

Procedural Digest

No. 4

46th Parliament

14 - 24 October 2019

October 2019				
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14	15	16	17	18
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Selected entries contain links to video footage via *Parlview*. Please note that the first time you click a [\[Watch\]](#) link, you may need to refresh the page (ctrl+F5) for the correct starting point.

Business

4.01 Statements by indulgence regarding the Parliamentary Integrity Awards

Just prior to the matters of public importance on 15 October, the Manager of Opposition Business and the Prime Minister each made statements by indulgence in relation to the Parliamentary Integrity Awards. An award was given to the former Member for Indi, Ms Cathy McGowan, and to the Speaker.

Hansard: 15 October 2019, 4122

SO 65

4.02 Statement by indulgence regarding the official portrait of Ms Nova Peris OAM

Following question time on 16 October, the Leader of the Opposition made a statement by indulgence in relation to the unveiling of the portrait of Nova Peris, in the Members' hall. Ms Peris was the first Indigenous women elected to the Senate. [\[Watch\]](#)

Hansard: 16 October 2019, 4330

SO 65

4.03 Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel makes ministerial statement regarding veterans and their families

On 16 October, the Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel, by leave, made the third annual statement on veterans and their families, and presented a copy of the statement. The shadow minister addressed the House in reply. The Minister then moved that the House take note of the statement and the matter was referred to the Federation Chamber, where it was debated on 17 October. [\[Watch\]](#)

Hansard: 16 October 2019, 4346-58

17 October 2019, 4489-92

Votes and Proceedings: 2019/343; 359

SOs 63A, 183, 199, 202

Documents

4.04 Speaker presents annual reports for parliamentary departments

On 14 October, the Speaker presented the annual reports of the Department of Parliamentary Services and the Parliamentary Budget Office for 2018-2019.

On 22 October, the Speaker presented the annual report of the Department of the House of Representatives for 2018-2019.

Hansard: 14 October 2019, 3850
22 October 2019, 4954
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/302; 378

SO 199

4.05 Revised ministry list presented

At the conclusion of question time on 24 October, the Prime Minister presented a revised ministry list.

Hansard: 24 October 2019, 5402-5
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/405

SO 199

4.06 2020 program of sittings agreed to

On 24 October, the Leader of the House presented the program of sittings for 2020 and, by leave, moved that the program be agreed to. The question was carried on the voices.

Hansard: 24 October 2019, 5417
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/407

SOs 29, 63, 199

Motions

4.07 Motion to suspend standing orders to allow motion on casino industry negated

As the first item of business on 15 October, the Member for Clark (Mr Wilkie) moved to suspend standing orders to allow him to move a motion which called on the Government to establish a Royal Commission to inquire into and report on the Australian casino industry.

Following debate, a division was called and deferred until after the discussion of the matter of public importance. The question that the motion be agreed to was negated on division, with five Members on the side for the ayes.

In accordance with Standing Order 133, on Tuesdays, any division called for prior to 2 pm is deferred until after the discussion of the matter of public importance, except for a division called on a motion moved by a Minister during the period.

For the Chair to declare a question resolved without completing the count, fewer than five Members must be on one side (SO 127).

*Hansard: 15 October 2019, 4073-80
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/319-20; 322-3*

SOs 47, 111, 116, 126, 133

4.08 Motion to suspend standing orders to allow motion on climate change negated

During government business on 15 October, the Member for Melbourne (Mr Bandt) moved to suspend standing orders to allow him to move a motion which, among other things, called on the House to declare an environment and climate emergency. The suspension motion was debated and negated on division.

*Hansard: 15 October 2019, 4145-52
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/325-6*

SOs 47, 111, 116, 126

4.09 Motion to suspend standing orders to allow motion on the economy negated

During question time on 16 October, the Leader of the Opposition moved to suspend standing orders to allow him to move a motion which, among other things, called on the Prime Minister to develop a plan to stimulate economic growth. The mover and seconder were closed on division and, following a closure of debate, the suspension motion was negated on division.

*Hansard: 16 October 2019, 4320-8
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/352-6*

SOs 47, 80, 81, 111, 116, 126

4.10 Condolence motion for the Honourable Dr Alexander James Forbes CMG MC

On 17 October, during government business, the Speaker announced that the condolence motion in relation to the death of the Honourable Dr Alexander James Forbes CMG MC, a former minister and member for Barker, had been debated in the Federation Chamber and returned to the House. The question on the condolence motion was put and carried on the voices.

*Hansard: 17 October 2019, 4536
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/351*

SO 49

4.11 Motion to suspend standing orders to allow debate on Australian economy negated

During question time on 17 October, the Leader of the Opposition moved to suspend standing orders to allow the House to debate the state of the Australian economy. The mover and seconder were closed on division and, following a closure of debate, the suspension motion was negated on division.

