

# Procedural Digest

No. 26

47<sup>th</sup> Parliament

8 – 10 October 2024

October 2024				
M	T	W	T	F
7	8	9	10	11

## Parliamentary administration

### 26.01 Powers for committees following establishment of the Independent Parliamentary Standards Commission

At the previous sitting, the Parliamentary Workplace Support Service Amendment (Independent Parliamentary Standards Commission) Bill 2024 was passed by both Houses (see [Digest 25.01](#)). This bill made changes to the *Parliamentary Workplace Support Service Act 2023* to establish an Independent Parliamentary Standards Commission (IPSC) with a range of investigatory and decision-making functions, including the ability to refer certain serious conduct issues to the privileges committees of either House for consideration. The bill also established a statutory Parliamentary Joint Committee on Parliamentary Standards with a responsibility for regular review and monitoring of the IPSC and the operation of behaviour codes first endorsed by the Parliament in February 2023 (see [Digest 7.03](#)) and formally adopted this week (see below).

On Wednesday, pursuant to notice, the Assistant Minister for the Public Service moved the following motions, which were both agreed to on the voices:

- relating to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Parliamentary Standards, setting out matters relating to the powers and proceedings of the committee in accordance with section 59F of the *Parliamentary Workplace Support Service Act 2023*, and providing that a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of the resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly, and
- amending Standing Order 216, to include a new power for the Committee of Privileges and Members' Interests to consider and report on serious breach findings which may be referred to it by the IPSC.

*Hansard*: 9 October 2024, 6931-2  
*Votes and Proceedings*: 2022-23-24/1916-7

**SO 216, 260**

### 26.02 Behaviour codes resolved by House and Senate

On Thursday, a message was received from the Senate informing the House that the Senate had agreed to a resolution relating to standards of behaviour for Commonwealth parliamentary workplaces.

The resolution set out that the Senate and House of Representatives approve standards of behaviour and behaviour codes, with effect from 14 October 2024, including:

- Behaviour Standards for Commonwealth Parliamentary Workplaces
- Behaviour Code for Australian Parliamentarians, and

- Behaviour Code for staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*, subject to a determination by the Special Minister of State.

A minister moved that the House concur with the resolution and acquaint the Senate of this resolution. The motion was agreed to on the voices.

*Continuing resolutions of this kind are included in the published Standing Orders for reference. A new insert to the Standing Orders containing this resolution (as well as all other resolutions and changes to standing orders agreed since 2 August 2022) was issued on 15 October.*

Hansard: 10 October 2024, 7076  
Votes and Proceedings: 2022-23-24/1940-3

**SOs 260, 261**

## Bills

### 26.03 Help to Buy bills reintroduced in the House

The Help to Buy Bill 2023 and Help to Buy (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2023 were passed by the House on 28 February 2024 (see [Digest 19.03](#)) and introduced in the Senate for a first time on 29 February 2024. In September, the Senate postponed further consideration of the bills until 26 November 2024.

On Tuesday, the Minister for Housing and Minister for Homelessness sought and was denied leave to present a bill. She then, pursuant to notice, moved suspension of standing and sessional orders to allow a Minister to introduce a bill without notice, which was put and agreed to on division. The Minister then introduced the Help to Buy Bill 2023 [No. 2] and made the second reading speech before debate was adjourned.

On Wednesday, pursuant to notice, the Minister introduced the Help to Buy (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2023 [No. 2] and made a brief second reading speech before debate was adjourned.

*The reintroduced bills, if again passed by the House and not passed by the Senate, may be a trigger for a double dissolution process as specified in section 57 of the Constitution.*

Hansard: 8 October 2024, 6816-8  
9 October 2024, 6930  
Votes and Proceedings: 2022-23-24/1899-1900; 1916

**SOs 138, 141, 142**

## Business

### 26.04 Rearrangement of business for 9 October

At the start of proceedings on Wednesday, the Leader of the House, pursuant to notice (and on behalf of the Assistant Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, who had placed the notice), moved to suspend standing and sessional orders to vary the resolution made by the House on 11 September relating to the time and order of business for the House and Federation Chamber for that day (see [Digest 25.04](#)).

The original resolution had provided that, in the House, members' statements would commence at 9.30 am and questions without notice at 10 am, followed by documents, ministerial statements by leave and a matter of public importance discussion, then

government business until 7.30 pm; it also made some consequential changes to the times for the Federation Chamber to meet.

