



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Procedural Digest

Fifty-eighth Parliament, First Session

No. 3/2026: 5 – 28 May 2026

This document provides a summary of significant procedural events and precedents in the Legislative Assembly. It is produced at the end of each sitting period. Where applicable the relevant Standing Orders are noted.

May 2026

M	T	W	T	F
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

Speaker

Speaker's Rulings and Statements

During the last sitting week of May the Speaker made a number of rulings and statements.

The first ruling was made on 27 May and concerned Standing Order 71. The Speaker reiterated his original ruling from 14 May, when the Manager of Opposition Business, Mr James Griffin, raised a point of order under Standing Order 71 (Reflection on votes of the House) during an answer by the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism, the Hon Yasmin Catley. The Speaker ruled that Standing Order 71 was not applicable, as the Minister was not reflecting on a vote of the House, but on Liberal Party policy and the extent to which its position had altered following a vote in the House.

The Speaker then made a statement regarding Community Recognition Statements (CRS). He noted that Standing Order 108A provides that CRS must not refer to policy matters or criticise any organisation, including the Government. He also noted that other mechanisms, such as Private Members' Statements and General Business Notices of Motions, may be used to raise such matters.

The statement followed a CRS delivered in the House on 13 May by Mr Griffin, acknowledging local business owners who had contacted him with concerns following the Federal Budget and the subsequent removal of the capital gains tax discount. During the CRS, the Member for Blacktown, Mr Stephen Bali, raised a point of order, arguing that Mr Griffin was referring to a matter of policy. Mr Griffin was allowed to continue, modifying his statement to commend local business owners in the Manly electorate. The Speaker also drew Members' attention to the one minute time limit for CRS, to allow all Members to deliver their statements during the allocated 30 minutes.

On 28 May, the Speaker delivered a ruling regarding Standing Order 77. This followed points of order raised by the Manager of Opposition Business and the Member for Coffs Harbour, Mr Gurmish Singh, concerning whether the rule of anticipation applied to answers given by the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon Paul Scully. The Speaker's considered ruling expanded on his ruling during Question Time on 14 May that the points of order not be upheld. He informed the House that while Standing Order 77 applies to debate generally, it does not apply to Question Time. Question Time is governed by Standing Orders 126 to 131, which do not include the rule of anticipation. He noted that such prohibitions formerly applied to Question Time, under the then Standing Order 137, but were removed in 2009.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Votes and Proceedings: 27/5/2026, p. 1922; 28/5/2026, p. 1956

Hansard (Proof): 27/5/2026, pp. 6-7; 28/5/2026, p. 8

Standing Orders 71 (Reflection on votes of the House), 108A (Community Recognition Statements), and 77 (Anticipation)

Members

Leave of absence and nomination of additional Temporary Speaker

On 25 March 2026, the House agreed to a sessional order amending Standing Order 19 for the current session. The Sessional Order provided that, where a nominated Temporary Speaker is unavailable to preside for an extended period, the Speaker may make interim arrangements to nominate an additional Member to act as a Temporary Speaker.

On 5 May, the Speaker advised the House that, pursuant to Standing Order 19, he had nominated Mr Mark Hodges, Member for Castle Hill, to act as Temporary Speaker from 1 May 2026 to 26 June 2026. Later that day, the Opposition Whip, Mr Adam Crouch, moved that leave of absence be granted to Ms Monica Tudehope, Member for Epping, from Tuesday 5 May 2026 until Friday 5 June 2026, on account of maternity. The motion was agreed to on the voices.

On 12 May 2026, Mr Crouch moved that leave of absence be granted to Ms Stephanie Di Pasqua, Member for Drummoyne and a nominated Temporary Speaker, from Tuesday 12 May 2026 until Friday 26 June 2026, on account of maternity. The motion was agreed to on the voices. Later that day, Mr Hodges presided as Temporary Speaker for the first time.

Votes and Proceedings: 24/5/2023, p. 74; 25/3/2026, p. 1811; 5/5/2026, pp. 1839, 1846; 12/5/2026, p. 1884
Standing Order 19 (Nomination by Speaker).

Legislation: *Constitution Act 1902*, s 13A(1)(a).

Procedural note

Section 13A(1)(a) of the Constitution Act 1902 provides that a member's seat becomes vacant if the member fails to attend the House for one whole session, unless excused by permission of the House and recorded in its journals. The House granting a leave of absence for extended periods (such as maternity) provides a record of why the Member is absent for that period.

