

2008

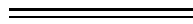
THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 32

TUESDAY, 24 JUNE 2008



1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Mr Jenkins) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

**2 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

*Documents*

Mr McClelland (Attorney-General) presented the following documents:

Central Coast investigation—

Commissioners discuss Central Coast investigation—Media release sourced from NSW Police Force website, 24 June 2008.

Correspondence from—

Mr McClelland to Mr Mick Keelty, Commissioner, Australian Federal Police, 23 June 2008.

Mr Robert Cornall AO, Secretary, Attorney-General's Department, to The Honourable Robert McClelland MP, Attorney-General, 23 June 2008.

Questions without notice continued.

**3 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT**

The Speaker presented the following document:

Auditor-General—Audit report No. 43 of 2007–2008—Performance audit—Third tranche sale of Telstra shares: Department of Finance and Deregulation.

Ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.

**4 DOCUMENTS**

The following documents were presented:

AusLink—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare—Australia's health—Report for 2008.

Sydney Airport Demand Management Act—Quarterly report on movement cap for Sydney airport for the period 1 January to 31 March.

**5 ASIA PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

Mr Crean (Minister for Trade), by leave, made a ministerial statement on Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation.

*Suspension of standing orders—Time for speech*

Mr Crean, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Macfarlane speaking for a period not exceeding 19 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Mr Macfarlane addressed the House.

**6 DROUGHT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

Mr A. S. Burke (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), by leave, made a ministerial statement on the drought.

*Documents*

Mr A. S. Burke presented the following documents:

Drought—Terms of reference—

Assessment of the impact of climate change on the nature and frequency of exceptional climatic events.

Assessment of the social impacts of drought.

Inquiry into Government drought support.

*Suspension of standing orders—Time for speech*

Mr A. S. Burke, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Truss (Leader of the Nationals) speaking for a period not exceeding 15 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Mr Truss addressed the House.

**7 SMALL BUSINESS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

Dr Emerson (Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy), by leave, made a ministerial statement on small business.

*Suspension of standing orders—Time for speech*

Dr Emerson, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Ciobo speaking for a period not exceeding 13 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Mr Ciobo addressed the House.

**8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—CLIMATE CHANGE**

The House was informed that both Mr Billson and Mr Windsor had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 46, the Speaker had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr Windsor, namely, “The need for the Government to recognise the role that agriculture can play in addressing the issue of climate change”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Windsor addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**9 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following bills without amendment:

23 June 2008—No. 71—Indigenous Affairs Legislation Amendment 2008.

24 June 2008—

No. 72—Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment (Assessments and Advertising) 2008.

No. 73—Judiciary Amendment 2008.

No. 74—Crimes Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Matters) 2008.

**10 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—RESERVE BANK AMENDMENT (ENHANCED INDEPENDENCE) BILL 2008**

Message No. 70, 23 June 2008, from the Senate was reported returning the Reserve Bank Amendment (Enhanced Independence) Bill 2008 with amendments.

Ordered—That the amendments be considered at the next sitting.

**11 PARLIAMENTARY ZONE—CONSTRUCTION OF A CHILDCARE FACILITY WITHIN PARLIAMENT HOUSE—APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL**

Mr Albanese (Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the House approves the following proposal for work in the Parliamentary Zone which was presented to the House on 23 June 2008, namely: Construction of a childcare facility within Parliament House.

