



MATTERS OF PROCEDURAL INTEREST

No. 27 — July to December 2024

Prepared by Table Office

QUEENSLAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY PROCEDURAL BULLETIN

WORK OF THE HOUSE

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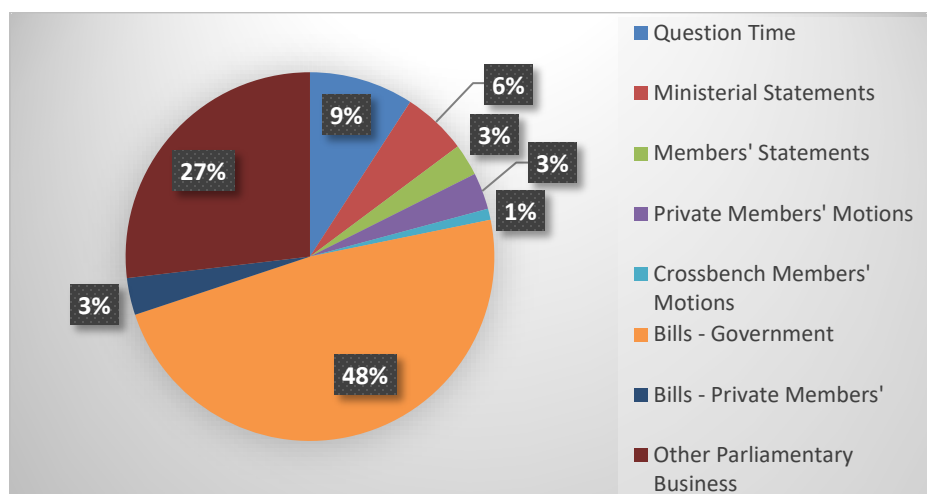
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Overview comparison

	1 Jul to 31 Dec 2024			1 Jan to 30 Jun 2024		
Sittings						
Sitting days	12			22		
Average duration per sitting day [hrs:mins]	10:02			10:18		
Legislation						
	Govt	PMB	Total	Govt	PMB	Total
Bills introduced	13	2	15	34	4	38
Bills passed	18	0	18	36	0	36
Bills referred to committees	9	2	11	33	4	37
Bills reported on by committees	14	2	16	34	4	38

Business conducted

The following chart shows a breakdown of the business conducted during the period 1 July to 31 December 2024.





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GENERAL ELECTION FOR THE 58TH PARLIAMENT

On 1 October 2024, a Proclamation from Her Excellency the Governor was received dissolving the Legislative Assembly of Queensland. A general election was held on Saturday, 26 October 2024. 69 former members and 24 new members were elected, and the Crisafulli LNP government took office as a majority government.

On 26 November 2024, the elected members were sworn into the 58th Parliament. The Parliament is made up of members as set out below:

- Liberal National Party – 52 seats
- Australian Labor Party – 36 seats
- Katter’s Australian Party – 3 seats
- Queensland Greens – 1 seat
- Independent – 1 seat

Election of Speaker

On 26 November 2024, Hon. Patrick Weir MP, Member for Condamine, was elected as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

MEMBERS

Warnings and suspension of members

On six occasions between July and December, the Speaker followed up warnings to members with an order to withdraw from the Chamber.

Record of Proceedings: [22 August 2024](#), p2719

[11 September 2024](#), p3071

[12 September 2024](#), p3126, p3145

[28 November 2024](#), p87

[11 December 2024](#), p366

Standing Order 253A

MOTIONS

Amendment required to Private Member’s Motion

On 11 September 2024, the member for Nanango gave notice she would move a Private Member’s Motion calling on the Labor Government to abolish the GP Patients Tax set to come into effect in July 2025 on the basis it would cost Queenslanders more to see a doctor in the middle of a health crisis and cost of living crisis.

The notice of motion was subsequently challenged on the grounds of authentication. The Speaker amended the notice of motion in accordance with Standing Order 70(2) to ensure it did not offend the rules related to the factual content of motions. The amended notice of motion, as per the following wording, was permitted to be debated in the House: “This House calls on the Labor government to revoke the Queensland Revenue Office rulings (PTAQ000.6.1 to PTAQ000.6.3) (which is currently under an amnesty due to end in July 2025) which will cost Queenslanders more to see a doctor in the middle of a health crisis and cost-of-living crisis.”

