

Procedural Digest

No. 3

48th Parliament

7 – 9 October 2025

| October 2025 | | | | |
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Bills

2.01 Passage of the annual appropriation bills

On Tuesday, the House resolved to suspend standing and sessional orders to facilitate further consideration of the 2025-2026 appropriation bills—Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2025-2026 (the main appropriation bill); Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2025-2026; and Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2025-2026. The motion provided that, when the main appropriation bill was called on, the questions were to be put without delay or debate on any amendments moved to the motion for the second reading and on the second reading. All the bills would then stand referred to the Federation Chamber. The motion also provided for the consideration of the schedule to the bill, with prescribed timing for consideration in detail for each portfolio (on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) and timing for the completion of the remaining stages of the bills.

The bill was considered in detail in the Federation Chamber, with the question on the proposed expenditure for each portfolio considered in accordance with the resolution. On Thursday, once expenditure for the final portfolio was considered, the remainder of the main appropriation bill was taken as a whole and agreed to, and the question that the bill be reported to the House without amendment was agreed. The remaining questions on the second reading and that the bill be reported to the House were put, in turn, on Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2025-2026 and Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2025-2026.

Later that day in the House, the bills were each reported to the House, agreed to and read a third time.

Annual appropriation bills were presented in March 2025 but did not pass before the dissolution of the 47th Parliament. To facilitate the continuation of normal government and parliamentary activity for the first five months of the 2025-26 financial year, three supply bills were passed. This is a common occurrence when an election interrupts the Budget cycle. The appropriation bills were re-introduced in the first sitting fortnight of the 48th Parliament.

Hansard: 7 October 2025, 1447-8; 1546-70

8 October 2025, 1696-745

9 October 2025, 1786-7; 1836-7

Votes and Proceedings: 2025/188; 200; 215-7; 222; 225-6

SOs 47, 148, 149, 152, 153, 155

2.02 Division not proceeded with

During the second reading debate on the Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Triple Zero Custodian and Emergency Calling Powers) Bill 2025, the Shadow Minister for Communications moved closure of question. The question was put and a division was called

for. Before the doors were locked, the Leader of the House sought the call and indicated that the government did not wish to proceed with the division. By leave, the division did not proceed and the closure motion was then agreed on the voices.

Hansard: 8 October 2025, 1595-609
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/207

SOs 81, 128

2.03 Attempted introduction of a private member's bill

During government business time on Thursday, a shadow minister sought leave to move a motion. Leave was not granted. The member then immediately moved a motion to suspend standing and sessional orders to allow the member to introduce the Crimes Amendment (Mandatory Minimum Sentences for Child Sexual Abuse) Bill 2025, without notice. After the mover and seconder spoke on the suspension motion, a minister moved that the debate be adjourned, and this was agreed on division.

Hansard: 9 October 2025, 1753-7
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/220

SOs 41, 47

Statements

2.04 Statements by indulgence

During the sitting week, the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition made statements by indulgence regarding:

- the second anniversary of the Hamas attacks on Israel on 7 October 2023 and the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East (before Question Time, 7 October);
- Australia's relationship with Singapore and welcoming the Prime Minister of Singapore to the Parliament (following Question Time, 8 October); and
- Professor Richard Robson, joint winner of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry (before Question Time, 9 October).

Hansard: 7 October 2025, 1466-7
8 October 2024, 1642-3
9 October 2025, 1794

2.05 Death of a former member

On Tuesday, the Speaker informed the House of the death of James (Jim) Henry Snow, the Member for Eden-Monaro from 1983 to 1996. All members present stood in their places as a mark of respect. On Thursday, during the adjournment debate in the Federation Chamber, the current Member for Eden-Monaro made remarks reflecting on the life of Mr Snow.

In most circumstances, the death of a former member or senator is marked with a statement by the Speaker without a condolence motion being moved. Sometimes members have made statements of condolence by indulgence. Members are also able to refer to the deaths of former members at another time, such as during the adjournment debate.

Hansard: 7 October 2025, 1467
9 October 2025, 1861
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/189

Members

2.06 Leave of absence

On Tuesday, the Prime Minister moved that leave of absence be given to the Member for Canberra until 27 November 2025 for parental leave purposes. He wished Ms Payne and her partner well. The question was carried on the voices.

*Hansard: 7 October 2025, 1477
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/190*

SO 26

Committees

2.07 Attempted appointment of a triple zero select committee

On Wednesday, the Shadow Minister for Communications moved to suspend standing and sessional orders to allow the member to move a motion to appoint a select committee, the House Select Committee on the Triple Zero Ecosystem, to inquire into and report on the health of the triple zero ecosystem. The question was negated on division.

*Hansard: 8 October 2025, 1592-5
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/205*

SOs 47, 223

Parliamentary administration

2.08 Independent Parliamentary Standards Commissioners appointments

On Thursday, the Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Parliamentary Standards (PJPCS) made a statement concerning the committee's decision on the appointment of seven commissions of the Independent Parliamentary Standards Commission (IPSC). By leave, the member presented a copy of the statement.

Under the Parliamentary Workplace Support Service Act 2023, the PJPCS must approve or reject proposed recommendations for the appointment of the IPSC Commissioners and advise the minister. It must report its decision to both houses as soon as practical.

*Hansard: 9 October 2025, 1757
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/221*

2.09 Annual report presented

On Tuesday, the Speaker presented the annual report of the Parliamentary Budget Office for 2024-25.

*Hansard: 7 October 2025, 1478
Votes and Proceedings: 2025/190*

SO 199

Offensive words[#]

| <i>Offensive words or phrase</i> | <i>Date</i> | <i>Hansard page reference</i> |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 'Well, like the grinch just opposite! There are a few grinches opposite who are opposed to this—' | 9 October 2025 | 1803 |

SOs 89, 90, 92

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