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Appendix E Standing order comparisons

Table 1 Comparison of the House of Representatives' petition lodgement requirements with those of other Australian state and territory parliaments*

Requirements under House standing orders	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT
<i>Lodging a petition</i>								
To be lodged by Member only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Members' responsibilities</i>								
Member must write own name and that of electorate	Sign	Sign	✓	Sign	✓	✓	✓	Sign
Member must count and record number of signatories			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Member must certify petition complies with standing orders	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Presenting a petition</i>								
Member may lodge petitions with Clerk before presentation	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Member may present petitions during Members' statements		✓		✓**		✓**		
Members may present a petition referring to a motion or order of the day when that motion or standing order is moved or called on								✓
<i>Compliance with standing orders</i>								
Clerk or Deputy Clerk certifies compliance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Announcement of petitions and responses</i>								
Clerk announces petitions and any ministerial responses	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓

Source *Standing orders of each jurisdiction*

Notes * *State upper houses not included*

** *Members present petitions*

Table 2 Comparison of the House of Representatives' petition preparation requirements with those of other Australian state and territory parliaments*

Requirements under House standing orders	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT
<i>Contents of a petition</i>								
Must be addressed to the House		✓	✓	✓				✓
State the facts and contain a request to take one or more specified actions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Preparing a petition</i>								
Must be on paper and be legible	✓	✓	✓**	✓	✓	✓**	✓	✓
Must be in English or be accompanied by a translation certified to be correct	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Must not contain any alterations	✓		✓				✓	✓
Must not have any letters, affidavits or other documents attached to it	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Language must be respectful, courteous and moderate	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Must not contain irrelevant statements	✓						✓	✓
Must not contain any indication that it has been sponsored or distributed by a Member					✓	✓		✓
A petition from a corporation must be made under its common seal	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
<i>Rules about signatures</i>								
Must contain the signature and address of a least one person on each page	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Each signature must be made by the person signing in his or her own handwriting and written on a page bearing the terms of the petition	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Provisions for petitioners not able to sign	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Signatures must not be copied, pasted or transferred	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Source *Standing orders of each jurisdiction*

Notes * *State upper houses not included*

** *Can also be electronic*