

Procedural Digest

No. 2

48th Parliament

25 August – 4 September 2025

August/September 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
25	26	27	28	29
1	2	3	4	5

Bills

2.01 Resumption of debate on the Repeal Net Zero Bill 2025

During private members' business on 25 August, in accordance with the resolution agreed to on 31 July (see Digest 1.14), debate resumed on the second reading of the Repeal Net Zero Bill 2025. When the time allotted for debate expired, the debate was interrupted, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

On 1 September, in accordance with the determinations of the Selection Committee, debate resumed on the second reading of the bill. An opposition member, by leave, spoke again, having already spoken when he seconded the motion at a previous sitting. When the time allotted for the debate expired, the debate was interrupted, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

Hansard: 25 August 2025, P64-7

1 September 2025, P7-11

Votes and Proceedings: 2025/113; 149

SOs 41, 63, 142, 222

2.02 Request for amendments from the Senate

On 4 September, the Aged Care and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 was returned from the Senate with requested amendments, following Committee of the Whole debate. The amendments related to funding for home care packages and would increase government expenditure, therefore requiring appropriation. A message from the Administrator recommending appropriation for the requested amendments had been reported to the House earlier. After debate, the requested amendments were made, and the bill was returned to the Senate.

Later that day, following the third reading in the Senate, the bill was returned and the House considered the amendments the Senate had been able to make as they did not require appropriation. These were agreed to by the House.

Under Section 53 of the Constitution, the Senate cannot amend proposed legislation which imposes taxation, appropriates money for the ordinary annual services of the government or increases any proposed charge or burden on the people. The Senate must instead request that the House makes these amendments, and generally does so during its committee (detail) stage of bill consideration.

Hansard: 4 September 2025, P10-15; 43-5

Votes and Proceedings: 2025/179-81

SOs 158, 165, 181

2.03 Closure of debate during consideration in detail

On 3 September, the second reading was agreed to for the Defence Amendment (Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal) Bill 2025. That evening, consideration in detail commenced. A shadow minister moved, by leave, five amendments together and debate ensued. At 6.22 pm, a minister moved closure of question, which was carried on division. At 6.28 pm the House divided on the question that the opposition amendments be agreed to, which was negatived. The question that the bill be agreed to was then put and carried on the voices, and, by leave, the bill was read a third time.

Standing order 133 provides that on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, any division called for from 6.30 pm until the adjournment of the House shall be deferred until the first opportunity the next sitting day, except for a division called on a motion to suspend any standing or other order of the House moved by a minister during this period or any division necessary to resolve the question on such a motion.

*Hansard: 3 September 2025, P82-90
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/172-4*

SOs 81, 133

Standing and sessional orders

2.04 Amendment to standing order 215

On 26 August, the House resolved to suspend standing and sessional orders to enable the Leader of the House to move a motion to amend standing orders. The Leader of the House then moved the motion to amend standing order 215(d), which revised the committee membership for the Standing Committee on Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water, and the Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Disability. The question was put and carried on the voices.

The amendment increased the number of crossbench members for the two committees from one to two, and reduced the number of opposition members from three to two.

The next day, crossbench members were appointed to the two committees in accordance with the amendment (see Digest 2.14).

*Hansard: 26 August 2025, P2-3
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/129-30*

SO 215

Motions

2.05 Disallowance motion

During government business time on 26 August, the House resolved to suspend standing orders to call on the Member for Kooyong's notice of motion relating to the disallowance of item 12 of the Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Amendment (Health and Aged Care Measures No. 4) Regulations 2024. The Member for Kooyong then moved the disallowance motion, which, following debate, was negatived on division.

*Hansard: 26 August 2025, P42-7
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/131*

2.06 Time limit removed for whole debate on take note motion

Following a ministerial statement (see Digest 2.13) on 27 August, the House resolved to suspend standing and sessional orders to remove the time limit for the whole debate on the motion to take note of the Housing Australia Investment Mandate Amendment (Delivering on Our 2025 Election Commitment) Direction 2025.

Standing order 1 was amended on 23 July 2025 to introduce a one hour time limit on the whole debate for other debates not otherwise provided for, which includes debate on a take note motion.

Hansard: 27 August 2025,
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/138
SOs 1, 63A, 199, 202

Speaker

2.07 Nomination of members to Speaker's panel

On 27 August, the following members were appointed to the Speaker's panel:
Ms Mary Aldred; Ms Cassandra Fernando; Mr Garth Hamilton; and Mr Benjamin Small.

Hansard: 27 August 2025, P68
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/139
SO 17

Business

2.08 Extension of time granted during Question Time

During Question Time on 27 August, the Prime Minister was granted an extension of time to continue his answer to a question from an opposition member regarding national security. The Prime Minister spoke for an additional 6 minutes and 50 seconds.

The duration of each answer during Question Time is limited to three minutes. After the maximum period allowed for a member's speech has expired standing order 1 provides that, on motion determined without debate, the member may be allowed to continue a speech for one period not exceeding 10 minutes, provided that the extension shall not exceed half of the original period allotted.

Hansard: 27 August 2025, P56-7
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/139
SOs 1, 78

2.09 Election petition

On 4 September, the Clerk presented a copy of an order of the High Court of Australia, sitting as the Court of Disputed Returns, remitting the election petition (regarding the election of a member to the Division of Bradfield) to the Federal Court of Australia.

It has been the practice for the Clerk to present copies of election petitions, orders and related documents for the information of the House. In this case, a copy of the election petition was presented to the House on 22 July (see Digest 1.09).

