

Procedural Digest

No. 18

45th Parliament

26 – 28 March 2018

March 2018				
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Selected entries contain links to video footage via *Parlview*. Please note that the first time you click a [Watch] link, you may need to refresh the page (ctrl+F5) for the correct starting point.

Bills

18.01 House makes requested amendments on two bills

During Government business time on 26 March, a message from the Senate was reported returning the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Welfare Reform) Bill 2017 with 5 requested amendments. Following debate the requested amendments were made. Immediately afterwards, another message from the Senate was reported returning the Treasury Laws Amendment (Junior Minerals Exploration incentive) Bill 2017 with a requested amendment. The question that the requested amendment be made was put and passed.

Hansard: 26 March 2018, 2634-42
Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1442

SO 165

18.02 Minister's second reading speech interrupted for Members' statements

Prior to Members' statements on 28 March, the Minister for Urban Infrastructure and Cities moved that the Communications Legislation Amendment (Online Content Services and Other Measures) Bill 2017 be read a second time and addressed the House. At 1.30 pm the Minister's speech was interrupted in accordance with standing order 43. The Minister was given leave to continue his speech at a later hour. Later, upon resumption of the debate on the bill, the Assistant Minister to the Treasurer continued the second reading speech and debate continued.

Hansard: 28 March 2018, 3088, 3135-8
Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1485, 1487

SOs 43, 142

18.03 Two Senate bills pass all stages in one sitting

During government business time on 28 March, a message from the Senate transmitting the Security of Critical Infrastructure Bill 2018 was reported and the bill was read a first time. A Minister presented a revised explanatory memorandum, moved the second reading and made a second reading speech. Leave was then granted for the second reading debate to continue immediately and following contributions from several Members, the question that the bill be read a second time was put and carried on the voices. Leave was granted for the third reading to be moved immediately, the question was put and carried on the voices and the bill was read a third time.

An identical process followed later that day in regards to the Security of Critical Infrastructure (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2018. The message transmitting the bill from the Senate was reported and the bill was read a first time. A Minister presented a revised explanatory memorandum, moved the second reading and made a second reading speech. Leave was then granted for proceedings on the bill to continue and the question that the bill be read a second time was put and carried on the voices. Leave was granted for the third reading to be moved immediately, the question was put and carried on the voices and the bill was read a third time.

*Hansard: 28 March 2018, 3152-76, 3176-7
Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1488*

SOs 63, 141, 142, 155, 166

Business

18.04 Standing orders 31 and 33 suspended to allow for extended sitting

Following question time on 28 March, the Leader of the House, by leave, moved a suspension of standing orders 31 (automatic adjournment of the House) and 33 (limit on business after normal time of adjournment) for the remainder of the sitting. In moving the motion, the Leader of the House explained that the House would likely need to sit late, in order to consider legislation when it was returned from the Senate. The motion was carried on the voices. The House adjourned at 7.58 pm.

*Hansard: 28 March 2018, 3117, 3182
Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1487, 1489*

SOs 31, 33

Committees

18.05 Presentation of report on proposed amendments to Bill

During government business time on 28 March, the Chair of the Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security presented a report entitled 'Review of proposed amendments to the Home Affairs and Integrity Agencies Legislation Amendment Bill 2017' and made a statement in connection with the report.

*Hansard: 28 March 2018, 3132-3
Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1487*

SO 247

Documents

18.06 Motion relating to the Parliamentary Papers Series

During Government business time on 28 March, the Assistant Minister for Finance moved a motion, pursuant to notice, to allow certain documents to be automatically made Parliamentary Papers upon their presentation to the House. The question was put and passed on the voices.

