

The Senate

Procedure Committee

Divisions on Thursdays

Consideration of government documents

Formal motions

First report of 2004

March 2004

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Leader of the Government in the Senate

Senator the Hon J Faulkner
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THE SENATE
PROCEDURE COMMITTEE
FIRST REPORT OF 2004

The committee reports to the Senate on the following matters referred to the committee.

DIVISIONS ON THURSDAY

Standing order 57(3) currently provides that if a division is called for on Thursday after 6 pm, the matter before the Senate is adjourned until the next day of sitting at a time fixed by the Senate. In effect, no divisions occur after the time for commencement of consideration of government documents, committee reports and government responses and Auditor-General's reports. This provision allows senators travelling back to their home bases on Thursday to be assured that no division will occur after 6 pm.

It has been put to the committee, however, that it would better suit senators travelling on Thursday if the time beyond which divisions could not occur were brought back to 4.30 pm. In effect, this would mean that a division would not take place after the time for the commencement of general business.

This proposal should not involve any serious inconvenience. The following potential problems are identified. If a division were called for on items of general business under consideration, the vote on such items would be deferred until the next day of sitting. The deferral could be for a considerable period of time if the Senate were scheduled to adjourn for some weeks. If the item of general business under consideration were a bill, the various succeeding stages of the bill could be further delayed. A more serious problem could arise if a disallowance motion (which, as business of the Senate, takes precedence over general business) were under consideration at 4.30 pm on the last day for resolving the disallowance.

These problems could be overcome by suspending before 4.30 pm the prohibition on divisions. This is often done when general business is dispensed with and government business continues after 4.30 pm, and, if necessary, it could also be done when a division is expected on a disallowance motion or some other item of business which must be resolved on the day.

Attachment 1 shows the necessary amendment of standing order 57(3), which the committee recommends as a temporary order until the conclusion of the June 2004 sittings.

CONSIDERATION OF GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

Under standing order 61, government documents tabled on Tuesday and Wednesday are considered at the prescribed times on those days, and such documents which are not reached on those days are placed on the Notice Paper for consideration on Thursday at the time

prescribed after the consideration of general business. Documents tabled on Monday go straight to the Notice Paper list for Thursday.

It often happens that large numbers of documents are presented on Monday or Tuesday, particularly at the commencement of a period of sittings, which are not considered on Tuesday or Wednesday, and then accumulate on the Notice Paper for Thursday. In the same week, the time available on Tuesday and Wednesday may not be fully used. It has been suggested to the committee that it would be a better use of the Senate's time if documents tabled on Monday or Tuesday and not considered at the prescribed time on Tuesday could be available for consideration at that time on Wednesday, and, if not reached on any of those days, then go on the Notice Paper for Thursday. The committee agrees with this proposal.

The committee therefore recommends that a new provision be added to standing order 61 as shown in Attachment 2.

FORMAL MOTIONS

On two recent occasions in the Senate difficulties arising from the procedure for formal motions under standing order 66 have been debated. Those problems were set out in a paper which was circulated to all senators, and which is reprinted in Attachment 3.

Briefly, the moving of motions to suspend standing orders to give precedence to motions which are refused formality virtually compels senators to vote on a motion, or to explain why they should not be compelled to vote on the motion at that time, even where only a very small minority of senators seeks to compel a vote on the motion.

The committee has extensively canvassed proposed remedies for the problems set out in the paper in Attachment 3. The committee has now focused on measures to ensure that attempts to force a vote on a motion which is denied formality would not be permitted unless supported by a reasonable number of senators. A majority of the committee considers that such a measure should be adopted, and considers that the number specified in standing order 75 to bring about discussion of an urgency motion or matter of public importance, 5 senators, is an appropriate number in this case.

The committee therefore recommends that an amendment of standing order 66, as shown in Attachment 4, be adopted on a trial basis as a temporary order until the conclusion of the June 2004 sittings.

Senator Allison dissents from this recommendation.

