



Ms J Middlebrook
Secretary
Procedure Committee
House of Representatives
CANBERRA ACT 2600

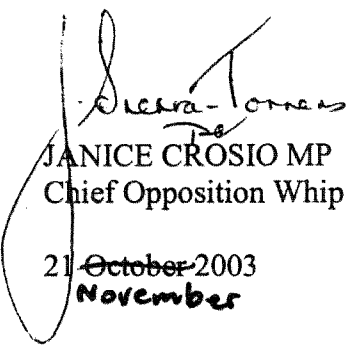
Dear Judy

As I have just returned from overseas I am only now in a position to respond to your correspondence regarding the number of tellers for divisions in the House.

According to my records since the trial started on 9 September there have been 42 divisions during eighteen sitting days. Within this number there would have been quite a number of 'one-minute' divisions called. For the purpose of comparison these divisions would of course have to be discounted. Without going into 'Votes and Proceedings' on every occasion when a division was called it is difficult to determine actually how many were not four-minute divisions. Although certainly not impossible to undertake it would take considerable time.

I would therefore have to say that I believe there has been in-sufficient time for the new arrangements to be really effective and that we should continue to have 8 tellers for a longer trial period.

Yours sincerely


JANICE CROSIO MP
Chief Opposition Whip

21 ~~October~~ 2003
November