Record of Proceedings: [11 September 2024](#), p2966, p3009, p3032

Standing Order 70



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Motion prohibiting consideration of the Termination of Pregnancy Act 2018

On 10 December 2024, the Premier moved the following motion:

1. That, notwithstanding anything in standing or sessional orders, this House orders that:
 - (a) no bill or amendment seeking to amend the Termination of Pregnancy Act 2018 is allowed to be introduced.
 - (b) no motion or amendment seeking to have this House express its views on the Termination of Pregnancy Act 2018 is allowed to be moved.
2. The Speaker is to rule out of order any bill, motion or amendment that offends the order in 1.

The Premier stated that he introduced the motion for the purpose of putting a stop to one of the ALP's "disgraceful scare campaigns" that occurred during the election and demonstrate the LNP government would not change the laws regarding abortion during the 58th Parliament. Following 30 minutes of debate, the motion was resolved in the affirmative via a division (Ayes, 50; Noes, 38).

Record of Proceedings: [10 December 2024](#), pp219-224

SPEAKER STATEMENTS AND RULINGS

The Rule of Anticipation

In accordance with Standing Order 231(1), a member may not anticipate the discussion of any subject which appears on the Notice Paper. Standing Order 231(2) provides, when determining whether discussion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, the Speaker shall have regard to the probability of the matter being anticipated being brought before the House within a reasonable time and the degree to which debate of that matter is likely to be anticipated.

On 28 November 2024, ahead of the Address in Reply being moved, the Speaker gave a ruling cautioning all new members giving their first speeches to not anticipate the Making Queensland Safer Bill, which was introduced that morning. While members were able to refer to general issues in the community that had led to the introduction of the bill, they were not permitted to debate specifics contained therein.

Record of Proceedings: [28 November 2024](#), p91
Standing Order 231

Unparliamentary Language

On 20 August 2024, the Deputy Speaker made a statement urging members to not engage in the practice of using unparliamentary language and then withdrawing it immediately. The statement followed a contribution by the member for Currumbin, who stated "... the people of Currumbin have had a gutful—I withdraw."

Record of Proceedings: [20 August 2024](#), p2561

Sub Judice Rule

In accordance with Standing Order 233(2), members should not refer in the House to matters awaiting or under adjudication in all courts exercising a criminal



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jurisdiction. This rule applies from the moment a charge is made against the relevant person until a verdict and sentence have been announced or judgment given. The rule again has effect should a Court of Criminal Appeal order a new trial.

On 28 November 2024, ahead of the Address in Reply being moved, the Speaker also reminded members of the application of this rule. He recommended any members who were concerned about the contents of their address in reply speech seek the Clerk's advice as soon as possible.

Record of Proceedings: [28 November 2024](#), p91
Standing Order 233

PRIVILEGE

The Ethics Committee investigates and reports on the ethical conduct of members, and on matters of privilege and possible contempt of parliament referred to it by the Speaker, the House, or the Registrar of Members' Interests.

Between July and December 2024, the Ethics Committee reported on five matters of privilege and three rights of reply:

- Report No. 225;
- Report No. 226;
- Report No. 227 – Right of Reply No. 44;
- Report No. 229 – Right of Reply No. 45;
- Report No. 230;
- Report No. 231 – Right of Reply No. 46;
- Report No. 232; and
- Report No. 233.

In its [Report No. 225](#), the Ethics Committee considered a matter of privilege referred by the Speaker on 5 March 2024 relating to an allegation of that the member for Coomera took a photograph of the member for Pumicestone's mobile phone displaying a private text message in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly. The Committee found the member for Coomera's conduct amounted to a contempt. The Committee recommended the House accept the member for Coomera's apology to the House on 6 March 2024 as an appropriate penalty and take no further action. The Ethics Committee also recommended that the Committee of the Legislative Assembly consider suggested amendments to the House's resolution regarding the use of electronic devices and the Guide to the Code of Ethical Standards.