John Hogg
Deputy President
Chair of the Committee

ATTACHMENT 1

DIVISIONS ON THURSDAYS

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF STANDING ORDER 57(3)

- (3) If a division is called for on Thursday after ~~6 pm~~ **4.30 pm**, the matter before the Senate shall be adjourned until the next day of sitting at a time fixed by the Senate.

ATTACHMENT 2

CONSIDERATION OF GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF STANDING ORDER 61

- (1)
 - (a) On Tuesday and Wednesday, documents presented by a minister shall be considered pursuant to this standing order at the time provided.
 - (b) Immediately after prayers on any day when consideration of government documents occurs, a minister may present documents by handing them to the Clerk without any announcement to the Senate, and the presentation of such documents shall be reported to the Senate by the President when the consideration of government documents is called on under this standing order.
 - (c) **Documents presented on Monday may be considered on Tuesday after the documents presented on that day, and documents presented on Monday and Tuesday and not called on on Tuesday may be considered on Wednesday after documents presented on that day.**
- (2) When documents are called on by the President pursuant to this standing order a motion may be moved without notice that the Senate take note of one or several of them.
- (3) The debate on any motion moved pursuant to this standing order shall be conducted as follows:
 - (a) a senator shall not speak for more than 5 minutes;
 - (b) if debate pursuant to this standing order is not concluded it shall be interrupted after 30 minutes;
 - (c) if the debate is adjourned or interrupted, the resumption of the debate shall be an order of the day for the Thursday of that week at the time for the consideration of government documents under general business, or, if it is so ordered, for the next day of sitting; and
 - (d) on Thursdays, at the time provided, when an order of the day is called on under this standing order senators who have previously spoken to that order of the day may speak again for not more than 5 minutes, and debate under this standing order at that time shall not exceed 60 minutes.
- (4) Where a document is presented but is not called on under paragraph (1), the consideration of that document shall be made an order of the day for the next day on which general business is considered without any question being put, and where that order of the day is called on at that time, a motion may be moved without notice to take note of that document.

- (5) Where consideration of a document is an order of the day in accordance with paragraph (4), it shall remain an order of the day for each succeeding day on which general business is considered till:
- (a) the order of the day is called on and no motion to take note of the document is moved;
 - (b) a motion to take note of the document is determined; or
 - (c) the order of the day is discharged from the Notice Paper,
- whichever first occurs.
- (6) Where debates on motions moved under the provisions of this standing order are adjourned or interrupted and are called on in the normal course of business, senators who have spoken to the motions under the provisions of this standing order may speak again for the time allowed by the standing orders for that business.

ATTACHMENT 3

FORMAL MOTIONS

This paper examines the procedure whereby motions may be moved and determined as formal motions under standing order 66, the nature of this procedure, its history, its development, the current problems with the procedure referred to in debate in the Senate on 27 March and 30 October 2003, and possible solutions to those problems.

Nature of the procedure

Under standing order 66, at the time provided in the routine of business under standing order 57, there is an opportunity for any senator to ask that any motion of which the senator has given notice for that day be taken as a formal motion. If no other senator present objects to the motion being taken as a formal motion, the senator may move the motion and it is then put and voted on without amendment or debate.

The procedure is not confined to unopposed or non-contentious motions, as a motion moved as formal may be voted on by division and may be negatived.

This procedure provides a means whereby motions may be moved with precedence over other motions, either not yet moved or moved and not yet determined, provided that no other senator objects to that precedence. The mover of the motion thereby gains the privilege of having the motion determined ahead of the queue of business, but at the cost of not being able to debate it. Other senators agree to the motion being determined there and then, but at the cost of not being able to move amendments or debate it.

Originally, formal motions were dealt with before the substantive business of the day commenced, but reordering of the routine of business and varying the routine for different days has meant that different times are provided on different days for formal motions to be taken.

The procedure has become more valuable over time because of the ever-increasing amount of unresolved business before the Senate. It is particularly valuable for General Business, as distinct from Business of the Senate or Government Business, because so many notices of motion are given under General Business that they will never be reached in the normal routine of business unless they are taken as formal. The procedure for formal motions is virtually the only chance for a senator to have a General Business notice of motion determined.

