



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

First Session of the Fifty-Fourth Parliament

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(1) Sitting days *[adopted 10 May 2007]*

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered, this House meet for the despatch of business each week as follows:

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|-----------|-----------|
| Monday | 11.00 am |
| Tuesday | 2.30 pm |
| Wednesday | 11.00 am |
| Thursday | 11.00 am |
| Friday | 11.00 am. |

(2) Precedence of business *[adopted 10 May 2007]*

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered:

1. Government business is to take precedence of general business on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and after 5.00 pm on Thursday each week.
2. General business is to take precedence until 5.00 pm on Thursday each week.

(3) Questions—time for questions without notice *[adopted 10 May 2007]*

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered:

1. Questions are to commence at 4.00 pm on Monday and Tuesday, and at 12.00 noon on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
2. Whenever the House adjourns to a day and time later than the time appointed in paragraph 1, questions are to commence 30 minutes after the time appointed for the meeting of the House.
3. If, at the time for interruption:
 - (a) a division is in progress, the division is to be completed and the result announced,
 - (b) the House is in committee of the whole, the Chair is to leave the Chair and report progress,

and any business then under discussion, if not disposed of, is to be set down on the Notice Paper for a later hour of the sitting.

(4) Motion for the adjournment *[adopted 10 May 2007]*

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered, proceedings must be interrupted at 5.00 pm on Thursday and 3.45 pm on Friday to permit a motion for adjournment to be moved to terminate the sitting if a minister thinks fit.

(5) Debate on committee reports *[adopted 10 May 2007]*

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered, debate on committee reports is to take precedence after questions on Wednesdays.

(6) Formal motions *[adopted 5 June 2007]*

That, notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders, for the remainder of the current session standing order 44 be varied as follows:

1. Before the House proceeds to the business on the Notice Paper, the President will ask with respect to each notice of motion, at the request of the member who gave the notice, whether there is any objection to its being taken as a formal motion. If no objection is taken, the motion shall be taken as a formal motion.
2. Formal motions will be taken in the order in which they appear on the Notice Paper.
3. The request from a member that a notice of motion standing in their name on the Notice Paper be taken as formal business must be signed by that member and handed to one of the Clerks-at-the-Table during the sitting of the House, on the day before the member wishes the matter to be considered as formal business.
4. The question of a formal motion must be put and determined without amendment or debate.
5. An order of the day for the third reading of bills may be dealt with as a formal motion.

(7) Variation to standing order 210 (10) *[adopted 28 June 2007]*

1. That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered, standing order 210 (10) be amended to read:

210 (10) No member may take part in a committee inquiry where the member has a direct pecuniary interest in the inquiry of the committee, unless it is in common with the general public, or a class of persons within the general public, or it is on a matter of state policy.
2. That the Procedure Committee inquire into and report on the provisions in the standing orders relating to pecuniary interests.

(8) Office of Assistant President *[adopted 28 June 2007, amended 28 November 2007]*

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered:

1. At the commencement of the sittings following a periodic election, or when a vacancy occurs, the House is to elect a member to be Assistant President.
2. The Assistant President will be elected in a similar manner as the President.
3. The Assistant President will hold office for the life of the Parliament in which elected.
4. In the absence of both the President and Deputy President on a day when the House is sitting the Assistant President will perform the duties of the President.
5. This resolution has continuing effect until amended or rescinded.

(9) Quorums *[adopted 18 October 2007]*

That, notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders, for the remainder of the current session standing orders 29 and 30 be varied to read as follows:

29. Quorum at commencement of sitting

- (1) If there is no quorum present when the Chair is taken at the time appointed for the meeting of the House, the bells will again ring for five minutes. If there is still no quorum present the President will adjourn the House until a later hour of the day or the next sitting day.
- (2) A Member who enters the chamber at or after the time appointed for the meeting of the Council may not withdraw until a quorum is formed or the House is adjourned.
- (3) When the House is adjourned for lack of a quorum, the names of the members present will be entered in the Minutes of Proceedings.

30. Quorum during sitting

- (1) If it appears, on the report of a division of the House by the tellers, that a quorum is not present, the President will adjourn the House until a later hour of the day or the next sitting day. No decision of the House will be considered to have been reached by that division.
- (2) When the Chair of Committees informs the President that a quorum is not present in committee, the bells will ring for five minutes. The President will then count the House, and if a quorum is still not present, will adjourn the House until a later hour of the day or the next sitting day. However, if a quorum is then present, the President will leave the Chair and the committee resume.
- (3) If a member draws attention to the lack of a quorum, the bells will be rung until a quorum is formed but for no longer than five minutes. If after five minutes a quorum is not present, the President will adjourn the House until a later hour of the day or the next sitting day.

- (4) When the attention of the President, or the Chair of Committees, has been called to the absence of a quorum, a member may not leave until the House or committee has been counted.
- (5) The doors of the House will be unlocked while the President is counting the House.
- (6) When the House has adjourned for lack of a quorum the names of the members present will be entered in the Minutes of Proceedings.

(10) Suspension of standing orders *[adopted 3 June 2009]*

That, for the remainder of the current session and unless otherwise ordered, standing order 198 be amended to read as follows:

- (1) In urgent cases, any standing order or other order of the House may be suspended by the House in whole or in part:
 - (a) by a motion on notice, or
 - (b) by leave of the House.
- (2) On a motion for the suspension of a standing or other order a member may not speak for more than five minutes, and if the debate is not concluded after the expiration of 30 minutes after the moving of the motion the question on the motion will then be put.
- (3) Where a standing order or other order of the House is suspended by the House in whole or in part, any subsequent procedural motion is to be put without amendment or debate.

