

Procedural Digest

No. 54*12 –22 February 2008*

<i>February 2008</i>				
M	T	W	T	F
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22

Bills

54.01 *Introduction and passage of additional appropriation bills*

The Appropriation (Drought and Equine Influenza Assistance) Bill (No.1) 2007-2008 and Appropriation (Drought and Equine Influenza Assistance) Bill (No.2) 2007-2008 were introduced to appropriate money from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for expenditure in relation to drought and equine influenza assistance, and for related purposes. During his second reading speech, the Minister advised that the appropriations were being sought to provide urgent funding to cover new and expanded assistance measures for the drought and the outbreak of equine influenza announced the previous year.

In each case the bill was read a first time and the second reading moved. Debate was adjourned and the resumption of debate, by leave, made an order of the day for a later hour. The two bills were debated cognately when debate resumed later in the sitting. The bills were read a second time and, by leave, proceeded to the third reading immediately. Both bills were read a third time.

Hansard: 13 February 2008, 197-9, 211-17, 258-66

Votes and Proceedings: 2008/65, 67, 74

SOs 63, 138, 141, 142, 155, 178, 179

54.02 *Second reading amendment to refer bill to a committee*

On the resumption of debate on the Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 1) Bill 2008, a shadow minister moved a second reading amendment to enable Schedule 1 of the bill to be referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters.

The amendment was seconded and negatived on division following debate. During his summing up the Minister assured the House that Schedule 1 of the bill would be referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Economics.

Hansard: 21 February 2008, 1124, 1136, 1139

Votes and Proceedings: 2008/110-1

SOs 121, 145, 227

Business

54.03 Ministerial arrangements

When the House returned from hearing the Governor-General's speech in the Senate Chamber on 12 February (*see* entry 54.39), the Prime Minister informed the House of ministerial arrangements and the appointment of Government whips. The Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the Nationals also announced shadow ministries and parliamentary party arrangements, respectively.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 13-17
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/7-9

SO 6

54.04 Formal business

Before the Speaker reported the Governor-General's speech (*see* entry 54.05), the Prime Minister presented the Amendments Incorporation Amendment Bill 2008.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 17
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/9

SOs 5, 6

54.05 Governor-General's speech reported and Address-in-Reply Committee appointed

The Speaker reported the Governor-General's speech to the House. The House agreed to a motion by the Prime Minister to appoint an Address-in-Reply Committee (and *see* entry 54.17).

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 17-25
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/9

SO 6

54.06 Statements on indulgence regarding East Timor

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition both made statements on indulgence regarding recent developments in East Timor, and the condition of President Jose Ramos-Horta.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 25-6
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/9

SO 65

54.07 *Statements on indulgence regarding World Youth Day*

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition both made statements on indulgence regarding the welcoming to the Parliament of the cross and icon, symbols of World Youth Day.

Hansard: 18 February 2008, 508

SO 65

54.08 *Statements on indulgence regarding floods in Queensland*

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition both made statements on indulgence regarding the recent flooding in Mackay. Another Member also made a brief statement on the matter, on indulgence.

Hansard: 19 February 2008, 669-70

SO 65

54.09 *Prime Minister gives notice of motion orally*

Following the election of Deputy Speaker and Second Deputy Speaker on 12 February, the Prime Minister, on indulgence, stated the terms of a notice of motion for an apology to the stolen generations which he proposed to move the following day. The notice was then delivered in writing to the Clerk at the Table.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 33, 165

SO 106

54.10 *Suspension of standing orders; Speech time limits, deferred divisions and limit on business*

On 12 February the Leader of the House moved, by leave, that so much of the standing orders be suspended for the next sitting as would prevent the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition speaking for an equal, unspecified time on a motion offering an apology to Australia's Indigenous Peoples, and that standing order 133 (Deferred divisions on Mondays and Tuesdays) and standing order 33 (limit on business after 9.30 p.m.) be suspended for this sitting. The motion was agreed to on the voices.

The latter part of the motion was moved in anticipation of the House sitting later than usual to complete consideration of proposed amendments to the standing orders.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 33
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/10

SOs 1, 33, 47, 133

54.11 *Numerous condolence motions; Announcement of deaths; Referral to Main Committee*

Between items of Government business on 12 February, the Prime Minister moved, separately, motions of condolence regarding the deaths of the Honourable Kim Edward Beazley (Snr) AO (a former Minister), and Mr Peter James Andren (a former Member). He then moved a single motion of condolence regarding the deaths of Special Forces Sergeant Matthew Locke, Trooper David Pearce and Special Forces Commando Luke Worsley.