It is particularly valuable for securing Senate endorsement of necessary measures which do not normally attract debate or contention but which are required for the efficient functioning of the Senate and its committees. Motions relating to committees are particularly prominent in this category: new or altered references, extensions of time to report, authorisations to meet while the Senate is sitting. If the procedure had not existed long ago it would by now have been invented to deal with these kinds of measures.

The procedure is less valuable for Business of the Senate and Government Business, because motions falling into those categories are given their own precedence and are bound to be reached in due course in the normal routine of business (except for some government business which the government chooses not to give priority).

The government has made more use of the procedure in recent years, however, to initiate its business, for example, the introduction of bills, and to deal with such things as the approval of works in the Parliamentary Zone.

History of the procedure

The procedure for formal motions was contained in the first set of Senate standing orders adopted in 1903, and has not significantly changed since that time (the only substantive changes are that originally every notice was called over by the chair, whereas now a senator has to ask for a particular notice to be taken as formal, and in the current routine of business the time for taking formal motions is not necessarily before the start of substantive business).

The procedure was included in the standing orders originally recommended by the Standing Orders Committee in 1901. The committee made no comment on the proposed procedure, except to note that it existed in some houses of state parliaments. The standing orders were adopted in 1903 after very extensive debate and amendment, but there was no debate on the formal motions procedure. Obviously it was familiar to senators and it was not contentious.

Between 1901 and the adoption of the standing orders in 1903 the Senate operated under the standing orders of the South Australian House of Assembly; part of the rationale of this arrangement was that they were familiar to the first President. A set of proposed standing orders drafted by the clerks and presented by the government was not adopted. Neither the South Australian standing orders nor the government set which was largely based on them included the formal motions procedure. The Standing Orders Committee, however, obviously thought that the procedure was a useful adoption from other state houses. (This explains why the House of Representatives has no formal motions procedure: it adopted on a temporary basis the standing orders proposed by the government and kept them until they were revised in 1950.)

The formal motions procedure as it applied in some of the state houses before 1901, going back to 1870 in the New South Wales Legislative Council, seems to have been a codification and expansion of a practice which had grown up in the British House of Commons. That practice was to allow some motions on which debate was thought to be unnecessary to be moved and determined, subject to the consent of every member present, before the business of the day was embarked upon. As the volume of business in 19th century parliaments increased, the House of Commons and the Australian state parliaments went down different routes: the House of Commons by conducting ballots to determine which private members' business would be dealt with (this no doubt reflecting the great size of that House), and the Australian houses by placing all business brought forward by private members in its due order, providing various means of allocating time to it, and, in some cases, formalising the formal motions procedure as a means of expediting some business.

Development of the procedure

As has been noted, the increase in the amount of unresolved business before the Senate, particularly General Business, has greatly increased the incentive for senators to apply for their motions to be taken as formal, because General Business motions not taken as formal stay in their due order on the Notice Paper and most are never dealt with. (Originally, at the time set aside for General Business, now Thursday afternoon, General Business was dealt with in the order in which it stood on the Notice Paper. As the amount of General Business increased, senators adopted the practice of rearranging the business to determine which business would be dealt with at that time. This has now been formalised to the extent that the non-government parties, according to an agreed allocation between them, nominate the General Business items to be dealt with at that time, and the necessary rearrangement notice is moved by the Manager of Government Business.)

Because of the amount of General Business and the virtual certainty that it will never be reached, senators began to adopt the practices of allowing motions to be taken as formal but making statements about them by leave, moving amendments to them by leave or allowing the mover to amend them by leave before moving them. These practices, as has often been observed from the chair and by other senators, defeat the purpose of the formal motions procedure, which is to allow motions to be dealt with expeditiously by forgoing amendment or debate.