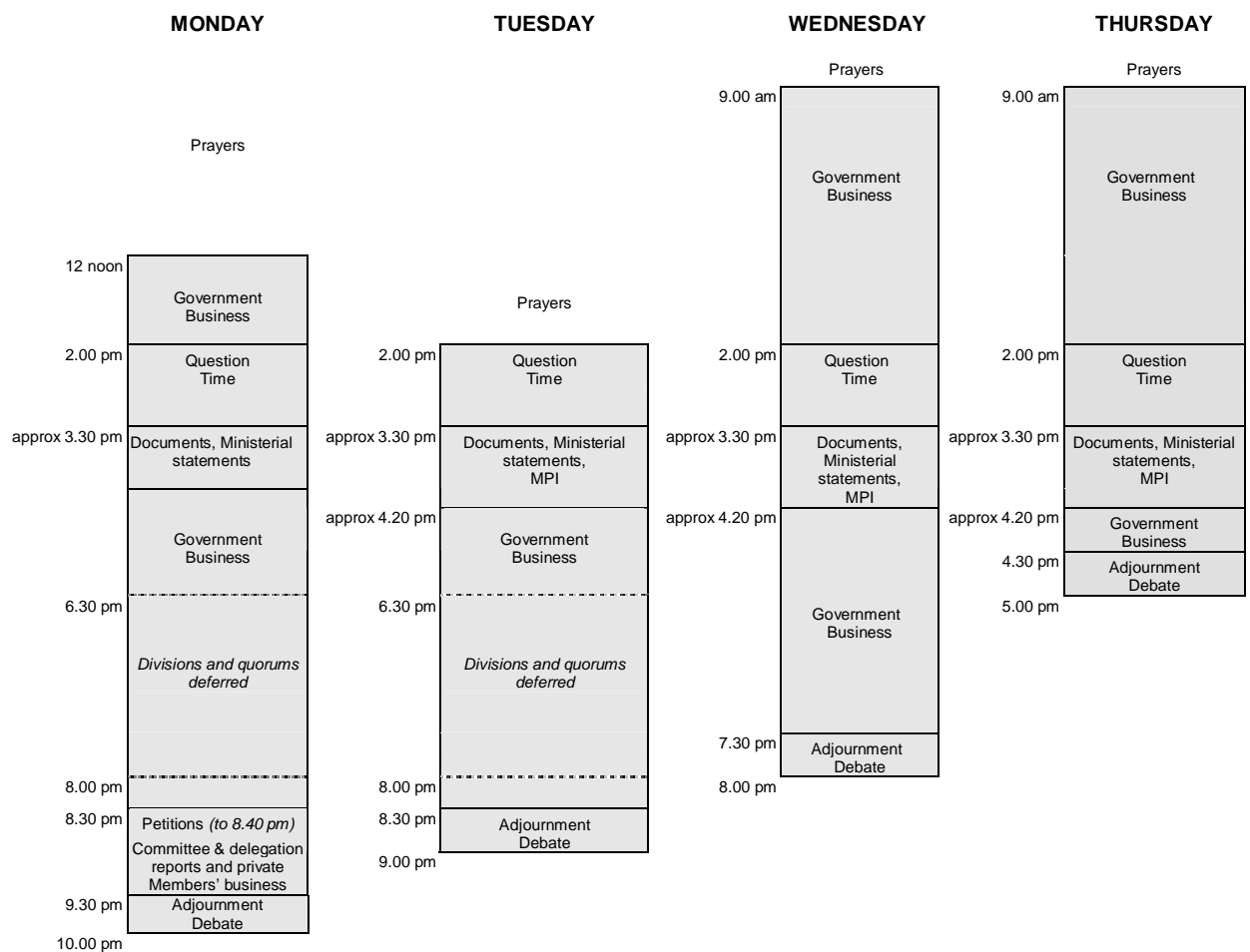
Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**12 PROPOSED SESSIONAL ORDERS**

Mr Albanese (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, the following amendments to the standing orders be adopted to operate for the remainder of the 2008 sittings:

1. Standing order 34, Figure 2, be amended as follows:



2. Standing order 207 be amended to read:

**207. Presenting a petition**

A petition may be presented in one of two ways:

- (a) The Chair of the Standing Committee on Petitions shall present petitions and/or reports of that committee, and the Chair and one other Member of the Committee may make statements concerning petitions and/or such reports presented, in accordance with *standing order 34 (order of business)*. The time provided may extend for no more than 10 minutes.