The Leader of the Opposition and other Members addressed the House in support of each of the Prime Minister's motions. In each instance Members rose as a mark of respect and the debate was adjourned on a motion by the Leader of the House.

The Speaker then made an announcement informing the House of the deaths of Mr Leonard Joseph Keogh, Dr Kenneth Lionel Fry, Ms Helen Mayer, The Honourable Robert Lindsay Collins AO, Mr Matt Price, Mr Bernard Douglas (Bernie) Banton AM, The Honourable Sir Charles Walter Michael Court AK KCMG OBE, and Sir Edmund Percival Hillary KG ONZ KBE. The Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and Deputy Prime Minister, on indulgence, spoke in relation to the Speaker's announcement. Members again rose as a mark of respect.

The resumption of the debates on the Prime Minister's condolence motions and the Speaker's announcement were then referred to the Main Committee, on a motion by the Leader of the House.

Note: The Speaker's announcement of deaths was not technically a matter able to be referred to the Main Committee as there had been no motion moved in relation to it (and *see* entry **16.12**).

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 33-61
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/10-11

SOs 49, 183, 202

54.12 *Member sworn*

Between items of business and late in the sitting on 12 February, the Speaker administered the making and subscription of the affirmation of allegiance by a Member who was absent at the opening of Parliament (and *see* entry **54.38**).

Note: No Member may take part in any proceedings of the House until sworn in.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 149
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/26

54.13 *Proposed sitting pattern opposed*

Shortly after a suite of amendments to the standing orders was passed by the House, and pursuant to one of the amended standing orders [29(a)], the Leader of the House presented the proposed program of sittings for 2008, and moved that it be agreed to. The Manager of Opposition Business moved an amendment relating to the proposed sitting Fridays, Question Time and Matters of Public Importance (and *see* entry 54.50). The amendment was negatived on division and the motion was then agreed to on the voices.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 149-50
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/26-7

SO 29

54.14 *Proxy votes for nursing mothers agreed to*

On 12 February, the Leader of the House moved a motion to permit any Member nursing an infant at the time of a division to give her vote by proxy, through the Member's Chief Whip. Following debate, the House agreed to the resolution on the voices.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 150-2
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/27-8

SOs 129, 130, 131

54.15 *Election petition*

On 12 February, the Clerk presented a copy of an election petition (*Mitchell v. Bailey and Anor*) concerning the election of a Member for the Division of McEwen.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 164
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/39

54.16 *Apology motion moved; Gift to the Speaker; Sitting suspended*

Following prayers on 13 February, in accordance with a motion agreed to at the previous sitting (*see* entry 54.10), the Prime Minister moved a motion offering an apology to Australia's Indigenous peoples. The Leader of the Opposition seconded and addressed the House in support of the motion.

All Members rose in their places as a sign of respect, and business paused while the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs met with representatives of Australia's Indigenous peoples in the distinguished visitors gallery.

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, by indulgence, then presented the Speaker with a gift on behalf of Australia's Indigenous peoples.

Debate on the motion was then adjourned, the matter was referred to the Main Committee on a motion by the Leader of the House, and the Speaker suspended the sitting.

Later in the sittings when the question was put on the motion of apology in the Main Committee, Members again rose in their places to signify their support. The motion was then referred back to the House.

Hansard: 13 February 2008, 167-77; 20 February 2008, 1073
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/63-4, 105

SOs 111, 183

54.17 *Presentation of Address in Reply to House*

The Address prepared by the committee appointed on 12 February (*see entry 54.05*) was presented to the House on 12 February. The member of the committee who presented the address moved 'That the Address be agreed to' and made his first speech. Another member of the committee seconded the motion and reserved her right to speak. Debate continued.

Hansard: 13 February 2008, 270-4
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/75

SOs 6, 70, 116

54.18 *House begins at 12.00 p.m. on a Monday with Government business*

In accordance with amendments to the standing orders agreed to on 12 February (*see entry 54.50*), the House met at 12.00 p.m. on Monday 18 February and government business was given precedence before and after Question Time.

Note: Prior to the amendments to the standing orders, Mondays sittings began at 12.30 p.m. and the order of business provided for presentation of committee and delegation reports, discussion of private Members' business, Members' statements, announcement of petitions and grievance debate (in addition to Question Time) before Government business.