For the same reason, senators who are anxious to have their motions dealt with have adopted the practice of moving to suspend standing orders to allow such motions to be moved when objection is taken to them being moved as formal motions. This practice also defeats the purpose of the formal motions procedure, because it may result in a half-hour debate on suspension of standing orders even if a majority of the Senate declines to allow the substantive motion to be moved. If a majority of the Senate allows a substantive motion to be moved and debated, it may be said that there is no harm done, because it is always open to

the Senate to rearrange its business at any time and in any way it chooses. Even when a senator knows that a suspension of standing orders motion will be unsuccessful, however, there is an incentive for the senator to move that motion because it gives him or her five minutes of speaking time to say why the substantive motion should be dealt with there and then, to refer to the merits of the substantive motion, although this is strictly not in order on the motion to suspend standing orders, and to criticise those who do not wish the substantive motion to be dealt with at that time.

Attached are statistics showing, for each year since 1973, the numbers of motions taken as formal, divisions on formal motions (giving some indication of those which were contentious), refusals of formality, motions for suspension of standing orders when formality was refused, and the source and result of such motions. The starting year is selected simply because that is the year in which electronic storage of the Journals of the Senate commenced, allowing electronic search for the required data. These statistics illustrate the development of the procedure in recent times. A fact which the statistics do not reveal is that formality is sought for an increasing percentage of all notices. It is important to note, however, that the figures do not distinguish between “normal” formal motions, for example, changes in committee reporting dates, and contentious motions. Both categories have increased.

The problems with the procedure

The debates in the Senate on 27 March and 30 October 2003, by way of statements by leave, were only the most notable occasions on which senators have referred to problems with the formal motions procedure, and what they regard as its overuse and misuse.

Senators have complained that there are many motions for which formality is sought, that many of them deal with complex and difficult issues, that many of them are therefore not the kinds of motions on which senators wish to vote without the opportunity of debate to explain their positions, and of amendment to seek to put the motions in a form more accurately reflecting their views. They also complain that they do not have time to properly consider the motions for which formality might be sought.

The framers of the original standing orders in 1901 would have said that the solution to all of these difficulties is quite simple. Any senator can refuse formality to a motion, and it is then not dealt with at that time but is reserved for subsequent debate and possible amendment.

There are two problems with this simple answer.

One is the great volume of business, which ensures that General Business motions not taken as formal will never be reached. Senators may wish to have a motion put on a particular matter, and they may feel that it is a matter of urgency for the Senate to make provision or

express a view on a particular matter, even though they may not agree with the form of the motion which has been put forward.

There is a relatively simple answer to this problem also: instead of allowing such a motion to be taken as formal, then having statements or amendments by leave, senators could agree to rearrange the business at another time to allow the issue to be dealt with, perhaps subject to special debating time limits but with the possibility of amendment. Some of the time available for General Business could be allocated in that way. To take a typical example, if there is notice of a motion about a significant foreign affairs issue, and a majority of senators consider that some motion ought to be passed about that issue, instead of allowing the particular motion to be taken as formal when most senators might not agree with its terms, the business could be rearranged at a convenient time, which might be General Business time, to allow a motion more likely to reflect the views of a majority to be moved and dealt with on an expedited basis.

The second problem is the most significant difficulty with the procedure as it is currently used. Senators know that if formality is refused to a motion, there is the likelihood of a motion for suspension of standing orders being moved, with at least five minutes being expended on the mover's speech and the virtual necessity of further speeches to respond to that speech. There is also the possibility of the mover subsequently criticising other senators for refusing, without explaining themselves, to allow the motion to be dealt with. Because of this prospect, senators feel themselves under pressure to allow motions to be taken as formal. With motions on complex and difficult issues, there is also considerable pressure for senators to explain why they could not support the particular terms of such motions. This is the central problem which needs to be resolved.

It is observed in passing that other houses, notably the Legislative Council of New South Wales, have experienced the same problems and are thinking of similar solutions.

Possible solutions

The central problem having been identified, possible solutions may be considered.

The most obvious solution is for senators to refuse formality for all motions they do not wish to vote on there and then, to put up with the consequent motions for suspension of standing orders, and to use those motions, if necessary, to briefly explain why they cannot allow the substantive motions to be voted on without amendment or debate. Such occasions may also be used to criticise any senators who persistently move to suspend standing orders.

This policy could be accompanied by statements of intent explaining the policy, similar to the statements made by the Opposition on 27 May 1998 and subsequently in relation to foreign

affairs motions. It is open to any senator to make such statements to explain why the senator will not grant formality to some kinds of motions.