Business

Member, with written authority, seeking to move motion on behalf of another member

On 4 May 2026, the Government Whip forwarded to the Table Office correspondence (dated 28 April 2026) from the Member for Campbelltown, Mr Greg Warren, noting that his notice of motion (general notice) no. 4315 entitled 'Investment in Western and South West Sydney' would be the first item called on for debate on 7 May and, given his known absence due to health reasons, nominating the Member for Leppington, Mr Nathan Hagarty, to take carriage of his motion on that day. This notification was in line with recent practice where similar circumstances had arisen.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Again, in line with recent practice, no notation was made to either the Business Paper or the Green Paper – but the Daily Program for 7 May did note that Mr Hagarty would move the motion on behalf of Mr Warren.

On 7 May, upon the Clerk reading the item of business and the Assistant Speaker calling on the Member for Leppington, the Member for Terrigal, Mr Adam Crouch, immediately rose and took a point of order, that under the standing and sessional orders the member could not move the motion on behalf of another member. Mr Crouch noted that while the Standing Orders provide that one member may give a notice on behalf of another, no such provision exists for the moving of a motion.

In ruling on the point of order, the Assistant Speaker noted that while Standing Order 135 provides for one Member, with written authority, to give a notice of motion on behalf of another member (Standing Order 141 similarly provides for one member to postpone or withdraw a notice on behalf of another member), no such express provision exists for one Member to move a motion on behalf of another Member. The Assistant Speaker further noted that while there were numerous recent precedents where members, from both sides of the House, had indeed moved motions on behalf of other members (some with and some without written authority), that in each of those cases, no point of order had been raised. The Assistant Speaker, therefore somewhat reluctantly, ruled that in this circumstance he was obliged to uphold the point of order, and direct that the motion could not be moved by any Member other than the Member for Campbelltown.

As it was, immediately after the ruling was given, the Minister for Industrial Relations, the Hon. Sophie Cotsis, moved that standing and sessional orders be suspended to permit Mr Hagarty to move the motion on behalf of the Mr Warren forthwith. The motion was agreed to on division (48:28), with only members of the Opposition voting for the Noes.

Votes and Proceedings: 7/5/2026, pp. 1876-1880; 5/6/2025, p. 1302; 11/5/2023, pp. 59-61; 23/6/2022, p. 1807; 5/5/2021, p. 1164

Standing Orders 135 (Notice by another Member), 141 (Postponement or withdrawal of notices of motions) and 170 (Postponement or discharge)





Procedural note

Standing Order 135 provides: A member by written request may give a notice of motion for another Member. The other Member's name must appear on the notice with the signature of the Member giving the notice.

Standing Order 141 provides: A notice of motion shall be postponed or withdrawn at the direction of the Member who gave the notice, or by another Member with the written authority of that Member, during the placing or disposal of business or when called on.

Standing Order 170 provides: When the Order of the Day is read it may, by the Member in charge of the Order, or with written authority by another Member on that Member's behalf be (1) Postponed or (2) Discharged, on motion without debate or amendment.

Precedents

On 5 June 2025 the Member for Granville, with written authority, moved a General Business Notice of Motion entitled 'Housing Projects in Nowra' on behalf of the Member for South Coast.

On 11 May 2023, the Member for Wahroonga moved the Public Interest Debate (PID), entitled 'Active Kids', on behalf of the Member for Miranda. In this case, the Member for Miranda, who had been delayed and could not be present at the time when the item was called on, joined the debate in time to speak in reply and vote in the subsequent divisions on the motion.

On 23 June 2022 the Member for Macquarie Fields, with written authority from the Member for Kogarah and the Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC, moved the second reading of the Fiscal Responsibility Amendment (Privatisation Restrictions) Bill, which had originated in the Legislative Council.

On 5 May 2021 the Member for Cessnock moved the PID, entitled 'Privatisation', on behalf of the Member for Swansea. The Member for Swansea had earlier had her PID topic announced and then later, during Question Time, was removed from the precinct for the day on the direction of the Speaker.

Question to a private member

During Question Time on 6 May, a question without notice was directed to an independent member by a member of the Government. The Member for Coogee, Dr Marjorie O'Neill, asked a question to the Member for Sydney, Mr Alex Greenwich, in his capacity as the Chair of the Standing Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics. The question concerned the Committee's review of the code of conduct and how it relates to the Legislative Council.