Hansard: 18 February 2008, 1
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/87

SOs 29, 34, 35

54.19 *Motion to suspend standing orders to bring on an MPI on a Monday*

Following Question Time on Monday 18 February, an Opposition Member moved to suspend standing and sessional orders to allow a Matter of Public Importance discussion to be brought on forthwith. After the Member had outlined his motion

to the House, the Leader of the House moved that the Member be no longer heard, which was carried on division. As an Opposition Member seconded and began to speak to the motion, he was also closed on division. The motion for the suspension of standing orders was then negated on a further division.

Note: Recent amendments to the standing orders (*see* entry **54.50**) moved the presentation of committee and delegation reports, discussion of private Members' business, Members' statements, announcement of petitions and grievance debate from Mondays to newly instituted Friday sittings. As a result the order of business on Mondays became similar to Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, but without an MPI.

Hansard: 18 February 2008, 530-3
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/87-90

SOs 29, 34, 35, 47, 80

54.20 *Attempted suspension of standing orders after business had been called on*

Following prayers and a statement by the Speaker, and after the Speaker had then called on the Clerk to announce the first item of business, an Opposition Member moved to suspend standing and sessional orders to allow him to move a motion. The Speaker ruled that there was business before the Chair, and called a Minister who proceeded to introduce a bill.

Hansard: 20 February 2008, 831

SO 47

54.21 *General principles for selection of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business*

On 20 February, the Chief Government Whip presented the Whips' general principles relating to the selection of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business.

Note: Prior to the recent amendments to the standing orders (*see* entry **54.50**), general principles were presented by the Selection Committee, which had the role of selecting committee and delegation reports and private Members' business.

Hansard: 20 February 2008, 942
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/101

SOs 39, 40, 41

54.22 *Whips' report on private Members' business*

On 20 February, the Chief Government Whip presented a report relating to the consideration of private Members' business for the next sitting Friday, and moved that the report be adopted. The question was agreed to on the voices.

Note: Prior to the recent amendments to the standing orders (*see* entry **54.50**), such reports were presented by the Chair of the Selection Committee (and *see* entry **54.21**).

Hansard: 20 February 2008, 942-4
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/101

SOs 39, 40, 41

54.23 *Supplementary question attempted and ruled out of order*

After a question had been answered during Question Time, the Manager of Opposition Business attempted to ask a supplementary question. The Speaker disallowed the supplementary question, and in response to a point of order raised by the Member, advised that Members may wish to pursue the issue of supplementary questions through other avenues such as the Procedure Committee.

Hansard: 21 February 2008, 1155-6

SO 101

54.24 *Motion to suspend standing orders during adjournment debate*

During his speech on the adjournment debate in which he was questioning the need for the House to continue to adjourn at 5 p.m. on Thursdays, an Opposition Member sought leave to move a motion suspending standing orders. Leave was not granted and the Member moved a suspension of standing orders to enable the House to continue consideration of Government business until 8.30 p.m. After the Member had outlined his motion to the House, a Parliamentary Secretary moved that the Member be no longer heard, which was carried on division. As an Opposition Member seconded and began to speak to the motion, he was also closed on division. The motion for the suspension of standing orders was then negated on a further division. Adjournment debate continued.

Note: Recent amendments to the standing orders (*see* entry **54.50**) instituted sittings of the House on Fridays.

Hansard: 21 February 2008, 1182-5
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/113-5

SOs 29, 31, 34, 47, 80

Chamber

54.25 *Display of prop during answer to question*

During Question Time on 18 February, the Speaker instructed the Deputy Prime Minister to put down the booklet she was holding up while answering a question.

Hansard: 18 February 2008, 511

SOs 60, 91

54.26 *First Friday sitting under amended standing orders; Deferred divisions; Serjeant-at-Arms removes Member; Sitting suspended twice due to grave disorder*

Pursuant to the amended standing orders (*see* entry 54.50) the House sat on Friday, 22 February. Following prayers, in accordance with the order of business, Members' statements were made. An Opposition Member then moved a suspension of standing orders to enable a Question Time period on sitting Fridays. A Parliamentary Secretary moved that the Member be no longer heard, and the question was put. A division was called for and the Speaker ruled that the division must be deferred until the commencement of the next sitting under revised standing order 133. The seconder was also closed, with the division again being deferred to the next sitting.