The inconvenience of the current situation could be lessened by further limiting debate on suspension motions moved for the purpose of bringing on motions for which formality has been refused. Perhaps it could be provided that such suspension motions are to be put without debate, to remove part of the incentive to move them and to reduce the amount of time spent on them.

It would also be possible to provide that, where formality is refused for a motion, no motion for the purpose of bringing on that motion, including a motion for suspension of standing orders, would be received by the chair; in other words, to ban motions to suspend standing orders when formality is refused.

In relation to notices proposing resolutions to express the opinion of the Senate on matters, it could be provided that only notices which have been on the Notice Paper for a minimum period of time, say seven calendar days, would be available for discovery as formal motions. Any such rule would have to exclude the normal procedural notices, such as those relating to committees, which often have to be resolved quickly.

Regardless of the time given to consider and negotiate the terms of motions, however, senators may still be confronted by motions for which formality is sought and which they do not wish to vote on at that time without amendment or debate.

Other possible solutions directed at lengthening the time for consideration of notices of motion for which formality might be sought, for example, having notices given earlier on Wednesday or having formal business dealt with later on Thursday, would have the additional disadvantage of intruding on the time for Government Business or the time for General Business, depending on the particular change to the routine of business.

The incentive to use the formal motions procedure could be reduced by setting aside a special time for dealing with General Business motions, perhaps with special time limits and any divisions taken at another time. It would still not be possible, however, to deal with all the General Business notices given.

The problems senators have in considering whether to support complex motions could be alleviated by more rigorous enforcement of standing order 76(7), which requires that notices “consist of a clear and succinct proposed resolution or order of the Senate relating to matters within the competence of the Senate, and shall not contain statements, quotations or other matter not strictly necessary to make the proposed resolution or order intelligible”.

All suggested solutions which involve changing the procedure are liable to the objection that any procedure can be circumvented by a senator determined to try to force the issue on any particular matter. The ultimate solution to the problem is that senators agree not to make unreasonable or excessive use of the valuable formal motions procedure.

ATTACHMENT 4

FORMAL MOTIONS

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF STANDING ORDER 66

- (1) At the time provided for formal motions the President shall inquire with respect to each motion of which notice has been given for the day, at the request of the senator who gave the notice, whether there is any objection to its being taken as a formal motion, and if no objection is taken by any senator, the motion shall be deemed to be a formal motion.
- (2) Formal motions shall take precedence of all other motions and orders of the day and shall be disposed of in the order in which they stand on the Notice Paper.
- (3) A formal motion shall be put and determined without amendment or debate.
- (4) **If objection is made to a motion being taken as a formal motion, a proposal to suspend standing orders to allow the motion to be moved shall not be received by the President and put to the Senate unless 5 senators, including the mover of the motion, rise in their places to indicate support for the suspension motion.**