In its [Report No. 226](#), the Ethics Committee was asked to consider a matter of privilege referred by the Speaker on 16 April 2024 relating to an allegation that the member for Nanango was filmed, without her knowledge, on the parliamentary precinct and the footage was subsequently published on The Courier Mail website. The Committee found that, while the person's conduct was improper, disrespectful and highly immature, there was no evidence the conduct amounted to or was intended or likely to amount to an interference with the member for Nanango's duties as a member. As such, no contempt had been committed and the Committee recommended no further action be taken. The Committee also recommended the Speaker: provide information to passholders about their responsibilities and expected conduct and behaviour on the parliamentary precinct when they are issued with a parliamentary pass; issue a



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direction under the *Parliamentary Service Act 1988* prohibiting the filming and photographing of persons carrying out official duties on the parliamentary precinct without prior consent; and improve signage within the parliamentary precinct to clarify where filming is permitted.

In its [Report No. 230](#), the Ethics Committee considered a matter of privilege referred by the Speaker on 23 May 2024 relating to an allegation that the member for Mudgeeraba refused to follow the Speaker's direction to withdraw comments under Standing Order 234. The Committee found all elements necessary to establish a contempt had been met and therefore the member's refusal to withdraw was a reflection on the Chair and a contempt of Parliament. The Committee recommended the House make a finding of contempt against the member for reflecting on the Chair by refusing to follow the Speaker's direction to withdraw and that the member apologise unequivocally to the House, on the floor of the House, at the earliest opportunity. The member issued this apology on 12 September 2024 during Private Members' Statements.

In its [Report No. 232](#), the Ethics Committee considered a matter of privilege referred by the Speaker on 7 June 2024 relating to an allegation that the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women published a false or misleading account of proceedings of the House on various social media platforms. The Committee found that the Minister's first post, which included an incorrect caption, was a technical contempt. Once the Minister was alerted to the incorrect captioning, the post was replaced with the correct captioning. However, the Committee could not determine whether this second post met all the necessary elements of a contempt. The Committee recommended the House take no further action in relation to this matter. Further, the Ethics Committee recommended the Committee of the Legislative Assembly: review the Broadcast Footage Terms and Conditions to reflect the use of social media by members of Parliament; and review the complaints process for dealing with potential breaches of the Broadcast Footage Terms and Conditions.

In its [Report No. 233](#), the Ethics Committee considered a matter of privilege referred by the Speaker on 7 June 2024 relating to an allegation that the member for Nanango and the member for Maroochydore encouraged the member for Mudgeeraba not to withdraw comments made in the House as directed by the Speaker. The Committee found the members for Maroochydore and Nanango were not in contempt, as there was difficulty hearing the words that had been attributed to the members. The Committee emphasised the Speaker's comments that praising a member's refusal to follow a direction of the Speaker to withdraw is disrespectful to the authority of the Chair and is a serious matter which risks the order of the House. The Committee reminded all members that such conduct does not uphold the standard of behaviour expected of members of Parliament but recommended that the House take no further action.

LEGISLATION

Bills declared urgent

A Bill may be declared urgent and pass through all stages in a very short timeframe, e.g. an urgent Bill may:

- not be referred to a portfolio committee for examination, or



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- be referred to a portfolio committee to report to the House in a period less than six weeks.

Between July and December 2024, the House declared five bills urgent: one was referred to a portfolio committee for less than six weeks; four were introduced and passed in the same sitting week, one of which was passed on the same day as its introduction.

Urgent bills referred to a portfolio committee

Making Queensland Safer Bill 2024

On 28 November 2024, the Making Queensland Safer Bill was introduced, declared urgent, and referred to the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee with a report date of 6 December 2024.

The bill proposed to amend the *Childrens Court Act 1992*, the Criminal Code, the *Youth Justice Act 1992* and other legislation for particular purposes.

The bill was passed on 12 December 2024 with amendment.

