, 190, 192

96.08 *Private Members' business and committee and delegation business debated in Federation Chamber on Tuesday*

Private Members' business and committee and delegation business were debated in the Federation Chamber on Tuesday, 28 February. This was in accordance with a motion to suspend standing orders agreed to the previous day (see entry 96.12).

Note: In accordance with standing order 192, private Members' business and committee and delegation business are normally debated in the Federation Chamber on Mondays.

Hansard: 28 February 2012, 2152-86
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1268-70

SOs 1, 34, 40, 41, 183, 192, 193

96.09 *Mover replies without closing debate*

A Member moved that the Federation Chamber adjourn. During the ensuing adjournment debate, the same Member, by leave, spoke without closing the debate.

Hansard: 1 March 2012, 2598, 2604-5
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1294

SOs 71, 190, 191

Matters of Public Importance

96.10 *Three matters of public importance proposed for discussion, Government Member matter selected*

The Speaker announced that he had received three proposals for a discussion of a matter of public importance by noon that day. The Speaker chose the matter proposed by a Government Member. This was preferred to proposals put forward by an Opposition Member and another Government Member.

More than the required eight members rose in their places to support the matter proposed by the Government Member and discussion ensued.

*Hansard: 29 February 2012, 2325-43
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1277*

SO 46

Members

96.11 *Member returns early after being directed to leave Chamber for one hour*

At approximately 2.18 pm a Member was directed to leave the Chamber under standing order 94 (a) for one hour.

At 3.15 pm, the Member returned to the Chamber during a division and sat in the advisers box. The Member was not counted in the division.

The Speaker noticed the Member return and advised that while he would not take any action on this occasion, any Member who repeated this act in the future would be named.

Hansard: 29 February 2012, 2310, 2324

SO 94

Private Members' business

96.12 *Standing orders suspended—programming of private Members' business and committee and delegation business*

On Monday 27 February the House agreed to a motion moved by the Leader of the House, by leave, to suspend standing and sessional orders. The motion provided for variations to the order of business and to the Selection Committee's determinations for the programming of private Members' business and committee and delegation business in the House that day, and in the Federation Chamber the following day.

The motion provided for a non-aligned Member to introduce a bill and for the Leader of the Opposition to move a private Member's motion in the Chamber during government business time that day.

The motion also suspended standing order 193 (Members' constituency statements) and arranged for the debate of private Members' business and committee and delegation reports in the Federation Chamber the following day.

The Leader of the House noted that this resolution allowed for the rescheduling of items of private Members' business and committee and delegation business which had been delayed due to the late meeting time that day (see entry 96.02).

Hansard: 27 February 2012, 1781-2
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1252-3

SOs 34, 35, 40, 41, 47, 183, 192, 193

Speaker

96.13 *Member's speech discontinued by Speaker for not being relevant*

The Deputy Leader of the Opposition seconded a motion to suspend standing orders during question time. After the Leader of the House raised three separate points of order claiming the Member was not being relevant to the question, the Speaker asked the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to resume her seat and gave the call to the Prime Minister.

Hansard: 27 February 2012, 1776-7

SOs 47, 75

96.14 *Speaker's statement regarding relevance*

On Wednesday 29 February, the Speaker made a statement to the House regarding the operation of the rule relating to relevance. He explained that in the conduct of debate, a Member must speak only to the subject matter of the question under discussion.

The Speaker noted some exceptions to the rule including the adjournment debate in both the House and the Federation Chamber, debate on the address-in-reply to the Governor-General's speech, debate on the budget bill and subsequent appropriation bills for the ordinary annual services of government, and the grievance debate.

The Speaker explained that if a Member moves an amendment to a motion including an amendment to the second reading of a bill, they and subsequent speakers, speak both to the original motion and the amendment.

He also noted that when the House debates bills cognately, a debate is permitted on the package of the bills generally.

The Speaker reminded Members that during debate on a motion to suspend standing and sessional orders, Members should confine their remarks to the reasons for the suspension and should not debate the substantive motion which is the subject of the suspension.

The statement was tabled by the Speaker.

Hansard: 29 February 2012, 2233
Votes and Proceedings: 2010-11-12/1273

SOs 47, 76

96.15 *Question to Speaker on programming of bills under inquiry by House committee*

A Member asked a question to the Speaker, on indulgence, about the programming of the Road Safety Remuneration Bill 2011 and the Road Safety Remuneration (Consequential Amendments and Related Provisions) Bill 2011.

The Member questioned why debate would occur on these bills the day before the Infrastructure and Communications Committee's advisory report on the bills was scheduled to be tabled.

The Speaker responded that debate could occur on the second reading of the bills but could not proceed to the consideration in detail stage until the Committee's advisory report was tabled.

Hansard: 29 February 2012, 2235-6, 2237

SOs 143, 144, 148, 215

Withdrawals

96.16 *Offensive words*

	Hansard	
	<i>Date</i>	<i>Page</i>
'...this deception...'	28 February 2012	2033
'...a fourth stooge...'	28 February 2012	2037-8
'...hypocrisy...'	28 February 2012	2045
'...he is guilty of these allegations.'	28 February 2012	2180-1
'...Prime Minister the opportunity to come into the House and tell the truth for a change...'	29 February 2012	2319-20
'...hypocrisy...'	29 February 2012	2387
'I would say that the Prime Minister and the truth are total strangers.'	1 March 2012	2525

SOs 89, 90, 92