

Procedural Digest

No. 8

47th Parliament

6 – 9 March 2023

March 2023				
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Members

8.01 Statement by Speaker on Aston by-election

On Monday, the Speaker informed the House that he had received the Member for Aston's letter of resignation, following the member's announcement in the House the previous sitting fortnight (see 7.01). The Speaker advised that, on 27 February, he had issued a writ for the election of a member to fill the vacancy. He announced the dates for the by-election, as follows:

Close of roll	Monday, 6 March
Close of nominations	Thursday, 9 March
Declaration of nominations	Friday, 10 March
Date of polling	Saturday, 1 April
Return of writ	On or before Wednesday, 7 June

Hansard: 6 March 2023, 1209
Votes and Proceedings: 2023/522

8.02 Leave of absence granted to member

Also on Monday the Manager of Opposition Business moved that leave of absence be granted to the Member for La Trobe until 30 March, for personal reasons. The question was carried on the voices.

Hansard: 8 March 2023, 1229
Votes and Proceedings: 2023/522

SO 26

Statements

8.03 Statements by indulgence of the Chair

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition both made statements by indulgence on 6 March in relation to a memorial for former Prime Minister, the Honourable Bob Hawke, at the Prime Ministers' Memorial Garden in Melbourne.

On 8 March, the Member for North Sydney, the minister representing the Minister for Women and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition each made statements by indulgence on International Women's Day and violence against women. All members present in the Chamber rose in silence to acknowledge the lives lost to family violence.

Hansard: 6 March 2023, 1228

8 March 2023, 1506-7

Votes and Proceedings: 2023/545

Motions

8.04 Proceedings on suspension motion deferred

During question time on 6 March the Leader of the Opposition moved that standing orders be suspended to allow him to move a motion calling on the Prime Minister to keep certain promises in relation to power bills, mortgages and superannuation. After the Leader of the Opposition stated the terms of the motion, the Leader of the House, in accordance with standing order 47(e), required that further proceedings on the suspension motion take place at the conclusion of question time. After question time, proceedings resumed and the Leader of the Opposition spoke to his motion. The motion was then seconded, debated and disagreed to on division.

This was the first time that a motion to suspend standing orders was deferred in accordance with SO 47(e), adopted at the beginning of the 47th Parliament.

If a motion to suspend standing orders is moved during question time, after the terms have been proposed by the mover, a minister may require that further proceedings on the motion take place at a later hour, as set down by the minister.

Hansard: 8 March 2023, 1215; 1229-34

Votes and Proceedings: 2023/522-3

SO 47

Parliamentary administration

8.05 Parliament House flag

On 8 March the Leader of the House noted that the Australian flag flying above Parliament House had been significantly damaged during a recent storm and asked the Speaker to update the House on the situation. The Speaker advised that a combination of high winds and urgent maintenance issues had made it unsafe to change the flag immediately. He assured the House that the damaged flag would be replaced as soon as it was safe to do so.

The next day, the Speaker informed the House that the flag would be replaced within two days, weather permitting. He added that a review would be conducted into alternative options and contingencies should this happen again in the future.

Hansard: 8 March 2023, 1507
9 March 2023, 1666

Offensive words[#]

	Hansard	
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'Can you trust 'Tricky Tony'?'	7 March 2023	1354

[#] List of unparliamentary expressions recorded in *Hansard*.