

Broadcasting and re-broadcasting of excerpts of proceedings

Resolution adopted 30 November 1988

That this House authorises the broadcasting and re-broadcasting on Australian radio and television stations of a sound record of excerpts of its proceedings, subject to the conditions determined for this purpose by the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings.

Televising of proceedings

Resolution adopted 16 October 1991

That:

- (1) the House authorises live television broadcast and rebroadcast of:
 - (a) the proceedings of the House and excerpts of proceedings, including the adjournment debate; and
 - (b) the public proceedings of House of Representatives committees, subject to the approval of individual committees —
as provided for by this resolution;
- (2) the House supports in principle the amendment of the *Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946* to make statutory provision for the televising of the proceedings of the Senate, the House of Representatives and the committees of each House and joint committees of both Houses;
- (3) a standing committee be appointed in each Parliament to consider and determine in respect of live television broadcast and rebroadcast of proceedings and excerpts of proceedings of the House of Representatives and the public proceedings of House of Representatives committees:
 - (a) the conditions to apply to television broadcasters;
 - (b) the guidelines for operators of sound and vision equipment;
 - (c) the guidelines for the televising of House of Representatives committees; and
 - (d) whether breaches of the conditions and guidelines have occurred and, if so, what penalties should apply;
- (4) the committee referred to in paragraph (3) of this resolution shall:
 - (a) consist of those Members of the House of Representatives who are members of the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings in each Parliament, who shall elect a chairman and deputy chairman; and
 - (b) have power to send for persons, papers and records;
- (5) until otherwise determined the conditions and guidelines to apply to live television broadcast and rebroadcast shall be those set out in the Report of the Inquiry into the Televising of the House of Representatives and its committees, dated August 1991 [*current conditions for House and Main Committee adopted 1 May 1996, see p. 115*];

- (6) the arrangements relating to the live television broadcast and rebroadcast of proceedings and excerpts of proceedings of the House of Representatives shall be reviewed by the committee established under paragraph (3) of this resolution prior to the end of the 1993 Autumn sittings of the House; and
- (7) The House requests the Government to seek advice from the Attorney-General as to the legal position of bodies authorised to receive the signal of proceedings with a view to the House granting access to that signal to government departments, political party headquarters and others.

Extension of House monitoring service

Resolution adopted 28 September 1993

That the House authorises the extension of the provision of the House Monitoring Service television coverage of proceedings of the House and its committees to government departments and others, as may be determined by the Speaker, on such terms and conditions as stipulated by the Speaker.

Radio broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings—general principles

Resolution adopted 20 September 1994

That the following general principles upon which there should be determined the days upon which, and the periods during which, the proceedings of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall be broadcast, as specified by the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings in its report dated May 1994, be adopted with effect from 10 October 1994 in place of the general principles previously adopted by both Houses:

General principles relating to the radio broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings

1. *Days upon which proceedings shall be broadcast and their allocation between the Senate and the House of Representatives.*
The proceedings of Parliament shall be broadcast on each day on which either House is sitting. While there will be a usual allocation of broadcasts between the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings or its Subcommittee shall take into account the importance of the impending debate and the public interest attaching thereto in deciding on the allocation. It is anticipated that, over time, the coverage of each House will be approximately equal.
2. *Rebroadcast of questions and answers.*
 - (a) The following Parliamentary Proceedings shall be rebroadcast by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation at the conclusion of the broadcast of live proceedings from either House unless otherwise ordered by the Committee:
Senate proceedings – Questions without notice and answers thereto;
House of Representatives proceedings – Questions without notice and answers thereto;
 - (b) The rebroadcast shall be of the House that is not allocated the broadcast;
 - (c) When a member makes a personal explanation in rebuttal of misrepresentation contained in a question asked that day or an answer thereto, the question and answer shall, subject to the next succeeding subparagraph, be excluded from the rebroadcast; and

- (d) The Presiding Officer may, in his or her discretion, refer any case to the Joint Committee for decision as to whether such a question and answer shall be excluded from the rebroadcast.
- 3. The general principles specified here and adopted by both Houses shall be observed generally by the Joint Committee in making determinations in accordance with the *Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946*, but nothing in those general principles shall be taken to prevent the Joint Committee from departing from those general principles in order to meet any unusual or special circumstances.

Broadcasting of proceedings— conditions for broadcasters

Resolution adopted 1 May 1996

That the conditions for broadcasters of the live broadcast and rebroadcast of the proceedings and excerpts of proceedings of the House of Representatives and its Main Committee be amended to read as follows:

1. Access to the proceedings of the House of Representatives and its Main Committee for the recording and broadcasting of proceedings is subject to an undertaking to observe, and to comply with, the following conditions:
 - (1) Broadcasting and recordings may only be made from the official and dedicated composite vision and sound feed provided by the Sound and Vision Office (channels 1 and 5 on the House Monitoring System);
 - (2) Broadcasts shall be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and shall not be used for:
 - (a) political party advertising or election campaigns;
 - (b) satire or ridicule; or
 - (c) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising;
 - (3) Reports of proceedings shall be such as to provide a balanced presentation of differing views;
 - (4) Excerpts of proceedings which are subsequently withdrawn may be rebroadcast only if the withdrawal also is rebroadcast;
 - (5) The instructions of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the Speaker's delegate, in respect of broadcasting, shall be observed.
2. Non-compliance with the guidelines listed above may incur penalties. Breaches of the guidelines and penalties are determined by the House members of the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings. The following is a general guide to the penalties which may be imposed on stations or programs:
 - (a) first breach—access to the broadcast withdrawn for three sitting days;
 - (b) second breach—access to the broadcast service withdrawn for six sitting days; and

- (c) third or subsequent breaches—such penalty as is determined by the House members of the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings.