

Special provisions for nursing mothers

Resolution adopted 13 February 2008 a.m.

- (1) That the House, recognising that Members who are required to nurse infants may not always be able to attend in the Chamber to vote in divisions:
 - (a) agrees that, despite the provisions of the standing orders, a Member may give her vote by proxy for any division except that on the third reading of a bill which proposes an alteration of the Constitution if the Member is nursing an infant at the time of the division;
 - (b) determines that for the purposes of this resolution, a government Member may give her proxy to the Chief Government Whip, and that a non-government Member may give her proxy to the Chief Opposition Whip;
 - (c) determines that for the purposes of *standing orders 129, 130 and 131* any proxy vote given in accordance with this resolution is to be treated as if it was a vote given by the Member present in the Chamber; and
 - (d) is of the opinion that the special provisions of this resolution should not be extended or adapted to apply to Members who are not able to be present in the Chamber for other reasons; and
- (2) That this resolution has effect and continues in force unless and until amended or rescinded by the House in this or a subsequent Parliament.