Record of Proceedings: [28 November 2024](#), pp77-80
[12 December 2024](#), p518
Standing Order 137

Urgent bills not referred to a portfolio committee

Queensland Food Farmers' Commissioner Bill 2024

Cross-Border Commissioner Bill 2024

Night-Life Economy Commissioner Bill 2024

On 20 August 2024, the government introduced three bills to establish the office of the Queensland Food Farmers' Commissioner, the Cross-Border Commissioner and the Night-Life Economy Commissioner. The bills were declared urgent and not referred to a committee to enable them to pass through all remaining stages in that week's sitting.

The bills were debated in cognate and passed on 21 August 2024 without amendment.

Record of Proceedings: [20 August 2024](#), pp2451-2455, pp 2456-2457
[21 August 2024](#), p2666
Standing Order 137

Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

On 28 November 2024, the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill was introduced, declared urgent, and not referred to a committee to enable the bill to pass through all remaining stages by 11.55pm that evening.

The bill proposed to amend the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities (Justice, Land and Other Matters) Act 1984*, the *Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Act 2021*, the *Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024*, the *Planning Act 2016*, the *Planning and Environment Court Act 2016*, the *Public Sector Act 2022*, the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and other legislation for particular purposes. The bill also proposed to repeal the *Path to Treaty Act 2023*.



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The bill was passed on 28 November 2024 without amendment.

Record of Proceedings: [28 November 2024](#), pp82-90
[28 November 2024](#), p194
Standing Order 137

Amendment to second reading question

On 10 December 2024, the member for Gaven and Shadow Attorney-General, Shadow Minister for Justice and Shadow Minister for Housing, Homelessness and Home Ownership moved an amendment to the question that the Making Queensland Safer Bill be read a second time. The member moved to omit the words 'now read a second time' and insert the following: '1. withdrawn and redrafted to remove the following provisions and elements with the remaining elements contained in a separate bill, to be reintroduced and considered during this week's sitting: (a) clauses 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 15, 23, 28, 37(2), 39 to 45, 47 to 53, 58 and 59; (b) elements of clause 19 that deal with restorative justice; and 2. The removed elements in 1. be referred back to the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee to undertake full and proper examination and report back to the House by early 2025.'

Following approximately an hour of debate on the member for Gaven's proposed amendment, the Leader of the House moved a motion under Standing Order 88 that the question be now put on the basis it had been sufficiently debated and this would not infringe members' rights. The motion was agreed to. The subsequent question, that the member for Gaven's proposed amendment be agreed to, was negated as a result of a division.

Record of Proceedings: [10 December 2024](#), pp290-300
Standing Order 141

Same question rule

Standing Order 87(1) states that, unless the Standing Orders otherwise provide, a question or amendment shall not be proposed which is the same as any question which, during the same session, has been resolved in the affirmative or negative.

Standing Order 150 also provides that no amendment, new clause or schedule to a bill shall be moved which is substantially the same as one already negated by the House unless there has been an order of the House to reconsider the Bill.

On 7 March 2024, the Leader of the House moved a motion to suspend Standing Orders 87 and 150 for the remainder of the parliamentary session for government bills, government amendments to bills and motions moved by a minister. The motion was resolved in the affirmative as a result of a division.

Record of Proceedings: [7 March 2024](#), pp538-539
Standing Orders 87 and 150

Crime and Corruption Amendment Bill

On 20 August 2024, the Deputy Speaker gave a ruling regarding amendments to the Crime and Corruption Bill 2023, circulated by the member for Clayfield, who had introduced this private member's bill. The Deputy Speaker referred to the Speaker's ruling, tabled out of session on 1 July 2024, regarding the application of the same question rule with respect to the private member's bill and a government bill, the Crime and Corruption and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. The Deputy Speaker stated the Speaker had considered the amendments



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sought to be moved by the member for Clayfield and found Amendment No. 1 dealt with substantially the same subject matter as a clause within the government bill. As a result, the amendment was ruled out of order. In any event, the amendment was also outside the long title and, even if it had been in order, leave would have been required for the amendment to be moved.

