

Legislative Assembly

of Victoria

Parliament House East Melbourne Victoria 3002 Australia

Submission No. \$ 91

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Mr Simon Finn MP Chair Broadcast of Parliament Select Committee Parliament House George Street BRISBANE Qld 4000

Dear Mr Finn,

In response to your letter of 29 February 2008 I provide the following information in respect of the Victorian Legislative Assembly.

The Legislative Assembly does not video broadcast its proceedings, although works are currently in place to enable audio broadcasts to occur later in the year. Standing Order 232 sets out the broadcasting guidelines and I have attached a copy of that Standing Order for your information. The television channels are permitted to broadcast any proceedings from the time the Speaker enters the House at the beginning of the day until the conclusion of the adjournment debate in the evening.

The footage taken of question time is the property of the individual media outlets and is often used for a ten second "grab" on the evening news bulletins or current affairs shows. I do not have ready access to the footage, but I am sure if you approached one of the television networks directly they would be able to provide some footage for your inquiry.

Yours sincerely,

R W Purdey Clerk of the Legislative Assembly



BROADCASTING OF PROCEEDINGS

232 Broadcasting rules

(1) In this standing order:

broadcast includes:

- (a) transmission to the public by radio, television, landline, the internet or any other electronic means; and
- (b) rebroadcast;

Chamber means the Legislative Assembly Chamber;

rebroadcast means to broadcast from a recording

record means to make a sound or visual recording of proceedings of the House.

- (2) Sound transmissions are permitted from the Chamber to:
 - (a) offices within Parliament House; and
 - (b) government offices outside Parliament House in accordance with the approval of the Speaker, except of anything occurring in the Chamber prior to the time fixed for the meeting of the House or after the adjournment of the House.
- (3) A media organisation or individual may, subject to paragraph (4), broadcast, or record for broadcast, proceedings of the House, except anything occurring in the Chamber prior to the time fixed for the meeting of the House or after the adjournment of the House.
- (4) Permission under paragraph (3) is subject to observance of the following conditions:
 - (a) media organisations or individuals must be accredited by the Speaker; and
 - (b) sound must only be recorded from the audio signal of proceedings transmitted by the House monitoring system by representatives of accredited media organisations or individuals; and
 - (c) no alteration to the sound relay equipment is permitted without the permission of the Speaker; and
 - (d) the use of separate recording equipment is not permitted unless authorised by the Speaker; and
 - (e) recordings must:
 - be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and reasonable balance between both sides of the House is to be achieved by avoiding undue concentration on any one member; and
 - (ii) provide in context a balanced presentation of differing views and must not include events in the Chamber unrelated to the proceedings of the House; and

- provide equality between government and non-government members; (iii) and
- (iv) be placed in context and commentators must identify members at least by name; and
- (v) not start until the conclusion of the Prayer; and
- (vi) not misrepresent any proceeding before the House, or the seating position, or office held by any member of the House.
- (f) recordings must not be used for:
 - (i) political party advertising or election campaigns; or
 - (ii) satire or ridicule; or
 - (iii) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising; or
 - (iv) media advertisements or promotion.
- (g) camera operators must operate within the guidelines issued by the Speaker;
- (h) points of order or remarks withdrawn are not to be rebroadcast.
- (i) media personnel must obey any instruction given by the Speaker or the Speaker's delegates.
- (5) Any breach of the conditions listed in paragraph (4) may result in the immediate suspension of privileges by the Speaker.