

Australian Government response to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Procedure report:

Division required? Electronic voting in the House of Representatives

Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends that electronic voting to record divisions in the House of Representatives be implemented, provided that:

- voting occurs in the Chamber;
- the House maintains the practice of dividing to the right and left of the Chair;
- Members may sit anywhere on the side of the Chamber corresponding to their vote; and
- tellers continue to be appointed to report proxy votes for nursing mothers and to be ready to undertake a manual tally in the event that the voting system malfunctions.

Australian Government Response

The recommendation has been partially implemented: the votes of Members are recorded electronically by tellers' via ipads into the House Division Recording System and published on screen in the Chamber and the public galleries and on the APH website.

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that the option of using a swipe or touch card (or electronic token) and readers that allow Members to vote from any seat to the left or right of the Chair be investigated.

Australian Government Response

The Government notes the recommendation.

Recommendation 3

The Committee recommends that the results of divisions be displayed in the Chamber.

Australian Government Response

This recommendation has been implemented.