A private member being asked a question during Question Time is rare, with the most recent occurrence being on 10 November 2022. In this instance, Mr Greenwich directed a question to the independent Member for Lake Macquarie, Mr Greg Piper, in his capacity as the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Votes and Proceedings: 6/5/2026, p. 1858

Hansard (Proof): 6/5/2026, pp. 12-13

Standing Orders 127 (Question to committee Chair) and 131 (Question Time (oral questions))

General Business Notice of Motion proposing changes to petitions

On 7 May, Mrs Judy Hannan, Member for Wollondilly, gave notice of a general business motion proposing changes to the Legislative Assembly's rules for petitions and electronic petitions. In the motion, Mrs Hannan asked the House to:

- (1) Allow paper and ePetitions containing identical words to be presented as one petition.
- (2) Decrease the number of signatures required for a combined petition.
- (3) Provide inclusive access for disadvantaged populations of New South Wales by including persons:
 - a. sharing email addresses with relatives
 - b. living in health and residential care
 - c. that do not read English at home
 - d. that cannot physically write their signature
- (4) Refer the motion to the Legislative Assembly Standing Orders and Procedure Committee.

Mrs Hannan subsequently wrote to the Speaker, in his capacity as Chair of the Standing Orders and Procedure Committee, requesting that the matter be considered by the Committee.

Standing Orders 119 – 125A (Chapter 9: Petitions)

Business Paper: 12/5/2026, p. 5985

Suspension of Standing and Sessional Orders – Routine of Business

On 14 May, the Leader of the House, the Hon. Ron Hoenig, moved that standing and sessional orders be suspended to alter the routine of business for Tuesday, 26 May.

The motion provided for the House to commence sitting at 12.30 pm, rather than 12.00 pm with the giving of General Business Notices of Motion for up to 15 minutes, after which the Speaker would leave the Chair until 1.00 pm. The revised routine of business also provided for Question Time and the associated routine of business, Government Business, a Public Interest Debate at 5.00 pm, followed by further Government Business if required, Community Recognition Statements and Private Members' Statements.

The Manager of Opposition Business noted the Opposition's concurrence with the revised arrangements. The motion was agreed to on the voices.

Votes and Proceedings: 14/05/2026, pp. 1905-1906

Hansard (Proof): 14/05/2026, p. 23

Standing Order 365 (Suspension of Standing Orders)

Procedural note

Standing Order 365 allows members to move that standing and sessional orders be suspended to deal with any matter. Given the usual routine of business is provided for in Standing Order 97, any changes to the routine need to be done via a suspension. In this case, the suspension was used to alter the sitting arrangements and order of proceedings for a future sitting day.



Responding to a NSW Ombudsman report

On 14 May, the Minister for Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Minister for Industry and Trade, Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology, Minister for Building, and Minister for Corrections, the Hon. Anoulack Chanthivong, made a ministerial statement in response to a NSW Ombudsman report. The NSW Ombudsman report was entitled 'The progress of NSW inmate discipline system reform' and was made under section 27 of the *Ombudsman Act 1974* (the Ombudsman Act). It was made to the Speaker and the President on 2 March 2026.

Section 27 of the Ombudsman Act provides that the Ombudsman may make a report to the Presiding Officer of each House, and provide a copy to the responsible Minister, where the Ombudsman is not satisfied that sufficient steps have been taken in due time to address issues raised in a report made under s 26 of the Ombudsman Act. In this case, the Ombudsman's report of March 2026 was addressing the Government's response to their earlier report entitled 'Investigation into inmate discipline in NSW correctional centres' tabled in 2024.

Section 27 of the Ombudsman Act also requires the responsible Minister to make a statement to the House in response to the report no more than 12 sitting days after the report is made to the Presiding Officer. Minister Chanthivong made a ministerial statement responding to the report in the time allotted for ministerial statements in the routine of business following Question Time. The Hon. Anthony Roberts, Member for Lane Cove, spoke in reply to the statement and obtained leave of the House to speak for additional time. As the statement was treated as a Ministerial Statement, Mr Roberts was allowed to respond under Standing Order 104 for the same period of time as Minister Chanthivong's statement (approximately two minutes).

These statements are not common occurrences in the Legislative Assembly, with the two most recent occasions being on 15 March 2018 and 17 April 1996.