The Manager of Opposition Business then moved that the Speaker's ruling be dissented from, and he and the seconder were closed by the Leader of the House, with the required divisions again being deferred to the next sitting, as was the division on the motion of dissent. Continuing to speak after being ordered numerous times to resume his seat, the Member who had moved the suspension of standing orders was then directed to leave the Chamber for one hour for defying the Chair. The Member refused to leave and, under direction from the Speaker, was escorted from the Chamber by the Serjeant-at-Arms. Another Opposition Member was then ordered to withdraw for one hour for reflecting on the Chair, and left the Chamber accordingly.

Debate on a private Members' business motion began and, following points of order, the Speaker named the Member who had been removed by the Serjeant in his absence. The Leader of the House moved that the Member be suspended from the service of the House, and the required division was deferred to the next sitting. The House descended into considerable disorder, and the Speaker suspended the sitting at 9.33 a.m., announcing that the Chair would be resumed in 15 minutes.

Upon resumption of the sitting at 9.52 p.m., the Speaker called on the House to conduct itself in a dignified manner, and private Members' business continued. A quorum was called during debate and the Chair deferred the counting of the House until the conclusion of the Grievance Debate. At the expiry of the time allotted for private Members' business, Grievance Debate was called on. During an Opposition Member's speech, the Deputy Speaker ordered him to remove himself from the Chamber for one hour for defying the Chair after he ignored several orders to resume his seat. The Member refused to leave the Chamber and was directed to do so again, then named by the Deputy Speaker. A division called for on a motion by the Leader of the House that the Member be suspended from the service of the House was deferred until the next sitting. Another Opposition Member was ordered to remove an article he was displaying (a life-sized cut-out of the Prime Minister) from the Chamber. Following continuing disorder, a further Opposition Member was ordered to leave the Chamber for one hour and she did so.

The Member who had been named by the Chair continued to refuse to leave the Chamber, and at 12.56 p.m. the Deputy Speaker suspended the sitting until the ringing of the bells. The sitting resumed at 2 p.m., and the Speaker made a brief statement regarding his concern over the day's events. The time for debate having expired, the question on the Grievance Debate was then put and passed on the voices. The Speaker then asked the Member who had called a quorum earlier in the day whether he still required the House to be counted. The Member replied that he did, and the Speaker declared a quorum present. The Speaker then adjourned the House.

Hansard: 22 February 2008, 1238-85
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/119-122

SOs 29, 34, 47, 55, 60, 80, 86, 87, 91, 92, 94, 95, 133

Committees

54.27 *Resolutions on powers and proceedings of three joint statutory committees*

During the 1st sitting of the 42nd Parliament (after midnight), the House agreed to resolutions in relation to the powers and proceedings of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity, the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission and the

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services. Each resolution was to be sent by message to the Senate for its concurrence.

Note: The enabling Act of each committee requires a joint resolution of both Houses relating to the powers and proceedings of the committee.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 152-6
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/28-31

54.28 *Resolutions to appoint six joint standing committees*

During the 1st sitting of the 42nd Parliament (after midnight), the House agreed to resolutions to appoint joint standing committees on:

- Electoral Matters,
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade,
- the National Capital and External Territories,
- Migration,
- the Parliamentary Library and
- Treaties—

with each resolution also requesting the concurrence of the Senate.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 156-64
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/31-9

SO 224

54.29 *Reports from committees of previous Parliament presented*

After Question Time on 13 February, the Speaker presented two reports of committees which had been released after the last sitting of the House in the 41st Parliament.

Hansard: 13 February 2008, 238
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/67

SO 247

Debate

54.30 *Motion to suspend standing orders to condemn the Government*

After prayers on 21 February, an Opposition Member sought leave to move a suspension of standing and sessional orders. Leave was not granted and the Member moved, without notice, a suspension of standing and sessional orders to

condemn the Government in relation to recent changes to the standing orders (*see* entry **54.50**) instituting Friday sittings and associated quorum and privilege issues. Debate continued until the time allotted for a suspension motion expired and the motion to suspend standing orders was lost on division. Government business then began.

Hansard: 21 February 2008, 1081-8
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/107-8

SOs 1, 47

Documents

54.31 *Record number of deemed papers*

On 12 February, 2219 papers were deemed to have been presented (in addition to those formally presented in the Chamber). The list of papers occupied about 23 pages of the *Votes and Proceedings*.