Record of Proceedings: [20 August 2024](#), pp2511-2512
Standing Orders 87 and 150

Queensland Community Safety Bill

On 22 August 2024, the Deputy Speaker gave a ruling regarding amendments to a government bill, the Queensland Community Safety Bill 2024, circulated by the member for Ninderry. The Deputy Speaker stated the Speaker had considered the application of the same question rule to the proposed amendments, noting Amendment No. 10 proposed to amend section 150 of the *Youth Justice Act 1992*, which had been previously considered by the House during the 57th Parliament. As Standing Order 87 had only been suspended with respect to government bills, Amendment No. 10 enlivened the same question rule and was subsequently ruled out of order. Amendment No. 12 was a consequential amendment, proposing to insert a transitional provision, and was therefore also ruled out of order.

Record of Proceedings: [22 August 2024](#), p2780
Standing Orders 87 and 150

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Facts to be authenticated

As a rule of parliamentary practice, members must be able to authenticate facts in their questions.

On 10 December 2024, the Premier was asked to advise how many nurses would be sacked from the Gold coast health service, and how much longer Gold Coasters would have to wait to access the healthcare they need, following whistleblower revelations that the transfer initiative nurse model would be cut by the LNP government. The member was asked to authenticate the question, in response to a point of order by the Leader of the House. The member cited the receipt of information from a whistleblower as sufficient evidence of authentication. The Speaker allowed the question, permitting the Premier latitude in his response. The Speaker also cautioned members generally, stating "I would urge members, if they are going to ask questions, to authenticate the evidence behind those questions."

Record of Proceedings: [10 December 2024](#), p218

On 12 December 2024, in response to allegations that media outlets had approached the Cross River Rail Authority for information and instead been redirected to the Minister for Transport's office, the Premier was asked whether the LNP has gagged public servants from providing factual information to journalists. The Leader of the House rose on a point of order, asking the member to authenticate the basis of the question. The Speaker advised newspaper articles were often allowed to substantiate questions, but he would allow the question to proceed in the absence of an article, allowing the Premier latitude in how he responded. The member produced, and subsequently tabled, a copy of an article from the Brisbane Times referencing the allegations.



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Record of Proceedings: [12 December 2024](#), p459

Question out of order, statement not a question

On 21 August 2024, with reference to many road accidents and fatalities in their region, a member asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads to advise when some of the \$66 billion in mining royalties would be sent back to the regions where they came from to fix the “absolutely shocking state of Queensland’s disintegrating rural and regional road network, mainly the Bruce Highway”. The question concluded with the statement “[i]t is a goat track.” The Speaker ruled the question out of order, as it started as a question but turned into a statement and did not conclude with a question.

Record of Proceedings: [21 August 2024](#), p2580

Not related to public affairs of minister

Under Standing Order 113, questions without notice cannot be put to a minister if it is not related to the public affairs with which the minister is officially connected.

On 22 August 2024, a member asked the Minister for Industrial Relations why this government was willing to put a union under administration to protect the public interest but not the big banks, whose criminality was exposed during the banking royal commission. The member subsequently rose on a point of order regarding relevance, stating the minister was not answering the question. The Speaker responded that he reluctantly allowed the question, despite some concern it had little to do with the minister’s portfolio responsibilities. The minister was allowed to complete her answer.

Record of Proceedings: [22 August 2024](#), pp2726-2727
Standing Order 113

On 10 September 2024, a member asked the Premier whether the Minister for Health had expressed her disappointment that the former Premier had appointed the member for Murrumba as her successor. Further, the member asked if this had been raised directly with the current Premier, and what were the concerns expressed to him. The Speaker ruled the question out of order as it was not related directly to matters that the Premier is responsible for in terms of the business of government. Providing further guidance, the Speaker stated he would name members should they ask questions simply to have matters put on the record.

Record of Proceedings: [10 September 2024](#), p2827
Standing Order 113

Inferences or imputations in questions

Under Standing Order 115, questions without notice shall not contain inferences or imputations.

On 10 September 2024, the Premier was asked whether he admitted more murderers would walk free, more rapists would be on the street and more injustices for victims would continue under a re-elected fourth-term Labor government. The question referenced the Labor government ignoring Dr Kristy Wright twice before backflipping and calling two royal commissions in relation to DNA testing. The Speaker allowed the question but cautioned members to



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“ensure there are no imputations or things that cannot be factually proven in a question.”