(11) Lapsed questions *[adopted 3 June 2009]*

1. That, for the remainder of the current session, standing order 106 be amended to read as follows:

106 Lapsed question

Debate on a lapsed question may be resumed, by motion on notice, at the place where it was interrupted.

2. That, notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders, for the remainder of the current session:

If the proceedings of the House are interrupted by lack of a quorum and consequent adjournment of the House, the resumption of the debate will be an order of the day for the next day of sitting, and when the order is called on the proceedings will be resumed at the point where they were interrupted.

(12) Tabling of reports and documents when House not sitting *[adopted 3 June 2009]*

That, for the remainder of the current session and unless otherwise ordered, standing order 55 be amended to read as follows:

- (1) Where, under any Act, a report or other document is required to be tabled in the House, and the House is not sitting, such report or document may be lodged with the Clerk.
- (2) Any report or document lodged with the Clerk is:
 - (a) on presentation, and for all purposes, deemed to have been laid before the House,
 - (b) to be printed by authority of the Clerk,
 - (c) for all purposes, deemed to be a document published by order or under authority of the House, and
 - (d) to be recorded in the Minutes of Proceedings of the House.
- (3) A report or other document which is not required to be tabled in the House according to legislation may not be lodged with the Clerk when the House has been prorogued.

(13) Debate on committee reports—variation *[adopted 9 March 2010]*

That, notwithstanding anything contained in the standing or sessional orders, for the remainder of the current session, and unless otherwise ordered, the debate on committee reports on any day on which the debate has precedence is to be interrupted after one hour thirty minutes.

(14) Take note of budget estimates 2010-2011 *[adopted 10 June 2010]*

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered:

1. Each speaker on the motion to take note of the budget estimates is to be limited to 10 minutes.
2. Debate on the motion to take note of the budget estimates for 2010-2011 is to take precedence after debate on committee reports on Wednesdays.
3. The debate on the budget estimates is to be interrupted at such time so that debate on committee reports and debate on the budget estimates does not exceed two hours thirty minutes. The interrupted debate is to stand adjourned and be set down on the business paper for the next day on which it has precedence.

EXPIRED SESSIONAL ORDERS

Cut-off date for Government bills *[adopted 2 September 2009]*

That, during the present session and notwithstanding anything contained in the standing or sessional orders, and unless otherwise ordered, the following procedures apply to the passage of government bills:

1. Where a bill is introduced by a Minister, or is received from the Legislative Assembly after 12 November 2009, debate on the motion for the second reading is to be adjourned at the conclusion of the speech of the Minister moving the motion, and the resumption of the debate is to be made an order of the day for the first sitting day of 2010.
2. However, after the first reading, if a Minister declares a bill to be an urgent bill and copies have been circulated to members, the question “That the bill be considered an urgent bill” is to be decided without amendment or debate, except a statement not exceeding 10 minutes each by a Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, or a member nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, and a statement not exceeding 5 minutes each by two cross-bench members. If that question is agreed to, the second reading debate and subsequent stages may proceed forthwith or at any time during any sitting of the House.

Take note of budget estimates 2007-2008 *[adopted 21 June 2007]*

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered:

1. Each speaker on the motion to take note of the budget estimates is to be limited to 10 minutes.
2. Debate on the motion to take note of the budget estimates for 2007-2008 is to take precedence after debate on committee reports on Wednesdays.
3. The debate on the budget estimates is to be interrupted at such time so that debate on committee reports and debate on the budget estimates does not exceed two hours. The interrupted debate is to stand adjourned and be set down on the business paper for the next day on which it has precedence.

Take note of Mini-Budget 2008-2009 *[adopted 12 November 2008]*

That, if debate on the motion that the House take note of the Mini-Budget is not concluded on Friday 14 November 2008:

- (a) the order of the day for resumption of the debate be set down on the notice paper for the next day on which debate on Budget Estimates 2008-2009 takes precedence,
- (b) that the take note debate on the Mini-Budget be considered concurrently with the debate on the Budget Estimates 2008-2009 under the sessional order relating to the Budget

Estimates 2008-2009 provided that at the conclusion of the debate the questions be put separately, and

- (c) that during the debate, any member who has already spoken to the motion that the House take note of the Budget Estimates 2008-2009 may speak a second time, but only in relation to the Mini-Budget.

Take note of budget estimates 2008-2009 [*adopted 17 June 2008*]

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered:

1. Each speaker on the motion to take note of the budget estimates is to be limited to 10 minutes.
2. Debate on the motion to take note of the budget estimates for 2008-2009 is to take precedence after debate on committee reports on Wednesdays.
3. The debate on the budget estimates is to be interrupted at such time so that debate on committee reports and debate on the budget estimates does not exceed two hours. The interrupted debate is to stand adjourned and be set down on the business paper for the next day on which it has precedence.

Take note of budget estimates 2009-2010 [*adopted 17 June 2009*]

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered:

1. Each speaker on the motion to take note of the budget estimates is to be limited to 10 minutes.
2. Debate on the motion to take note of the budget estimates for 2009-2010 is to take precedence after debate on committee reports on Wednesdays.
3. The debate on the budget estimates is to be interrupted at such time so that debate on committee reports and debate on the budget estimates does not exceed two hours. The interrupted debate is to stand adjourned and be set down on the business paper for the next day on which it has precedence.