



Australian Government

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

Use of electronic devices in the Chamber and Federation
Chamber

February 2015

Response from the Government to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Procedure report: *Use of electronic devices in the Chamber and Federation Chamber.*

Opening Statement

The Government thanks the Committee for its work in inquiring into the use of electronic devices in the House of Representatives Chamber and the Federation Chamber.

The Government's response to the recommendations is as follows:

Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends that the House of Representatives Standing Committee of Privileges and Members' Interests consider reviewing and updating its 'Guidelines for members on the status and handling of their records and correspondence' to include communications by Members via electronic devices.

Response

The Government supports the recommendation, and requests the House of Representatives Standing Committee of Privileges and Members Interests consider reviewing and updating their 'Guidelines for members on the status and handling of their records and correspondence' to include communications by Members via electronic devices.

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that:

- *the House consider and adopt a resolution in the terms set out in the proposed resolution on the use of electronic devices extracted at Appendix B;*
- *the terms of the resolution be included with published versions of the Standing Orders; and*
- *the terms of the resolution be drawn to the attention of all Members, in particular to new Members as part of their orientation programme.*

Response

The Government supports this recommendation. The Leader of the House will program the consideration of a resolution in the terms given, and ensure once resolved that the terms of the resolution are drawn to the attention of all Members. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is requested to ensure that the terms of the resolution, once resolved, are included with published versions of the Standing Orders and drawn to the attention of new Members as part of their orientation programme.