

## Chapter 4

### *Parliament House and access to proceedings*

#### Chamber—sandglasses and electronic displays (p. 107)

A successive division is now (since 19/3/2014) defined as a division occurring within three minutes of the previous division [S.O. 131(a)]; a third three-minute sandglass is used to measure this period.

Electronic display screens on stands at each side of the Chamber now (since September 2014) show the current item of business and question before the Chair.

#### Broadcasting of proceedings—(pp. 118—120)

On 9 December 2013 the House adopted a resolution authorising and setting conditions for the broadcasting and re-broadcasting of proceedings, and repealed earlier related resolutions dating back to 1988 (VP 2013–14/182–3).

#### Resolution on broadcasting of proceedings

##### **1 Provision of broadcast**

- (a) The House authorises the broadcast and re-broadcast of the proceedings and excerpts of proceedings of the House, its committees and of the Federation Chamber in accordance with this resolution.
- (b) The House authorises the provision of sound and vision coverage of proceedings of the House, its committees, and of the Federation Chamber, including records of past proceedings, through the House Monitoring Service and through the Parliament of Australia website.
- (c) Access to the House Monitoring Service sound and vision coverage of the proceedings of the House, its committees and the Federation Chamber is provided to persons and organisations as determined by the Speaker, on terms and conditions determined by the Speaker which must not be inconsistent with this resolution.
- (d) The Speaker shall report to the House on persons and organisations in receipt of the service and on any terms and conditions determined under paragraph 1(c).
- (e) Use of sound and vision coverage of proceedings of the House, its committees and the Federation Chamber, including records of past proceedings, published on the Parliament of Australia website is subject to conditions of use determined by the Speaker.

##### **2 Broadcast of House of Representatives and Federation Chamber proceedings —House Monitoring Service**

Access to proceedings provided through the House Monitoring Service is subject to compliance with the following conditions:

- (a) Only the following broadcast material shall be used:
  - (i) switched sound and vision feed of the House of Representatives, its committees and the Federation Chamber provided by the Parliament that is produced for broadcast, re-broadcast and archiving; and
  - (ii) official broadcast material supplied by authorised parliamentary staff.
- (b) Broadcast material shall be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and shall not be used for:
  - (i) political party advertising or election campaigns; or
  - (ii) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising.
- (c) Reports of proceedings shall be such as to provide a balanced presentation of differing views.
- (d) Excerpts of proceedings which are subsequently withdrawn may be broadcast only if the withdrawal is also reported.
- (e) The instructions of the Speaker or his or her delegates, which are not inconsistent with these conditions or the rules applying to the broadcasting of committee proceedings, shall be observed.

##### **3 Broadcast of committee proceedings**

The following conditions apply to the broadcasting of committee proceedings:

- (a) Recording and broadcasting of proceedings of a committee is subject to the authorisation of the committee;
- (b) A committee may authorise the broadcasting of only its public proceedings;
- (c) Recording and broadcasting of a committee is not permitted during suspensions of proceedings, or following an adjournment of proceedings;
- (d) A committee may determine conditions, not inconsistent with this resolution, for the recording and broadcasting of its proceedings, may order that any part of its proceedings not be recorded or broadcast, and may give instructions for the observance of conditions so determined and orders so made. A committee shall report to the House any wilful breach of such conditions, orders or instructions;
- (e) Recording and broadcasting of proceedings of a committee shall not interfere with the conduct of those proceedings, shall not encroach into the committee's work area, or capture documents (either in hard copy or electronic form) in the possession of committee members, witnesses or committee staff;

- (f) Broadcasts of proceedings of a committee, including excerpts of committee proceedings, shall be for the purpose only of making fair and accurate reports of those proceedings, and shall not be used for:
    - (i) political party advertising or election campaigns; or
    - (ii) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising;
  - (g) Where a committee intends to permit the broadcasting of its proceedings, a witness who is to appear in those proceedings shall be given reasonable opportunity, before appearing in the proceedings, to object to the broadcasting of the proceedings and to state the ground of the objection. The committee shall consider any such objection, having regard to the proper protection of the witness and the public interest in the proceedings, and if the committee decides to permit broadcasting of the proceedings notwithstanding the witness' objection, the witness shall be so informed before appearing in the proceedings.
- 4 Radio broadcast of parliamentary proceedings by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation—general principles**
- The House adopts the following general principles agreed to by the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings on 19 March 2013:
- (a) *Allocation of the broadcast between the Senate and the House of Representatives*

The proceedings of Parliament shall be broadcast live whenever a House is sitting. The allocation of broadcasts between the Senate and the House of Representatives will be in accordance with the standing determinations made by the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings. It is anticipated that over time, the coverage of each House will be approximately equal.
  - (b) *Re-broadcast of questions and answers*

At the conclusion of the live broadcast of either House, questions without notice and answers thereto from the House not allocated the broadcast shall be re-broadcast.
  - (c) *Unusual or exceptional circumstances*

Nothing in these general principles shall prevent the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings from departing from them in unusual or exceptional circumstances.
- 5** This resolution shall continue in force unless and until amended or rescinded by the House in this or a subsequent Parliament.