Hansard: 4 September 2025, P1
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/179

Statements

2.10 Statements of condolence

On 25 August, the Speaker informed the House of the deaths of Mr Graeme Campbell, a former Member for Kalgoorlie from 1980 to 1998, and John Odin Wentworth Watson AM, a former Senator for Tasmania from 1977 to 2008. All members present rose in silence as a mark of respect.

Before Question Time on 28 August, the Prime Minister, by indulgence, made a statement in relation to the deaths of Detective Leading Senior Constable Neal Thompson and Senior Constable Vadim De Waart. The Leader of the Opposition and the Member for Indi also made statements by indulgence. Members then rose in their places as a mark of respect.

Hansard: 25 August 2025, P105

28 August 2025, P50-53

Votes and Proceedings: 2025/117; 146

2.11 Other statements by indulgence of the Chair

During the sitting fortnight, the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition made statements by indulgence, prior to Question Time, to welcome the following visitors to the House:

- 2025 Australian of the Year, Mr Neale Daniher AO, on 26 August
- United States Congressman Jason Smith, on 28 August.

On 2 September, during Question Time, the Prime Minister made a statement, by indulgence, acknowledging the parents, present in the gallery, of children who had experienced online harms.

On 4 September, during Question Time, the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition made statements, by indulgence, regarding the retirement of Australian Federal Police Commissioner Reece Kershaw. The Speaker also made a statement paying tribute to Commissioner Kershaw's service.

Hansard: 26 August 2025, P20-1

28 August 2025, P52

2 September 2025, P30

4 September 2025, P51

2.12 Statements on significant matters

During the period for statements on significant matters (Wednesdays and Thursdays immediately after prayers), statements were made relating to:

- National Skills Week (27 August)
- Women's Health Week (3 September)
- National Symbols (3 September)
- Police Remembrance Day 29 September (4 September)
- Update on the implementation of the recommendations of the final report of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide (4 September).

In each case, a shadow minister spoke in reply and the House resolved that further statements be permitted in the Federation Chamber.

Hansard: 27 August 2025, P1-4

3 September 2025, P1-8

4 September 2024, P1-10

Votes and Proceedings: 2025/137; 169; 179

SO 50A, 50B

2.13 Ministerial statements

Three ministerial statements were made during the sitting fortnight:

- Five per cent deposits for all first home buyers (27 August)
- Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (28 August)
- Agriculture (2 September)

In each instance, the relevant minister made a statement by leave and presented a copy of the statement. On 27 and 28 August other associated documents were also presented.

The relevant Shadow Minister addressed the House in reply, before the minister moved a motion that the House take note of the documents and that further debate be referred to the Federation Chamber.

Hansard: 27 August 2025, P35-39

28 August 2025, P31-35

2 September 2025, P34-38

Votes and Proceedings: 2025/138; 145; 162

SO 63A

Committees

2.14 Membership of certain committees

On 25 August, the Deputy Speaker informed the House that on 8 August 2025 the Speaker received written advice from Ms Boele and Dr Scamps withdrawing their membership of certain committees. The House then resolved that Ms Boele be discharged from the Standing Committee on Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water; and Dr Scamps be discharged from the Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Disability.

Both members had been appointed to these committees in excess of the limits of crossbench positions defined in standing order 215, which was amended on 26 August (see Digest 2.04).

On 27 August, the House resolved that Ms Boele be appointed to the Standing Committee on Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water (and another committee); and that Dr Scamps be appointed to the Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Disability.

Standing order 229(b) provides that if the House is not sitting, and not expected to meet for at least two weeks, membership appointments and discharges can be nominated to the Speaker in writing, with the change in membership to take effect from the time the Speaker receives the written nomination. At the next sitting, the Speaker reports the change to the House and the House resolves the membership of the committee.

Hansard: 25 August 2025, P83

26 August 2025, P2-3

27 August 2025, P13-14

Votes and Proceedings: 2025/115, 129-30, 138

SOs 215, 229

2.15 Joint committee resolution of appointment amended

On 26 August, the House resolved that the resolution of appointment of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the National Anti-Corruption Commission be amended and that a message be sent to the Senate requesting its concurrence.

The amendment provided the Committee with the power to consider and make use of evidence and records of the former Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity and the former Parliamentary Joint Committee on the National Anti-Corruption Commission appointed during previous Parliaments.

The Senate considered the message and concurred with the resolution later that day.

*Hansard: 26 August 2025, P2
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/129*

2.16 Attempted referral of bill to committee

On 1 September, a crossbench member moved a motion to refer the Home Affairs Legislation Amendment (2025 Measures No. 1) Bill 2025 to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights for consideration and an advisory report. The motion was negated on division.

*Hansard: 1 September 2025, P55-60
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/152*

SO 143

Offensive words[#]

Offensive words or phrase	Date	Hansard page reference
'You're so used to lying ...'	26 August	P23
'... full of piss and wind...'	26 August	P33
'... bloody good ...'	26 August	P40
'You talk about mugs and suddenly there's the member for Goldstein!'	28 August	P63
'Then they scratch their heads and wonder why Nazis feel emboldened to hold rallies in our cities. ... I guess it's good to know who Labor and the Liberals will target and who they'll protect.'	2 September	P6
'... I don't think other honourable members should have been so quick to jump on the member for Ryan for floating the idea that there's an element of racism here.'	2 September	P9
'... the corruption of the previous government.'	2 September	P43

SOs 89, 90, 91, 92

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