Record of Proceedings: [12 September 2024](#), p2822
Standing Order 115

Questions regarding an opinion

Under Standing Order 115, questions without notice shall not ask for an expression of opinion or a legal opinion.

On 10 September 2024, the Minister for Health was asked why communication was more important than competency and patients. The question referenced a comment the minister had made to the media, stating “We need good communicators in those complex roles” and queried what the minister meant about the former health minister’s inability to communicate. The question was allowed, but the Speaker provided the minister latitude in terms of her response.

Record of Proceedings: [10 September 2024](#), pp2825-2826
Standing Order 115

Questions shall not anticipate debate

Under Standing Order 115, questions without notice shall not anticipate debate regarding business pending on the Notice Paper.

On 11 September 2024, the Premier was asked to explain why, after seven years, Queenslanders were still waiting for child safety to get better and the promise that Queensland kids would be protected. The Leader of the House rose on a point of order, stating the question anticipated debate of two bills that were before the House at the time. The Speaker noted that, while the bills were not directly mentioned, there were aspects of the bill which were clear. The question was permitted, but the Premier was given latitude with regard to how he responded to the question. The Speaker stated it may be difficult for the Premier to provide a fulsome response, as it caused a problem for the House, “but one that is not insurmountable.”

Record of Proceedings: [11 September 2024](#), p2966
Standing Order 115

Length of preamble

On 12 September 2024, a question to the Premier was prefaced with a preamble referencing “media reports of the Premier giggling when asked about youth crime and blaming the media for how it reports on it; having no regrets for the Wellcamp debacle; taking two jets to the same location then saying it is cheaper to rent a luxury jet than a car – all the while overseeing rising pressures from youth crime, health, housing and the cost of living.” The Speaker stopped the member before the question had concluded, stating it was clearly a significantly long preamble and the question would be ruled out of order. Further, the Speaker noted he had been quite tolerant of other lengthy preambles that were not called to the attention of the House. The Speaker allowed the question, but cautioned the member on the length of the preamble. The member then asked the question of “Does the Premier accept he is just not up to the job of leading Queensland?”

Record of Proceedings: [12 September 2024](#), p3099
Standing Order 115

On 10 December 2024, the Minister for Women and Women’s Economic Security was asked, based on her charter letter stating a fundamental commitment was



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to reinstate health services when you need them, whether she could advise “if they have advocated for Queensland women’s access to health services, particularly in regional Queensland, in light of whistleblower revelations regarding cuts to Queensland Health’s Workforce Attraction Incentive Scheme, which is designed to attract staff to regional and rural health facilities.” The Leader of the House rose on two points of order, citing relevance to the Minister’s portfolio and the length of the preamble. The Speaker allowed the question, despite noting “it was very long and did range a little.” While the Minister was responding, the member rose on a point of order in relation to relevance. The Speaker noted he could have ruled the question out of order due to its length and lack of specificity and allowed the Minister to continue her answer.

Record of Proceedings: [10 December 2024](#), pp216-217
Standing Order 115

Question permitted, similar to previous question

On 21 August 2024, a member asked the Minister for Corrective Services whether she could confirm that allowing the former president of the Parole Board to resign, rather than be stood aside pending an investigation, ensured he could not be stripped of his \$210,058.80 annual lifetime pension. The Speaker allowed the question, stating it was very similar to a previous question but some minor differences were present. The Minister was permitted to answer the question in the manner she saw fit.

Record of Proceedings: [21 August 2024](#), p2576
Standing Order 115

Question not directed to a Minister, permitted to be repeated

On 28 November 2024, the Leader of the Opposition commenced a question with “The Premier said, ‘When I say something, it will mean something.’” The Leader of the House rose on a point of order, noting the question had not been directed to the Premier. The Speaker allowed the Leader of the Opposition to repeat the question, which subsequently commenced with “My question is to the Premier.”

Record of Proceedings: [28 November 2024](#), p67