Votes and Proceedings: 14/5/2026 p.1905; 15/3/2018, p. 1652; 17/4/1996, p. 35

Hansard (Proof): 14/5/2026 p. 22

Standing Orders 103 (Times for Ministerial Statements); 104 (Duration of Ministerial Statements)

Legislation: *Ombudsman Act 1974*, s26 and s27

Procedural note

Section 27 of the *Ombudsman Act 1974* does not provide for additional speakers other than the Minister. However, the practice in the Assembly has been to treat this type of item of business as a Ministerial Statement and therefore allow a reply from the Leader of the Opposition or any Member deputed, as provided under Standing Order 104.

Public Interest Debate - Renewable Energy

On 26 May, the House considered a Public Interest Debate entitled 'Renewable Energy' moved by Dr O'Neill. The motion reaffirmed the House's commitment to New South Wales's renewable energy plan, the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap, and acknowledged that cancelling or unnecessarily delaying renewable energy projects would increase energy prices for families and small businesses.

During the debate, Mr Griffin, Member for Manly, moved an amendment seeking to add a paragraph condemning the Government's implementation of the Roadmap and its consultation with regional communities.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The amendment was negated on division (36:48). In the division, Opposition members voted in support of the proposed change.

Following the defeat of the amendment, the House divided on the question on the original motion. The original motion was agreed to by 71 votes to 14, with Liberal members voting 'aye' and National Party members voting 'no'.

Votes and Proceedings: 26/5/2026, pp. 1916-1918

Hansard (Proof): 26/5/2026, pp. 41-49

Standing Order 109 (Public Interest Debates)

Amendments to the Public Interest Debate – Waterloo Public Housing

On 27 May, the House considered a Public Interest Debate motion titled 'Waterloo Public Housing', moved by Ms Jenny Leong, Member for Newtown. The motion sought to criticise the Labor government and former Coalition government for demolishing public housing in Waterloo, and called on the Government to stop the demolition and eviction of public housing residents in Waterloo and beyond.

During the debate, Ms Julia Finn, Member for Granville and Ms Kobi Shetty, Member for Balmain, each moved an alternative proposition as an amendment to the original motion. No point of order was taken, and debate proceeded. Once debate had concluded, Ms Shetty's amendment was negated on a minority division (with the three Greens MPs – Ms Leong, Ms Shetty and Ms Smith – voting for the amendment). Ms Finn's amendment was agreed to on a minority division (with the three Greens MPs voting against the amendment). Finally, the motion, as amended, was agreed to on a minority division (with the three Greens MPs voting against the amended motion).

Votes and Proceedings: 27/5/2026, pp. 1927-1928

Hansard (Proof): 27/5/2026, pp. 49-56

Standing Orders 162 (Amendment dealt with in order moved) and 181 (Five Members or fewer, names recorded)

Bills

Good character as a mitigating factor at sentencing

The Attorney General, the Hon. Michael Daley MP, introduced the Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Amendment (Good Character at Sentencing) Bill 2026 on 4 February 2026. The Bill sought to remove good character as a mitigating factor in determining sentences, in accordance with recommendations made by the NSW Sentencing Council.

During the second reading debate, the Member for Willoughby, Mr Tim James, and the Member for Albury, Mr Justin Clancy, noted concerns raised by stakeholders about extending the abolition of good character beyond sentencing for serious sexual offences. However, the Bill was passed on the voices without amendment on 10 February 2026 and forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence.

During the Council's second reading debate on the Bill, on 7 May, the Hon. Damien Tudehope MLC and Ms Sue Higgs MLC reiterated the stakeholder concerns raised in the Assembly. Other Opposition, Greens and Independent members also spoke against the Bill. In Committee of the Whole, the Opposition moved six amendments proposing that the consideration of good character only be abolished for child sexual offences and



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

other serious sexual offences. These were not agreed to. The Greens then moved six amendments seeking to remove the consideration of good character in all sexual offence cases, but preserving it on a case-by-case basis for all other offence categories. These amendments passed and the Bill was returned to the Assembly.

It was open to the Assembly at that point to resolve to return the Bill to the Council, asking the Council not to insist on its amendments. In debate, however, the Attorney General flagged that although the Government was disappointed with the outcome in the Council, its response would be to accept the amendments before introducing new legislation to ensure its good character reforms could be fully effected without delay. The Assembly agreed to the amendments, and the Bill passed Parliament on 12 May.