The motion moved by the Leader of the House varied the resolution to further change business in the House to provide for a Minister to introduce a bill relating to the National Broadband Network, for the second reading debate on that bill to immediately proceed and continue until the commencement of questions without notice at 10 am, and for the 30 minutes of members' statements to instead occur after the matter of public importance. The amended resolution was agreed to on the voices.

Pursuant to the new resolution, the Minister for Communications then introduced the National Broadband Network Companies Amendment (Commitment to Public Ownership) Bill 2024 and the second reading debate continued until it was interrupted for Question Time at 10 am. Following Question Time, documents were presented and the discussion of the matter of public importance commenced. When the discussion concluded, members' statements were made before government business commenced and continued for the remainder of the day.

*Hansard: 9 October 2024, 6889-98*  
*Votes and Proceedings: 2022-23-24/1913-4*  
**SOs 34, 47, 138, 141, 142**

## Committees

### 26.05 Motion to appoint Select Committee on Nuclear Energy

On Thursday, pursuant to notice, the Minister for Social Services (on behalf of the Leader of the House), moved a motion to appoint a House Select Committee on Nuclear Energy to inquire into and report on a range of matters, with a final reporting date of 30 April 2025.

During debate on the motion, the Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Energy moved a proposed amendment to the terms of reference and membership of the committee, and a crossbench member moved an amendment to that amendment also relating to membership of the committee. After the crossbench member had spoken, the Leader of the House moved closure of question, which was agreed to on division. The amendments were then each put and negated on division, before the original motion was agreed to on the voices.

*Hansard: 10 October 2024, 7066-76*  
*Votes and Proceedings: 2022-23-24/1934-40*  
**SO 223**

## Documents

### 26.06 Annual report presented

The Speaker presented the annual report of the Department of the House of Representatives for 2023–24 on Thursday, 10 October.

*Hansard: 10 October 2024, 7120*  
*Votes and Proceedings: 2022-23-24/1945*

## Motions

### 26.07 Motion on the anniversary of Hamas attacks on Israel

On Tuesday, following acknowledgement of country and Prayers, the Leader of the House moved to suspend standing orders to allow the Prime Minister to move a motion without notice regarding Hamas attacks on Israel and ongoing conflicts. The suspension motion also provided for arrangements for debate, including that debate would continue until 1.20 pm, at which time the question would be put, that amendments to the motion would not be permitted and that standing order 133(b) relating to deferred divisions would not apply. The suspension motion was passed with the concurrence of an absolute majority. The Prime Minister then moved a substantive motion relating to the anniversary of the Hamas terror attacks on Israel on 7 October 2023 and the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East. The Prime Minister also presented copies of statements by United States President Joe Biden and the G7 Leaders in relation to the same matters. Following debate, the House agreed to the motion on division.

Later, following Question Time, the Leader of the Opposition sought to suspend standing orders to move a motion in relation to the same matters. Once the motion was seconded and question stated, the Minister for Education moved that the debate be adjourned which was agreed on division.

*Hansard: 8 October 2024, 6733-45; 6764-8*  
*Votes and Proceedings: 2022-23-24/1893-5; 1897-9*

**SO 47**

### 26.08 Attempted reference of bills to Economics Committee

On Tuesday, the Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Energy moved that the Future Made in Australia (Guarantee of Origin) Bill 2024, Future Made in Australia (Guarantee of Origin Charges) Bill 2024 and the Future Made in Australia (Guarantee of Origin Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2024, which had been introduced at the previous sitting, be referred to the Standing Committee on Economics for consideration and an advisory report by 2 December 2024. Following a brief debate, the motion to refer the bills was negated on division.

*Hansard: 8 October 2024, 6818-22*  
*Votes and Proceedings: 2022-23-24/1901*

**SOs 143, 215**

## Sittings

### 26.09 Program of sittings for 2024

On Thursday, the Leader of the House presented a proposed program of parliamentary sittings for 2025 and, by leave, moved that it be agreed to. The program was agreed to on the voices.

*Hansard: 10 October 2024, 7076*  
*Votes and Proceedings: 2022-23-24/1940*

**SO 29**

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

	<b>Hansard</b>	
	<i>Date</i>	<i>Page</i>
'Have you got Tourette's or something? You sit there, "babble, babble, babble"—'	8 October 2024	6758
'I want to thank the member ... for not yelling and screaming like a lot of his idiot colleagues did—'	9 October 2024	6919

**SOs 89, 90, 92**

---

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