Note: So-called 'deemed papers' are mainly legislative instruments which when received by the Clerk of the House are treated as having been presented to the House under standing order 199(b). The previous record was 1500 papers deemed to have been presented on 7 August 2007 (*see* entry **52.13**).

Votes and Proceedings: 2008/39-62

SO 199

Members

54.32 *No warning needed before 'sin binning'*

During Question Time on 14 February, a Member was ordered to withdraw from the Chamber for one hour under standing order 94(a) for disorderly behaviour. In response to interjections, the Speaker stated that traditionally warnings were not required prior to a one hour suspension, and that he intended to follow that tradition.

Hansard: 14 February 2008, 387
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/82

SOs 60, 91, 92, 94

54.33 *Member 'sin-binned' for raising frivolous point of order*

During Question Time on 21 February, a Minister posed questions to the Opposition while answering a question. An Opposition Member rose on a point of order and, having been warned by the Speaker not to do so, attempted to respond to the Minister's questions. The Speaker directed the Member to leave the Chamber for 1 hour for raising a frivolous point of order.

Hansard: 21 February 2008, 1149
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/111

SOs 86, 91, 92, 94

Opening of Parliament

54.34 *Welcome to Country ceremony prior to opening of Parliament*

Following his election, the Speaker made a speech of thanks, during which he noted the Welcome to Country ceremony that had taken place before the usual proceedings that day.

The ceremony had taken place in Members' Hall prior to the formal opening of the 42nd Parliament, and was conducted by Matilda House (a Ngambri-Ngunnawal elder). The ceremony was listed on the daily program as part of the opening day of Parliament, but was not recorded in the *Votes and Proceedings* or *Hansard*.

An indigenous ceremony at the opening of Parliament had been recommended by the Procedure Committee in its 2001 report: *Balancing tradition and progress - Procedures for the opening of Parliament*. The Government at the time did not support the report's recommendations.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 12

54.35 *Opening of 42nd Parliament*

The 41st Parliament was prorogued on 15 October 2007, the House of Representatives dissolved on 17 October and a general election held on 24 November. In accordance with the Governor-General's proclamation, Senators and Members assembled in Parliament House at 10.30 a.m. on 12 February 2008. As Deputy of the Governor-General, the Chief Justice of the High Court (The Hon.

Anthony Murray Gleeson AC) declared open the Parliament in the Senate Chamber, Members having proceeded there on request delivered by the Usher of the Black Rod. Members returned to the House of Representatives Chamber after being instructed to elect a Speaker.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 1
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/1-2

SO 4

54.36 *Returns to writs for general election*

Following the opening of Parliament on 12 February (*see entry 54.35*), the Clerk presented the returns to writs for the general election on 24 November 2007.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 1
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/2-6

SO 4

54.37 *Members sworn*

After the returns to writs had been presented on 12 February (*see entry 54.36*), the Deputy of the Governor-General, the Chief Justice of the High Court (The Hon. Anthony Murray Gleeson AC), administered the making and subscription of the oath or affirmation of allegiance by the 149 Members attending (of the 150 elected).

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 2-5
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/6

SO 4

54.38 *Presentation of Speaker*

After his election as Speaker on 12 February (*see entry 54.42*), the Speaker accompanied by Members presented himself to the Governor-General in the Members' Hall at 2.30 p.m. The Governor-General handed the Speaker an authority to administer to Members the oath or affirmation of allegiance. The Speaker laid the authority on the Table when he resumed the Chair.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 13
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/7

SO 4

54.39 *Governor-General's speech*

After the Usher of the Black Rod had delivered a message that the Governor-General desired the attendance of Members in the Senate Chamber, Members proceeded to the Senate Chamber to hear the Governor-General's opening speech. Members returned to the House of Representatives Chamber after the speech.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 13
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/7

SOs 5, 6

Questions

54.40 *Speaker instructs Minister to resume seat and calls next question*

During Question Time on 18 February, after several interruptions for points of order during an answer, the Speaker warned the Minister not to debate the issue, then directed the Minister to resume his seat and called the next question.

Hansard: 18 February 2008, 520

SOs 100, 104

54.41 *Speaker instructs Minister to conclude answer then to resume seat*

During Question Time on 19 February, after several interruptions for points of order during an answer, the Speaker asked the Minister to bring her answer to a close, then directed the Minister to resume her seat and called the next question.

Hansard: 19 February 2008, 676

SOs 100, 104

Speaker

54.42 *Election of Speaker*

After Members had been sworn following the opening of the 42nd Parliament on 12 February, the Member for Scullin, Mr Harry Jenkins, as the only nominee, was declared to be elected Speaker. The Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and other Members congratulated Mr Jenkins.