On 13 May, as foreshadowed, the Attorney General introduced the Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Amendment (Good Character) Bill 2026. This Bill proposed amendments that would achieve the objective of the original Bill, as introduced, by abolishing good character altogether as a mitigating factor for all offences. This Bill passed the Assembly without amendment on 26 May, and passed the Council without amendment on 4 June.

Votes and Proceedings: 4/2/26, pp. 1703-1704; 10/2/26, p. 1723; 12/5/26, pp. 1882-1883

Hansard (Proof): 4/2/26 pp. 1-4; 10/2/26, pp. 1-11; 12/5/26 pp. 17-21

Minutes (LC): 7/5/26, pp. 3766-3771; 26/05/2026, pp. 3785-3787

Hansard (Proof) (LC): 7/5/26, pp. 59-86; 26/05/2026, p. 54

Standing Order 224 (Forms of question on Council amendments)

Water Management Amendment (Easements for Inundation) Bill 2026 – deferred divisions

On 7 May 2026, the Water Management Amendment (Easements for Inundation) Bill 2026 passed the Legislative Council and was forwarded to the Assembly for concurrence. On 12 May, the Bill was reported in the Assembly.

On 13 May, the second reading of the Bill commenced. Two Members, Mr Roy Butler and Ms Steph Cooke, foreshadowed amendments to the Bill. Additionally, during the second reading debate, Mrs Helen Dalton moved that the second reading question be amended to refer the Bill to the Legislative Assembly Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development (the IIRD Committee) for inquiry and report.

At 6.46 pm, after being interrupted for a Public Interest Debate, the second reading debate on the Bill concluded. The first question put was Mrs Dalton's amendment to refer the Bill to the IIRD Committee. The Government opposed Mrs Dalton's amendment and a division was called. In accordance with the resolution of the House concerning deferred divisions, as the division was called after 6.30 pm on a Wednesday, the Temporary Speaker advised the House that the conduct of the division would be deferred to 10.30 am the following morning.

The question was then put that the Bill be read a second time on which another division was called and deferred. The House then moved on to consideration in detail and the amendments circulated by Mr Butler and Ms Cooke. All three amendments, two from Mr Butler (moved together by leave) and one from Ms Cooke, were opposed by the Government and divisions called. Similar to the amendment moved by Mrs Dalton, as the divisions were called after 6.30 pm, the divisions were deferred until 10.30 am the following morning.

As the divisions on the proposed amendments were deferred, the remaining questions on the Bill were unable to be put. As such, the consideration in detail stage concluded at 7.00 pm, ahead of the divisions being conducted the next day. The House then proceeded with Community Recognition Statements.



At 10.30 am the following morning, business was interrupted to conduct the four deferred divisions, firstly Mrs Dalton's amendment to the second reading question, then the question on the second reading, and then the amendments moved by Mr Butler and Ms Cooke. The divisions were duly conducted with Mrs Dalton's amendment to the second reading question negatived, and then the question on the second reading passing. The divisions on Mr Butler and Ms Cooke's amendments to the Bill were negatived. The House then proceeded to consider the remaining questions on the Bill, with the third reading of the Bill being agreed to on division (49:36). The Bill was returned to the Legislative Council without amendment and the House proceeded with the normal Thursday routine of business.

Votes and Proceedings: 12/5/2026, p. 1881; 13/5/2026, pp. 1893–1896; 14/5/26, pp. 1900–1904

Hansard (Proof): 12/5/2026, p. 2; 13/5/2026, pp. 41–55, pp. 63–74; 14/5/26, pp. 3–7

Standing Order 198 (Amendment – referral to committee)

Deferred divisions across multiple bills and the impact on the sitting day routine for Thursday

On Wednesday 27 May 2026, the House sat late into the evening and into the early hours of Thursday 28 May considering the following bills:

- Road Transport Amendment (Non-Registrable Motor Vehicles) Bill 2026
- Crimes Legislation Amendment (Organised and Gang-Related Crime Reforms) Bill 2026
- Energy Legislation Amendment (Prioritising Renewable Energy) Bill 2026
- Building (Approvals and Practitioners) Bill 2026
- Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Amendment (Review) Bill 2026

For each bill, numerous amendments were circulated with some of the bills having amendments circulated by multiple members. Across the five bills, 72 amendments were considered by the House with ten different members moving amendments.

Of the 72 amendments, four were considered and negatived on division before 6.30 pm. The remaining 68 amendments were considered after 6.30 pm. At this stage, the House was operating in accordance with the resolution concerning deferred divisions. As such, any division called would be deferred to 10.30 am the following morning.