***Standing order 2** defines a Parliamentary Paper as a document in the Parliamentary Papers Series. The series was designed to be a comprehensive collection of the documents of a substantial nature presented to Parliament.*

*Hansard: 28 March 2018, 3078
Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1484*

SOs 2, 199, 202

Members

18.07 New Member for Batman sworn in

Prior to question time on 26 March, the Speaker announced that he had received a return to the writ which he had issued on 7 February 2018 for the election of a Member to serve for the electoral division of Batman to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of David Feeny MP. By the endorsement on the writ, it was certified that Ms Gerardine Mary Kearney had been elected. The Serjeant-at-Arms admitted Ms Kearney into the chamber where she made and subscribed the affirmation of allegiance. [\[Watch\]](#)

*Hansard: 26 March 2018, 2662
Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1443*

Motions

18.08 Opposition motions to suspend standing orders negated

During Government business time on 28 March, the Manager of Opposition Business sought leave to move a motion regarding taxation and business. Leave was not granted and the Manager of Opposition Business then moved a suspension of standing orders to enable him to move the motion. A Minister immediately moved consecutive closure motions on the mover and the seconder which were carried on division. The question that standing orders be suspended was then put and negated on division. [\[Watch\]](#)

Hansard: 28 March 2018, 3024-30
Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1474-7

SO 47

Privilege

18.09 Conduct of the former member for Dunkley

During Government Business time on 26 March, the Chair of the Standing Committee of Privileges and Members' Interests presented a report concerning the conduct of the former Member for Dunkley, Mr Bruce Billson. The committee recommended that the former Member for Dunkley be censured 'for failing to discharge his obligations as a member in accepting payment for services to represent the interests of an organisation, and for failing to declare his personal and pecuniary interests in respect of his paid employment'. The committee also recommended that the standing orders be amended to include an express prohibition on a member of this House engaging in services of a lobbying nature for reward or consideration. The Chair and Deputy Chair, by leave made statements on the matter. [\[Watch\]](#)

The next day, 27 March, during Government business time, and in accordance with recommendations made in the report, the Chair of the Privileges and Members' Interest Committee moved, by leave, a motion to censure the former Member for Dunkley for failing to discharge his obligations as a Member to the House in taking up paid employment for services to represent the interests of an organisation while he was a Member of the House, and failing to fulfil his responsibilities as a Member by appropriately declaring his personal and pecuniary interests, in respect of this paid employment, in accordance with the resolutions and standing orders of the House. After debate the question was carried on the voices. [\[Watch\]](#)

Hansard: 26 March 2018, 2645-9; 27 March 2018, 2859
Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1442, 1462

SO 216

Questions

18.10 Question not asked within time limit ruled out of order

During question time on 27 March, an Opposition Member's time expired before she had completed a question. As no question had been asked within the allotted time, the Speaker called on the next questioner. [\[Watch\]](#)

Hansard: 27 March 2018, 2877-8

SOs 1, 100

18.11 Question to Speaker under standing order 103

After question time on 26 March, the Manager of Opposition Business asked the Speaker a question regarding the report of the Privileges and Members' Interests Committee (see entry 18.09) and if the Speaker could advise the House on what steps would be taken. The Speaker stated that any action on the matter is a matter for the House.

Hansard: 26 March 2018, 2683

SO 103

18.12 Question ruled out of order

On 27 March, the Manager of Opposition Business asked the Prime Minister a question regarding the Turnbull Government. The Speaker ruled the question out of order as it related to a comments of a private Member, which were not the responsibility of the Prime Minister. [\[Watch\]](#)

Hansard: 27 March 2018, 2891-2

SOs 98, 100

Speaker

18.13 Resignation and election of Deputy Speaker

The Speaker informed the House of the resignation of the Deputy Speaker (Mr Coulton) due to his appointment as an Assistant Minister. The Member for Page (Mr Kevin Hogan) was nominated and, there being no further nominations, elected Deputy Speaker of the House. [\[Watch\]](#)

Hansard: 26 March 2018, 2623-4

Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1439

SOs 13, 14

18.14 Changes to Speaker's panel

On 26 March, the Speaker presented a warrant nominating a Government Member (Mr Gee) to the Speaker's Panel to the House.

The role of the Speaker's panel is to take the Chair of the Federation Chamber (as Deputy Speaker) when requested to do so by the Deputy Speaker or, in his or her absence, by the Second Deputy Speaker; and to take the Chair of the House as Deputy Speaker when requested to do so by the Speaker or, more usually, by the Deputy Speaker.

Hansard: 26 March 2018, 2685

Votes and Proceedings: 2018/1444

SO 17

Offensive words[#]

	Hansard	
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'What a hypocrite the shadow Treasurer is, Mr Speaker! What a pathetic hypocrite!'	26 March 2018	2673
'Better take your medication!'	27 March 2018	2880

SOs 89, 90, 92

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