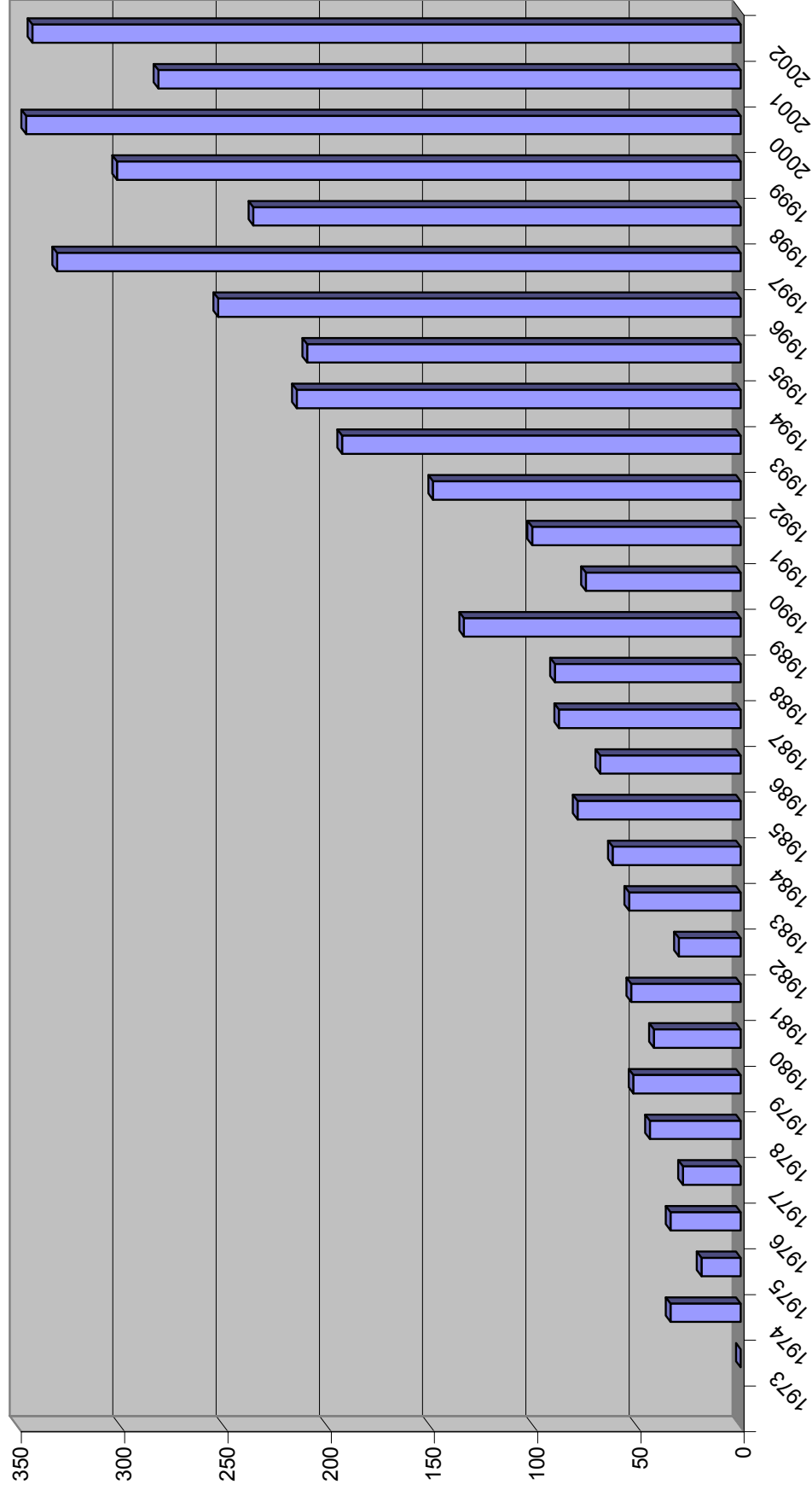
Year	Requests for formality	Motions taken as formal	Formal motions—divisions	Objections to formality	Suspension motions (total)	Outcome of suspension motions:		
						Agreed	Negatived	Withdrawn
1973	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974	34	34	—	—	—	—	—	—
1975	19	19	1	—	—	—	—	—
1976	34	34	—	—	—	—	—	—
1977	28	28	—	—	—	—	—	—
1978	44	44	—	—	—	—	—	—
1979	52	51	1	1	1	—	1	—
1980	42	42	—	—	—	—	—	—
1981	53	52	—	1	1	—	1	—
1982	30	30	—	—	—	—	—	—
1983	54	54	—	—	—	—	—	—
1984	62	62	1	—	—	—	—	—
1985	79	79	—	—	—	—	—	—
1986	68	68	—	—	—	—	—	—
1987	88	88	5	—	—	—	—	—
1988	90	89	4	1	1	1	—	—
1989	134	131	2	3	2	1	1	—
1990	75	71	—	4	3	2	1	—
1991	101	97	—	4	4	3	—	1
1992	149	133	—	16	9	2	7	—
1993	193	171	—	22	8	7	1	—
1994	215	201	—	14	10	7	3	—
1995	210	177	—	32	14	9	5	—
1996	253	202	5	46	19	13	5	1
1997	331	309	40	22	8	4	4	—
1998	236	219	38	17	6	3	3	—
1999	302	242	31	29	17	7	9	1
2000	346	325	12	21	14	2	11	1
2001	282	264	10	18	11	6	5	—
2002	343	335	21	8	3	—	3	—

The figures for 2003, to 30 October (52 sitting days) are as follows:

2003	383	371	28	12	4*	1	2	—
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* On 16 October a debate for the suspension of standing orders was not concluded.

