

## To The Honourable The Speaker & Members of the House of Representatives

This petition of certain citizens of Australia draws to the attention of the House:

The impropriety of House Standing Order 38 requiring prayers to be read aloud by the Speaker on taking the chair each day. This ritual does not accord with the spirit of our Constitution (§116) in relation to the imposing of religious observance, nor does it represent the beliefs of the Australian people as a whole.

We therefore ask the House to remove these prayers from Standing Orders:

Almighty God, we humbly beseech Thee to vouchsafe Thy blessing upon this Parliament. Direct and prosper our deliberations to the advancement of Thy glory, and the true welfare of the people of Australia.

Our Father, which art in Heaven: Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.