



# PROCEDURAL DIGEST

Legislative Assembly

FIFTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT, FIRST SESSION

NO. 6/2014: 17 JUNE – 26 JUNE 2014

June 2014				
M	T	W	T	F
16	17	18	19	20

*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.*

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## BILLS

### ***Appropriation Bill and Cognate Bills***

On 17 June 2014, the Treasurer introduced the *Appropriation Bill* and cognate bills. After the Treasurer's Budget speech, debate on the bills was then adjourned until Thursday 19 June 2014, for the Leader of the Opposition's speech in reply on the bills.

After the conclusion of the Leader of the Opposition's speech on 19 June, the bills passed through all remaining stages. The Treasurer then moved the motion that the House take note of the Budget Estimates and related papers for 2014-15.

*Votes and Proceedings: 17 June 2014, pp. 2225-6; and 19 June 2014, p. 2353*

*Hansard: 17 June 2014, pp. 29583-29591; and 19 June 2014 pp. 29907-29912*

### ***Standing Order 365***

(Procedural Note: 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 by way of a motion to suspend standing and sessional orders, limiting the number of members debating the bill to the Treasurer and the Leader of the Opposition.

All members have an opportunity to speak on the take note debate which was moved by the Treasurer directly after the passage of the bills in accordance with a further resolution of the House agreed to on 17 June 2014).

### ***Electoral and Lobbying Legislation Amendment (Electoral Commission) Bill***

On 18 June 2014, the House passed the *Electoral and Lobbying Legislation Amendment (Electoral Commission) Bill* without amendment.

The stated objects of the Bill include: abolishing the Election Funding Authority of New South Wales and conferring its functions on a reconstituted New South Wales Electoral Commission. This new Commission would consist of the Electoral Commissioner, a former Judge as Chairperson of the Commission and a member with financial or audit skills.

The bill also provides for a Register of Third-party Lobbyists, a Lobbyists Watch List and a Code of Conduct for third-party and other lobbyists, and to confer on the New South Wales Electoral Commission the function of keeping the Register and Watch List and of enforcing compliance with the Code.

*Votes and Proceedings: 18/6/2014, pp. 2339-2340*

*Hansard: 18/6/2014, p.29752-29766*

### **Standing Order 365**

(Procedural note: The Premier introduced the bill and gave the Second Reading Speech on 17 June 2014. The House then agreed to a motion, moved by the Leader of the House, to suspend standing and sessional orders to resume debate on 18 June 2014 and to permit the bill to pass through all remaining stages, at that or any subsequent sitting.

Suspending Standing Orders in this way removes the procedural requirements to facilitate the passage of the legislation that day. For instance, debate does not then need to be so adjourned for five clear days after the mover's has given their second reading speech, which would otherwise be the case).

## **MEMBERS**

### ***Appointment of Parliamentary Ethics Adviser***

On 17 June 2014, the House agreed on a motion of the Leader of the House, to direct the Speaker to join with the President of the Legislative Council in appointing Mr John Evans PSM as Parliamentary Ethics Adviser.

A message was sent to the Legislative Council advising it of the Assembly's resolution; and on 18 June 2014 the Council reported its agreement.

(Procedural note: The Parliamentary Ethics Adviser is appointed on the resolution of both Houses. The Adviser has the functions of providing advice, on request, to Members of Parliament on ethical issues; and to Ministers on post-separation employment.)

*Votes and Proceedings: 17/6/2014, p.2231-2233*

*Hansard: 17/6/2014, p.29607-29609*