Note: During the nomination, the mover and seconder both spoke in support of the nominee.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 5-11
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/6

SOs 4, 10, 11, 12

54.43 *Election of Deputy Speaker and Second Deputy Speaker*

At the first sitting of the 42nd Parliament on 12 February, a ballot was held for the election of Deputy Speaker and Second Deputy Speaker. The Member for Chisholm, Ms Anna Burke, had 83 votes and the Member for Maranoa, Mr Bruce Scott, had 64. The former was elected Deputy Speaker and the latter Second Deputy Speaker. The Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the Nationals congratulated them.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 26-33
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/9-10

SOs 13, 14

54.44 *Appointment of Speaker's panel*

On 14 February, the Speaker tabled a warrant appointing Mr Adams (Lyons), Ms Moylan (Pearce), Mr Secker (Barker) and Mr Sidebottom (Braddon) to the Speaker's panel.

Hansard: 14 February 2008, 312
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/80

SO 17

54.45 *Appointment of Speaker's panel*

On 18 February, the Speaker tabled a warrant appointing Mr Andrews (Menzies), Mr Bevis (Brisbane), Ms Bird (Cunningham), Mr Georganas (Hindmarsh), Ms Saffin (Page), Mr Schultz (Hume), Mr Slipper (Fisher), Mr K J Thomson (Wills), Ms Vale (Hughes) and Mr Washer (Moore) to the Speaker's panel.

Hansard: 18 February 2008, 533
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/90-1

SO 17

54.46 *Speaker's response to questions regarding parliamentary privilege on Friday sittings*

Following prayers, the Speaker made a statement in response to questions asked of him during the previous sittings, concerning the application of parliamentary privilege to scheduled sittings of the House on Fridays. The Speaker advised that under the amended standing orders (*see* entry **54.50**), the Chair could not commence a sitting on a Friday until a quorum was present, and could defer any

quorum calls on a Friday until after Grievance Debate. He noted that the provisions reflected those applying to Monday and Tuesday evenings, under which no issue regarding privilege had arisen to date. After the Speaker's statement, several Members made comments on indulgence.

Hansard: 20 February 2008, 829-31

SOs 54, 55, 103

54.47 *Speaker asked about gallery security policy*

Following Question Time, a Member asked the Speaker why certain people with logos on their shirts were refused entry to the galleries, while others were permitted entry. The Speaker indicated that the actions taken were consistent with standard practice, and that he would be happy to discuss the matter further with any concerned Members.

Hansard: 20 February 2008, 920-1

SO 103

54.48 *Speaker asked about Chamber photography*

Following Question Time, a Member asked the Speaker whether there had been any change to the rules regarding photographers in the Chamber for the new Parliament. The Speaker replied that there had been no change.

Hansard: 20 February 2008, 921

SO 103

54.49 *Speaker's remarks regarding points of order and questions to the Speaker*

During responses to several questions over the sittings, the Speaker noted that points of order regarding proceedings should be raised at the time an issue arises, rather than after Question Time during questions to the Speaker.

Hansard: 19 February 2008, 691-2; 20 February 2008, 923

SOs 86, 103

Standing orders

54.50 *Amendments to standing orders and resolutions of the House*

The Leader of the House, by leave, moved a motion to make amendments to the standing orders and certain resolutions of the House. The amendments proposed numerous alterations, including provisions for the House to sit on Fridays, appointment of a Standing Committee on Petitions, and removal of the Selection Committee.

The Manager of Opposition Business, by leave, moved amendments to the motion to include a matter of public importance discussion and question time on the order of business for the proposed Friday sittings. Debate ensued and continued beyond midnight, the adjournment having been proposed and negatived at 9 p.m. The amendments to the motion were then negatived on division, and the motion was agreed to on further division.

Hansard: 12 February 2008, 61-149
Votes and Proceedings: 2008/11-26

SOs 1, 2, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 51, 52, 55, 106, 108, 133,
 139, 192, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 215, 216, 217, 220,
 222, 250

Withdrawals

54.51 *Offensive words*

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'...deliberately misled the chamber...'	12 February 2008	86
'...if you lie about it...'	12 February 2008	115
'...smart-arse remarks.'	12 February 2008	117
'...would have reflected a little more honesty...'	20 February 2008	918

SOs 89, 90, 92