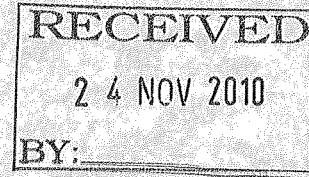


DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE HON PETER SLIPPER MP

Ms Julie Owens MP
Chair – Procedure Committee
Suite R1.80
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Julie,

I am writing to you in my capacity as Deputy Speaker and Chairman of the Main Committee to ask the Procedure Committee to consider again the matter of renaming the Main Committee.

The Committee has on two occasions proposed renaming the Main Committee in - 2000 suggesting that it be renamed 'The Second Chamber' and in 2004 putting forward the name 'The Federation Chamber of the House of Representatives' ('Federation Chamber' for short).

Among the reasons given by the Procedure Committee for renaming the Main Committee was confusion with the committee room known as the Main Committee Room, but also to recognise better the status and role of what is the second debating Chamber of the House of Representatives. The Committee's recommendations were not adopted.

I am not wedded to any particular designation although I am attracted to the name 'The Federation Chamber of the House of Representatives'. I consider the reasons given in earlier reports for a change in name were very persuasive.

I believe that a change in name would provide better recognition of the steadily increasing status and role of the Main Committee and I would appreciate it if the Committee could consider this matter.

Yours sincerely

PETER SLIPPER

23/11/10