Of the remaining 68 amendments considered after 6.30 pm: 31 were agreed to on the voices; 11 negatived on the voices; and 26 resulted in a division being called and deferred. In addition, there was a division called on the second reading of the Energy Legislation Amendment (Prioritising Renewable Energy) Bill. With there being deferred divisions on proposed amendments to each of the five bills, the remaining questions on the bills were unable to be put. Accordingly, the remaining proceedings on each of the bills were also held over until the outcome of the deferred divisions was determined.

As some of the amendments were moved (by leave) together, the total number of divisions deferred to the following morning was 12 (including the deferred division on the second reading question for the Energy Legislation Amendment (Prioritising Renewable Energy) Bill). This was the first time the House deferred this many divisions across multiple bills, which impacted the next day's sitting routine.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

At 10.30 am the following morning, business was interrupted to conduct the deferred divisions. It being Thursday, General Business Notices of Motions (for Bills) was interrupted, with 12 minutes of the allocated 20 minutes having expired.

The House conducted deferred divisions until they were interrupted at 11.00 am for Question Time, and then returned to them after Question Time until 1.20 pm. At 1.20 pm, the House returned to General Business Notices of Motions (for Bills) for the remaining eight minutes of allocated time.

At 1.28 pm, following the conclusion of General Business Notices of Motions (for Bills), the House proceeded to General Business Orders of the Day (for Bills) (GB Orders of the Day). Ordinarily, up to 90 minutes is allocated for this item of business. However, on this occasion, due to the time taken to conduct the deferred divisions, the House commenced GB Orders of the Day with approximately 60 minutes available before the routine of business required the House to proceed at 2.30 pm to General Business Notices of Motions or Orders of the Day (not being Bills), and Government Business at 3.40 pm. The 90-minute period for Orders of the Day (for Bills) concluded at 2.30 pm and did not resume.

Votes and Proceedings: 27/05/2026, pp. 1925–1927, 1929–1950; 28/05/26, pp. 1952–1956, pp. 1959–1966
Hansard (Proof): 27/05/2026, pp. 27–49, 56–138; 28/05/26, pp. 3–7; 24–30
Standing Order 97 (Routine of Business)

Passage of Government bills through the Legislative Council

During the March sittings, consideration of several Government bills in the Legislative Council was delayed until the Council considered a dissent to a President's ruling. The President had ruled that a proposed instruction to the Committee of the Whole to allow consideration of amendments to the *Parliamentary Evidence Act 1901* during consideration of the Local Government and Other Legislation (Places of Public Worship) Bill was out of order. (For further information, see [Procedural Digest No. 2/2026](#).)

On 26 March 2026, the Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council, Mr Damien Tudehope, also moved to adopt a sessional order to permit the Committee of the Whole, for the remainder of the current session, to consider amendments to any Government bill relating to the appearance of witnesses before the House and its committees. A point of order was taken that this motion was inconsistent with the President's ruling of 24 March 2026. The President reserved his ruling until 5 May.

On 5 May, the Legislative Council resolved to discharge the order of the day relating to dissent from the President's ruling. However, the President ruled the motion to adopt the new Sessional Order to be in order on the basis that it called on the House to regulate its own proceedings by resolution, whereas the earlier ruling had required the President to interpret an existing Standing Order. Although the Sessional Order was subsequently adopted, it was not used during the sitting week to amend any Government bills.

The following Government bills were read a third time in the Council on Thursday 7 May, and sent to the Assembly without any amendments relating to the *Parliamentary Evidence Act 1901*:

- Local Government and Other Legislation Amendment (Places of Public Worship) Bill 2026
- Public Health (Tobacco) Amendment (Landlord Offences) Bill 2025
- Library Amendment Bill 2026
- Water Management Amendment (Easements for Inundation) Bill 2025



- Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Amendment (Good Character at Sentencing) Bill 2026

Minutes (LC): 24/03/2026, p. 3597; 26/03/2026, p. 3664; 5/05/2026, p. 3704; 7/05/2026, pp. 3758-3771

Hansard (LC) (Proof): 26/03/2026, pp. 27-28

Standing Order (LC) 186 (Effect of instructions)

Two Legislative Council private members' bills forwarded for concurrence

During the 26 May – 28 May 2026 sitting week, the Speaker reported messages from the Legislative Council transmitting two private members' bills to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence: the Electoral Funding Amendment (Major Political Donors) Bill 2025, introduced by the Hon. Tania Mihailuk MLC, and the Uranium Mining and Nuclear Facilities (Prohibitions) Repeal Bill 2025, introduced by the Hon. John Ruddick MLC.