Requests for formality, 1973 to 2002



Suspension motions following denial of formality

Year	Senator	Number of suspension motions
1979	McLaren (ALP)	1 motion – (Negatived)
1981	Gietzelt (ALP)	1 motion – (Negatived)
1988	Powell (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
1989	Crichton-Browne (Lib)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Jenkins (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
1990	Bishop, B (Lib)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Spindler (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Tambling (CLP)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
1991	Baume (Lib)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Hill (Lib)	1 motion – (Withdrawn)
	Spindler (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Watson (Lib)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
1992	Bell (AD)	2 motions – (Negatived)
	Boswell (NPA)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Chamarette (GWA)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Coulter (AD)	3 motions – (2 Agreed to, 1 Negatived)
	Sowada (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Spindler (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
1993	Chamarette (GWA)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Coulter (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Harradine (Ind)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Hill (Lib)	3 motions – (2 Agreed to, 1 Negatived)
	Patterson (Lib)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Short (Lib)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
1994	Campbell, I (Lib)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Chamarette (GWA)	2 motions – (1 Agreed to, 1 Negatived)
	Gibson (Lib)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Harradine (Ind)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Lees (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Margetts (GWA)	2 motions – (1 Agreed to, 1 Negatived)
	Murphy (ALP)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Short (Lib)	1 motion – (Negatived)
1995	Alston (Lib)	2 motions – (Agreed to)
	Bourne (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Chamarette (GWA)	3 motions – (1 Agreed to, 2 Negatived)
	Coulter (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Kemp (Lib)	2 motions – (Agreed to)
	Macdonald, I (Lib)	2 motions – (Agreed to)
	Margetts (GWA)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Spindler (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Vanstone (Lib)	1 motion – (Agreed to)

Year	Senator	Number of suspension motions
1996	Bolkus (ALP)	2 motions – (1 Agreed to, 1 withdrawn)
	Brown (AG)	4 motions – (Negatived)
	Chamarette (GWA)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Faulkner (ALP)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Harradine (Ind)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Kernot (AD)	2 motions – (Agreed to)
	Margetts (GWA)	4 motions – (3 Agreed to, 1 Negatived)
	Reynolds (ALP)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Sherry (ALP)	2 motions – (Agreed to)
	Spindler (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
1997	Brown (AG)	2 motions – (1 Agreed to, 1 Negatived)
	Faulkner (ALP)	2 motions – (Negatived)
	Lees (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Margetts (GWA)	2 motions – (Agreed to)
	Murray (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
1998	Bartlett (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Brown (AG)	3 motions (1 Agreed to, 2 Negatived)
	Colston (Ind)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Ray (ALP)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
1999	Allison (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Bartlett (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Bishop, M (ALP)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Bolkus (ALP)	2 motions – (Agreed to)
	Brown (AG)	11 motions – (3 Agreed to, 7 Negatived, 1 withdrawn)
	Murray (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
2000	Brown (AG)	9 motions – (8 Negatived, 1 withdrawn)
	Cook (ALP)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Faulkner (ALP)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Greig (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Harris (PHON)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Stott Despoja (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
2001	Bartlett (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Brown (AG)	7 motions – (3 Agreed to, 4 Negatived)
	Grieg (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	O'Brien (ALP)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
	Ridgeway (AD)	1 motion – (Agreed to)
2002	Brown (AG)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Greig (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
	Murray (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)
2003*	Bartlett (AD)	1 motion – (Debate not concluded)
	Brown (AG)	2 motions – (1 Negatived, 1 Agreed to)
	Stott Despoja (AD)	1 motion – (Negatived)

* To 30 October