- (b) A Member may present a petition during:
- (i) the period of Members' statements in the Main Committee, in accordance with *standing order 192A* and *standing order 193*;
  - (ii) adjournment debate in the House in accordance with *standing order 31*, and in the Main Committee in accordance with *standing order 191*; and
  - (iii) grievance debate in accordance with *standing order 192B*.

3. Standing order 209 be amended to read:

**209. Petition may be referred to a Minister for response**

- (a) After a petition is presented to the House, the Standing Committee on Petitions may refer a copy of the petition to the Minister responsible for the administration of the matter raised in the petition.
- (b) The Minister shall be expected to respond to a referred petition within 90 days of presentation by lodging a written response with the Committee.
- (c) The Chair of the Petitions Committee shall announce any ministerial responses to petitions. After the announcement, ministerial responses shall be printed in Hansard and published on the House's internet website.

Question—put and passed.

**13 AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS**

Mr Albanese (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That the standing orders Nos 1, 192 and 193 be amended to read as follows:

**1. Maximum speaking times** (*amendment to existing subject, as follows*):

*Members' statements in the Main Committee*

90 second statements

Whole period	15 minutes
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Each Member (but not a Minister or Parliamentary Secretary)	90 seconds
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(*standing order 192A*)

*3 minute constituency statements*

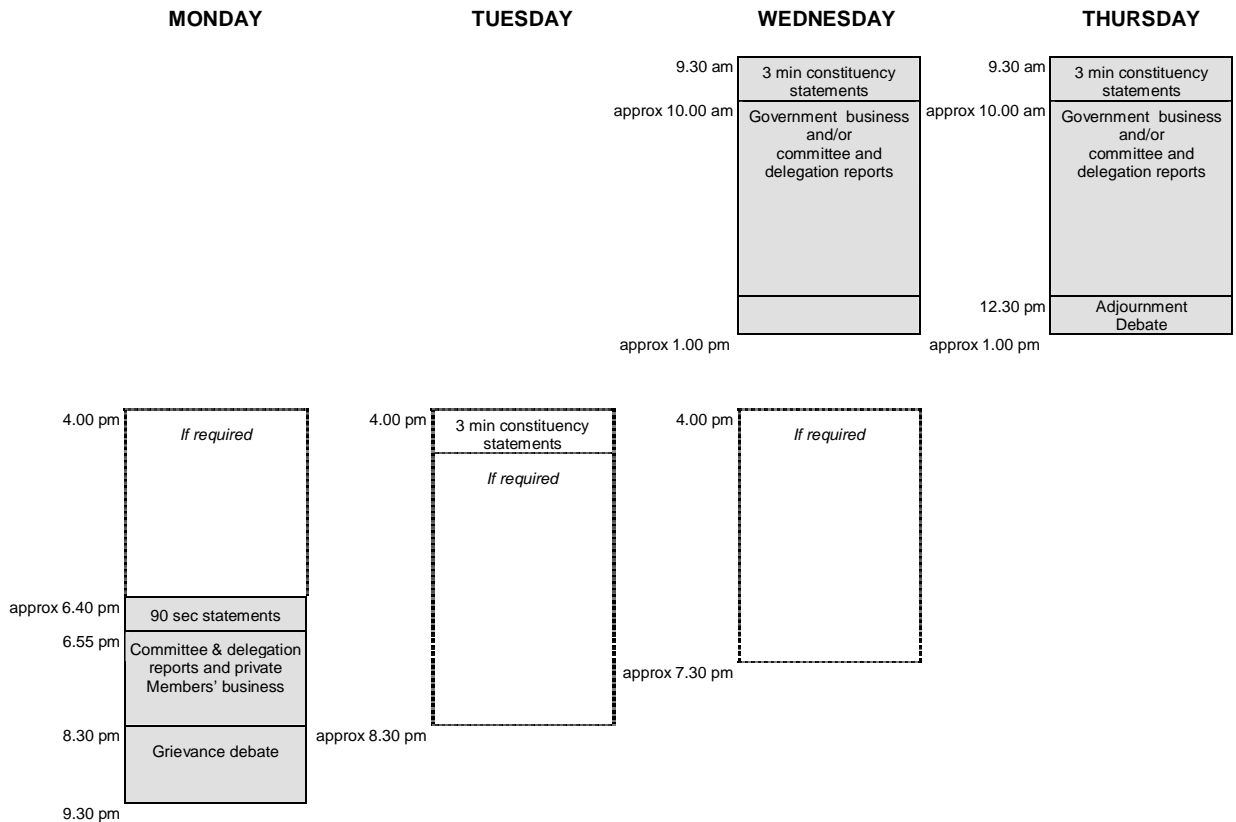
Whole period	30 minutes
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Each Member	3 minutes
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(*standing order 193*)