The Speaker advised the House that the Member for Pittwater, Ms Jacqui Scruby, would have carriage of the Electoral Funding Amendment (Major Political Donors) Bill 2025 and the Member for Barwon, Mr Roy Butler, would have carriage of the Uranium Mining and Nuclear Facilities (Prohibitions) Repeal Bill 2025.

As only nine Legislative Council private members' bills have been forwarded to the Legislative Assembly during the 58th Parliament, the transmission of two in the same week is a rare occurrence.

Votes and Proceedings: 26/5/2026, pp. 1911-1912, 27/5/2026, p. 1921.

Standing Orders 105 (Precedence and lapsing of General Business) and 229 (Procedure in the Assembly for Council bills)

Procedural note

In accordance with Standing Order 229(2), private member's bills transmitted from the Legislative Council are not reported in the Legislative Assembly until the Speaker is advised which member of the Assembly will have carriage of the bill. This is done through a letter to the Speaker which is signed by the members with carriage from both Houses.

Standard Time Amendment (Reduction of Daylight Saving) Bill 2026

On 28 May, Mr Geoff Provest, Member for Tweed, introduced the Standard Time Amendment (Reduction of Daylight Saving) Bill 2026. The Bill seeks to amend the *Standard Time Act 1987* to reduce the daylight saving period from six months to four months.

At 10.30 am, in accordance with the resolution of the House on 21 October 2025, Mr Provest's second reading speech was interrupted for the conduct of deferred divisions. Later that day, the order of the day was read for the resumption of the interrupted speech. Mr Provest concluded his speech and the debate was adjourned.

Mr Provest has raised the length of the daylight saving period in the House over a number of Parliaments, including during debate on the Standard Time Amendment (Daylight Saving) Bill 2007 and by way of General Business motions in 2017 and 2021.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

On 2 August 2017, Mr Provost moved that his General Business Notice of Motion [Daylight Saving] have precedence on Thursday 3 August 2017. The motion for precedence was agreed to on division (48:32) while the substantive motion was negatived on division (34:50) the following day.

On 18 November 2021, Mr Provost moved another General Business motion on the length of the daylight saving period. The motion noted continuing concerns in rural and regional New South Wales communities following the 2007 extension of the daylight saving period by six weeks. The motion was agreed to on the voices.

Votes and Proceedings: 18/11/2021, p. 1428; 21/10/2025, p. 1499; 28/5/2026, pp. 1951, 1966

Hansard (Proof): 28/5/2026, pp. 1-3, 30-31

Parliamentary Debates: 26/9/2007, pp. 2407-2413; 2/8/2017, pp. 42-44; 3/8/2017, pp. 17-21; 18/11/2021, pp. 7972-7980

Parliamentary Evidence Amendment (Attendance of Witnesses) Bill 2026

On 4 February 2026, Mr Tudehope introduced the Parliamentary Evidence Amendment (Attendance of Witnesses) Bill 2026 in the Legislative Council. The Bill aims to address the consequences of the New South Wales Court of Appeal's decision in *Cullen v President of the Legislative Council of New South Wales* and restore the Houses' power to compel the attendance of witnesses. The Bill passed the Legislative Council on 17 March on division and was sent to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence. The Speaker received written authority from Mr Tudehope that the Member for Wahroonga, Mr Alister Henskens, would have carriage of the Bill in the Assembly.

On 28 May, after Question Time, the Leader of the House moved a suspension of standing and sessional orders to refer the Bill forthwith to the Standing Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics for inquiry and report. In debating the motion, the Leader of the House expressed concern about the Bill in its current form, arguing that, if enacted, it would be 'unconstitutional and offend the same Kable principle that caused the High Court to review this matter in the first place'. The motion was passed by the House on division (49:38).

The Bill currently has a lapsing date of 19 September 2026.

Votes and Proceedings: 28/5/2026, pp. 1957-1958

Hansard (Proof): 28/5/2026, pp. 21-24

Minutes (LC): 17/3/2026, pp. 3549-3550

Hansard (Proof) (LC): 4/2/2026, pp. 5-6

