

# Procedural Digest

No. 2

47<sup>th</sup> Parliament

5 – 8 September 2022

September 2022				
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## Sittings

### 2.01 Sittings suspended following death of Her Majesty

Following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 8 September, the Speaker notified members that the House would next meet on Friday, 23 September, at 8am. This meant that the House did not meet 12 to 15 September as intended.

It is expected that the House will consider a condolence motion on the Friday sitting and will also meet the following week, from 26 to 28 September.

## Federation Chamber

### 2.02 Remote participation in the Federation Chamber

On 8 September, the Leader of the House moved a motion to allow for members granted leave of absence to participate remotely in Federation Chamber proceedings through the official video facility. The motion provided that members participating remotely could make a speech from their electorate office or a Commonwealth parliament office but could not be counted for a quorum or move or second a motion or an amendment.

The Leader of the House explained that the motion was in response to the Jenkins review into Commonwealth parliamentary workplaces and sought to make the House more family-friendly. He added that members were now taking longer periods of parental leave to care for their newborns and this change would allow those members to continue to represent their constituents in parliament while on leave.

The Manager of Opposition Business spoke in support and the motion was agreed to on the voices.

*Hansard: 8 September 2022, 1208-9  
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/169*

## Privilege

### 2.03 Statement by Speaker concerning privilege matter

On 5 September, the Speaker informed the House that the Leader of the Australian Greens had raised a matter of privilege with him while the House was not sitting. The matter concerned whether the former Prime Minister had deliberately misled the House in the

previous parliament by causing himself to be sworn into multiple ministerial portfolios without informing the House.

The Speaker advised that, in his view, a prima facie case had not been made out that the House had been misled and that the misleading had been deliberate and, as such, he had not referred the matter to the Standing Committee of Privileges and Members' Interests.

*Hansard: 5 September 2022, 776-7  
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/134-5*

**SOs 52, 216**

## Questions

### 2.04 Question time procedures

On 5 September, standing orders were suspended to allow independent member Ms Zoe Daniel to move an amendment to sessional order 65A (opportunities for crossbench members). The amendment provided that, during question time, priority would be given to crossbench members seeking the call to ask the fifth, thirteenth and seventeenth questions. When adopted on 27 July, the sessional order originally gave priority to crossbench members for the fifth, thirteenth and twenty-first questions. However, Ms Daniel explained that question time often concluded before the twenty-first question, leaving crossbench members with two rather than three questions. The amendment was carried on division.

The Manager of Opposition Business then moved to suspend standing orders to allow him to move that standing order 97 (daily question time) be amended to provide that question time must not conclude before 3.30pm each day. The motion was negatived on division.

*Hansard: 5 September 2022, 812-22  
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/137-40*

**SOs 3, 47, 65A, 97**

## Statements

### 2.05 Statements on significant matters

Statements on significant matters were made for the first time since standing orders were amended to allocate time for these statements on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. After prayers on 7 September, the Minister for the Arts, pursuant to notice, and the shadow minister made statements in relation to the deaths of Australian entertainers, Judith Durham AO and Dame Olivia Newton-John AC DBE. In each case, the House agreed to allow further statements in the Federation Chamber.

*Hansard: 7 September 2022, 1027-9  
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/159*

**SO 50A**

## 2.06 Statements by indulgence of the Chair

Over the week, the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition made statements by indulgence on the following matters:

- Death of Mikhail Gorbachev (5 September)
- Death of Sir David Iser Smith KCVO AO (5 September)
- Incoming Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Liz Truss (6 September)
- Funeral for former Japanese Prime Minister, Abe Shinzo AC (8 September)

*Hansard*: 5 September 2022, 797-8; 811-2

6 September 2022, 937-8

8 September 2022, 1260-1

*Votes and Proceedings*: 2022/136-7

**SO 65**

## Offensive words<sup>#</sup>

	<b>Hansard</b>	
	<i>Date</i>	<i>Page</i>
'You take the cash-John Setka's blood money.'	6 September 2022	949-50

<sup>#</sup> List of unparliamentary expressions recorded in *Hansard*.