**192. Main Committee’s order of business**

**Figure 4. Main Committee order of business**



The meeting times of the Main Committee are fixed by the Deputy Speaker and are subject to change. Adjourment debates can occur on days other than Thursdays by agreement between the Whips.

**193. Members’ three minute constituency statements**

If the Main Committee meets on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, the first item of business shall be constituency statements by Members. The Deputy Speaker may call a Member to make a constituency statement for no longer than three minutes. The period for Members’ constituency statements may continue for 30 minutes, irrespective of suspensions for divisions in the House.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**14 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—ACCESS TO RECORDS**

Mr Albanese (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That:

- (1) the Honourable T R H Cole AO RFD QC, President of the HMAS *Sydney II* Commission of Inquiry, be authorised to access exhibits held for less than ten years and confidential submissions received by the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade during its inquiry into the loss of HMAS *Sydney*, subject to:
  - (a) appropriate consultations by the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade being undertaken with those who provided confidential submissions, prior to any such material being accessed by President Cole;
  - (b) the Commission not using the material in a manner contrary to the law of parliamentary privilege as amplified by section 16 of the *Parliamentary Privileges Act 1987*;
  - (c) the material not being made public as evidence tendered to the Commission or as part of the Commission’s report without the agreement of the Presiding Officers; and

- (2) the foregoing resolution have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders; and
- (3) a message be sent to the Senate informing it of this resolution and requesting that it concur.
- Question—put and passed.

**15 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

Mr Butler (Chair) presented the following document:

Public Works—Parliamentary Standing Committee—Report relating to referrals tabled March 2008 (5th report of 2008).

Ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.

Statements in connection with the report were made.

**16 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR THIS SITTING**

Ms K. M. Ellis (Minister for Sport), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent order of the day No. 4, committee and delegation reports, being called on immediately.

Question—put and passed.

**17 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REFORMING THE CONSTITUTION: A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Dreyfus—That the House take note of the document (*presented on 23 June 2008*), viz.—

Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Standing Committee—Reforming the Constitution: A roundtable discussion—Report, incorporating an additional comment, June 2008—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.

**18 GOVERNANCE REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION (AASB AND AUASB) BILL 2008**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed—bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mr Bowen (Assistant Treasurer), the bill was read a third time.

**19 PROTECTION OF THE SEA LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2008**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Mr K. J. Thomson addressing the House—

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**20 ADJOURNMENT**

It being 8.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 8.59 p.m., adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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**DOCUMENT**

The following document was deemed to have been presented on 24 June 2008:  
Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensation—2008 No. 8.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Cobb, Mr Costello, Mr Danby, Mr Downer, Mr M. J. Ferguson, Mr Garrett, Ms Gillard, Ms King\*, Mr McMullan, Mrs Mirabella\*, Mr Robb, Mr A. D. H. Smith, Mr M. A. J. Vaile and Ms Vamvakinou.

\* On leave

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**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives