Chapter 10

Legislation

Explanatory memorandum (p. 349)

Although not required by the standing orders, supplementary explanatory memorandums are now routinely presented for government amendments to bills.

Private Members bills intended for the Federation Chamber (p. 353)

Revised provisions adopted 13/11/2013:

Notices for such bills are now referred directly to the Federation Chamber by determination of the Selection Committee [S.O.s 183(c), 222(a)].

Bills—Initiation and first reading (p. 357)

Revised provisions adopted 13/11/2013:

There are no longer special provisions for Members to make statements at this stage—see reference to Private Members' bills (p.385) below.

Proceedings in the Federation Chamber (p. 359)

Revised provisions for moving bills between the House and Federation Chamber adopted 13/11/2013:

Motions must now be moved by a Minister (SO 197). Orders of the day government business may also be referred to and recalled from the Federation Chamber by a programming declaration made in the House by the Leader of the House or Chief Government Whip [S.O. 45(b)].

Amendments to dispose of bill (former 6 months amendments) (pp 371, 384)

New provisions adopted 13/11/2013:

An amendment may be moved to the question 'That this bill be now read a second time' by omitting 'now' in order to insert 'not', which, if carried, shall finally dispose of the bill [S.O. 146].

The only amendment which may be moved to the motion for the third reading is to omit 'now' in order to insert 'not', which question, if carried, finally disposes of the bill [S.O. 155(b)].

Private Members' bills (p. 385)

Revised provisions adopted 13/11/2013:

The mover of the second reading of a private Member's bill may speak to the second reading for ten minutes at the time of the bill's presentation, after which debate is automatically adjourned. The allocation of time for the resumption of the debate on a subsequent private Members' day is subject to the determination of the Selection Committee. When the debate is resumed the mover may speak in continuation for a further five minutes, if he or she so wishes [S.O. 41(c)].

Programming motions following suspension of standing orders (pp. 392–3)

On 19/3/2014 motions for the 'suspension of standing or other notices on notice relating to the programming of government business' were for the first time recognised in the standing orders. Specific time limits are provided: whole debate 25 minutes, mover 15 minutes, Member next speaking 10 minutes, any other Member 5 minutes [S.O. 1].