



PROCEDURAL DIGEST

Legislative Assembly

FIFTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT, FIRST SESSION

NO. 5/2013: 18 JUNE – 27 JUNE 2013

June 2013				
M	T	W	T	F
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	31

This document provides a summary of significant procedures and precedents in the Legislative Assembly. It is produced at the end of each sitting period. Where applicable the relevant standing orders are noted.

BILLS

Passage of Appropriation Bill and Cognate Bills, and motion for take note debate

On 18 June 2013 (in accordance with the resolution of the House agreed to on 29 May 2013) the Treasurer introduced the *Appropriation Bill* and cognate bills at the commencement of the sitting. After the Treasurer's Budget speech, debate on the bills was then adjourned until Thursday 20 June 2013, in order to permit the Leader of the Opposition to speak on the bills.

On 20 June (subject to a further resolution of the House on 18 June) the Appropriation Bill and cognate bills then passed through all remaining stages, without consideration in detail, following the conclusion of the Leader of the Opposition's speech. The Treasurer then moved the motion that the House take note of the Budget Estimates and related papers for 2013-14.

Votes and Proceedings: 18 June 2013, pp. 1675-76 & 1681; 20 June 2013, p. 1702

Hansard: 18 June 2013, pp. 21486-92 & 21505-06; 20 June 2013, pp. 21811-15

Standing Order 365

(NB: Since the Budget has been brought forward from September to June, it has become the practice of the Legislative Assembly for the passage of the *Appropriation Bill* and cognate bills to be expedited through the motion to suspend standing and sessional orders, limiting the number of members debating the bill to the Treasurer and the Leader of the Opposition. However, all members have an opportunity to speak on the take note debate).

BUSINESS

Discussion on petitions signed by 10,000 or more persons:

On 20 June 2013, the House discussed a petition signed by 10,000 or more persons from certain citizens opposing the exploration for and extraction of coal seam gas and other unconventional gas in the Northern Rivers region.

Votes and Proceedings: 20/6/2013, p. 1708.

Hansard: 20/6/2013, pp. 21861.

Standing Order 125A (as adopted by sessional order)

Disorder in the Gallery

On 20 June 2013, during debate on Northern Rivers Region coal seam gas extraction, a person having interrupted the orderly conduct of business was removed from the Gallery.

Votes and Proceedings: 20/6/2013, p. 1708.

Hansard: 20/6/2013, p.21861

Standing Order 260

Suspensions of standing and sessional orders to expedite government business

On 19 June 2013 a motion of the Leader of the House, Mr Brad Hazzard, was agreed to for the suspension of standing and sessional orders to permit:

- 1) Consideration of further government business after the conclusion of the routine business;
- 2) The Speaker to leave the Chair until the ringing of one long bell, no earlier than 10.30 am on Thursday 27 June 2013, for the continuation of government business;
- 3) The House to adjourn on motion.

JOINT SITTING

Vacancy in the Legislative Council

On 19 June, following the receipt of a message from HE the Lieutenant-Governor, the House met together with the Legislative Council for the purpose of choosing a person to fill the vacancy in the Legislative Council caused by the resignation of the Honourable Cate Faehrmann. Dr Mehreen Faruqi was duly elected to fill the vacancy.

Votes and Proceedings: 18/6/13, p. 1692

Hansard: 18/6/13, p.21703

Standing Order 248

(NB: When a vacancy occurs in the Legislative Council the Governor convenes a joint sitting of both Houses under section 22D of the *Constitution Act 1902* to elect a new member. The conduct of any joint sitting to fill a casual vacancy in the Legislative Council is governed by provisions contained in the *Constitution and Parliamentary Electorates and Elections (Amendment) Act 1978*.

By convention joint sittings to elect a member to the Legislative Council to fill a casual vacancy are held in the Legislative Council Chamber).

MEMBERS

Inaugural speech

On 19 June 2013 (in accordance with the resolution of the House agreed to on 18 June 2013) business was interrupted for the inaugural speech of the Member for Northern Tablelands. During his speech, the Member received an extension of time.

Votes and Proceedings: 18/6/13, p. 1681; 19/6/13, p. 1686.

Hansard: 18/6/13, p. 21506; & 19/6/13 pp. 21656-59.

Standing Order 63

Use of props in the chamber:

On 19 June 2013 the Speaker reminded members that posters should not be used as props and should not be placed around the Chamber, held up in the Chamber or placed on the Speaker's chair. The Speaker reminded members that they would be removed in accordance with past practice if posters were used as props and held up in the Chamber.

Later in the sitting, during question time, a prop was placed on the mace in the Chamber by a Minister. Following a point of order, the Speaker asked the Minister to remove the prop from the mace as its placement on the mace was disrespectful.

Hansard: 19/6/13, p. 21686 & p. 21696.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Retirement of the Editor of Debates

The Speaker made a statement in relation to the retirement, on 9 August 2013, of Mr Mark Faulkner, Editor of Debates.

Votes and Proceedings: 19/6/13, p. 1704.

Hansard: 19/6/13, pp. 21833-34.