Hansard: 17 October 2019, 4568-76
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/352-6

SOs 47, 80, 81, 111, 116, 126

4.12 National apology to victims and survivors of institutional child sexual abuse

On 22 October, the Prime Minister moved a motion commemorating the anniversary of the national apology to survivors and victims of institutional child sexual abuse. The Leader of the Opposition spoke in support of the motion and acknowledged the survivors, victims and their families. Debate was adjourned and resumption of debate was referred to the Federation Chamber. [\[Watch\]](#)

Hansard: 22 October 2019, 4969-75
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/379

SOs 111, 183

4.13 Health insurance determination agreed to

During government business time on 23 October, the Minister for Education, on behalf of the Minister for Health, pursuant to notice, moved that, in accordance with section 10B of the *Health Insurance Act 1973*, the House approve the *Health Insurance (Extended Medicare Safety Net) Amendment (Eating Disorders Capping) Determination 2019* made on 10 September and presented to the House on 14 October. The question was carried on the voices.

Hansard: 23 October 2019, 5092
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/384

SOs 111, 117

4.14 Motion to suspend standing orders to allow motion concerning actions of Minister negated

During question time on 24 October, the Manager of Opposition Business moved to suspend standing orders to allow him to move a motion which, among other things, called on the Prime Minister to ask the New South Wales Police to investigate the actions of the Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction with regards to the reported provision of a forged document to *The Daily Telegraph*. The mover and seconder were closed on division and, following a closure of debate, the suspension motion was negated on division.

Hansard: 24 October 2019, 5393-5401
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/401-5

SOs 47, 80, 81, 111, 116, 126

Member

4.15 Leave of absence granted to Members

On 22 October, the Leader of the House moved that leave of absence be granted to Mr Christensen until 22 November for personal reasons. The question was carried on the voices.

The Manager of Opposition Business then moved that leave of absence be granted to Dr M. J. Kelly until 5 December for personal illness and consequential surgery. The question was carried on the voices.

On 24 October, the Manager of Opposition Business moved that leave of absence be granted to Ms L. M. Chesters from 25 November until 2 April 2020 for parental leave purposes. The question was carried on the voices.

Hansard: 22 October 2019, 4954

24 October 2019, 5406

Votes and Proceedings: 2019/378-9; 406

SO 26

Petitions

4.16 Member presents climate change petition

On 22 October, the Member for Warringah (Ms Steggall) presented an e-petition on climate change, which among other things, requested the House declare a climate emergency and introduced legislation that will reduce the causes of anthropogenic climate change. The e-petition received 404,538 signatures, making it the largest e-petition received by the House.

Hansard: 22 October 2019, 4928-9

Votes and Proceedings: 2019/378

SO 207

Questions

4.17 Prime Minister asked to be relevant during question time

During question time on 17 October, the Leader of the Opposition asked the Prime Minister a question regarding the Australian economy. The Speaker interrupted the Prime Minister's response, noting that the latter part of the Prime Minister's contribution was not relevant. The Speaker urged the Prime Minister to contain his response to the subject matter of the question.

Hansard: 17 October 2019, 4560-1

SO 104

4.18 Props displayed in the Chamber

On a number of occasion during the sitting fortnight, the Chair interrupted debate to remind Members about the rules for using props.

Hansard: 14 October 2019, 3831
16 October 2019, 4341
17 October 2019, 4561-2
21 October 2019, 4736-7
22 October 2019, 4942
23 October 2019, 5156
24 October 2019, 5363-7

4.19 Reference to alternative approaches in questions and answers

During question time on 23 and 24 October, the Speaker informed the House of his position with regard to questions asking about ‘alternative approaches’ or ‘alternative policies’. The Speaker reminded Members that, under the standing orders, Ministers may only be asked about matters for which they are responsible. He noted that while some Speakers had taken a strict approach when ruling on questions containing taglines like ‘alternative policies’, he had been more liberal in his approach. However, he advised that, for a Minister’s answer to be in order, he or she needs to address government policies within the answer and must not only address opposition policies.

Hansard: 23 October 2019, 5159-6
24 October 2019, 5390-1

4.20 Closure motion moved on Minister during question time

During question time on 23 October, while the Minister for Home Affairs was answering a question without notice, the Manager of Opposition Business moved that the Minister no longer be heard. The question was negated on division and the Minister completed his answer.

Hansard: 23 October 2019, 5166-8
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/386

SO 80

Speaker

4.21 Presiding Officers’ Statement

The Speaker presented the 2019 Presiding Officers’ statement to the House regarding the condition of Parliament House.

Hansard: 21 October 2019, 4645
Votes and Proceedings: 2019/361

Offensive words[#]

	<i>Hansard</i>	
	<i>Date</i>	<i>Page</i>
'And, speaking of the chief rorter, here she is'.	21 October 2019	4746-7
'I would ask them to shut up and listen to the person speaking or leave the chamber'	21 October 2019	4778

SOs 89, 90, 92

[#] List of unparliamentary expressions recorded in *Hansard*.