



Speech by

Hon. Judy Spence

MEMBER FOR SUNNYBANK

Hansard Wednesday, 28 October 2009

MOTION: AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS

Hon. JC SPENCE (Sunnybank—ALP) (Leader of the House) (10.27 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

That the Standing Rules and Orders and Sessional Orders of the Legislative Assembly be amended in accordance with the amendments circulated in my name.

1. Sessional Order 5, after 'Election of Speaker—each member'—

Insert (in text in column 1 and times in column 3)—

'Extension of Time, by consent of a majority of the House, without debate

- Motions and Second reading Debates 10 minutes
- Question Time 2 minutes'.

2. New Standing Order 60A (Absence of Minister)—

After Standing Order 60—

Insert—

'60A. Absence of Minister

The Leader of the House shall inform the House whenever a Minister will be absent for either Questions without Notice or an entire sitting day.'

3. Standing Order 103 (Procedure for setting question and calling a division)—

Standing Order 103, heading, 'setting'—

Omit, Insert—

'putting'.

4. Standing Order 103 (Procedure for setting question and calling a division)—

Standing Order 103(4)—

Omit, Insert—

'(4) If there has already been a division in respect of that order of the day or motion, and there is no intervening debate, the Speaker may order the division bells to be rung for one minute.'

5. Standing Order 115 (Rules for questions)—

Standing Order 115(b)—

Omit, Insert—

'(b) Questions shall not contain:

- (i) lengthy or subjective preambles;
- (ii) arguments;
- (iii) inferences;

- (iv) imputations;
 - (v) hypothetical matters; or
 - (vi) names of persons, unless they are strictly necessary to render the question intelligible and can be authenticated.’.
- 6. Standing Order 125 (Petitions referred to a Minister and responses tabled and published)—**
Standing Order 125(3)—
Omit, Insert—
‘(3) The Minister shall forward a response (‘ministerial response’) to a petition to the Clerk within 30 days and the Clerk shall:
- (a) table the response;
 - (b) forward a copy of the response to the member who presented the petition;
 - (c) forward a copy of the response to the principal petitioner; and
 - (d) ensure the response is published on the Parliament’s Internet Website.’.
- 7. Standing Order 125 (Petitions referred to a Minister and responses tabled and published)—**
After Standing Order 125(5)—
Insert—
‘(6) If a Minister can not comply with subsection (3), the Minister shall—
- (a) within 30 days after the petition is presented, forward to the Clerk an interim response and the Minister’s reasons for not complying within 30 days; and
 - (b) within 3 months after the petition is presented, forward to the Clerk a final response.’.
- 8. Standing Order 128 (Procedure on presentation of Bill)—**
Standing Order 128(5) and 128(8), ‘That the Bill be read a second time’—
Omit, Insert—
‘That the Bill be now read a second time’.
- 9. New Standing Order 129A (Cognate Bills and time for second reading debate)—**
After Standing Order 129—
Insert—
‘129A. Cognate Bills and time for second reading debate
Where the House determines that several Bills may be considered at the same time for their second reading stage:
- (a) the time allotted for the Leader of the Opposition (or nominee) may, at their discretion, be shared with another Member;
 - (b) however, the total time allotted for the Leader of the Opposition (or nominee) and the other Member with whom the time has been shared, shall not exceed the total time that would have been available for both the Leader of the Opposition (or nominee) and that Member had the time not been shared.’.
- 10. Standing Order 131 (Question for second reading)—**
Standing Order 131, ‘That the Bill be read a second time’—
Omit, Insert—
‘That the Bill be now read a second time’.
- 11. New Standing Order 166A (Adjournment of second reading debate for Annual Appropriation Bills)—**
After Standing Order 166—
Insert—
‘166A. Adjournment of second reading debate for Annual Appropriation Bills
Standing Order 128(8) does not apply to the Annual Appropriation Bills. After the member who presented the Annual Appropriation Bills completes their second reading speech further debate on the question “That the Bill be now read a second time” shall be adjourned for at least one whole calendar day.’.
- 12. Standing Order 181 (Questions on notice prior to the hearings)—**
Standing Order 181(4) and 181(5)—
Omit, Insert—
‘(4) The rules applying to questions on notice and questions without notice contained in Chapter 20 also apply to questions on notice prior to estimates hearings.
(5) The Chairperson of the committee has the same power as the Speaker regarding questions.’.
- 13. Standing Order 181 (Questions on notice prior to the hearings)—**
After Standing Order 181(7)—
Insert—
‘(8) Answers to questions on notice are deemed to be authorised for release by the estimates committee and published upon the commencement of the committee’s hearing, unless the committee expressly orders otherwise.’.
- 14. Standing Order 216 (Presentation of committee reports or other documents after dissolution of the House)—**
Standing Order 216, ‘If a committee’—
Omit, Insert—
‘If a committee’,.
- 15. Standing Order 231 (Anticipating discussion)—**
After Standing Order 231(2)—
Insert—

- '(3) This rule shall not apply to prevent questions or debate which anticipate debate of the annual Appropriation Bills.'
- 16. New Standing Order 253A (Power to order withdrawal of disorderly member from the Chamber for up to one hour)—**
After Standing Order 253—
Insert—
'253A. Power to order withdrawal of disorderly member from the Chamber for up to one hour
(1) The Speaker may, after warning a member who in the Speaker's opinion continues to be grossly disorderly, order that member to withdraw immediately from the Chamber for up to one hour.
(2) A member ordered to withdraw immediately from the Chamber under this Standing Order must do so forthwith, and must, during the period nominated by the Speaker (up to one hour) remain absent from the Chamber.
(3) Any member who having been ordered to withdraw under this Standing Order fails to comply, may without further warning, be named by the Speaker under SO 254.'
- 17. Standing Order 263B (Leave of absence of member for more than 21 consecutive sitting days)—**
Standing Order 263B, heading, after 'days'—
Insert footnote reference no. and the following footnote—
'Section 72(1)(m) of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* provides that a member's seat becomes vacant if the member is absent without the Assembly's permission from the Assembly for more than 21 consecutive sitting days, whether over one or more session.'
- 18. Standing Order 269 (Procedure for other matters)—**
Standing Order 269(5)—
Omit, Insert—
'(5) The Speaker in considering the matter may request further information from the complainant, the person the subject of the allegations or any other person.'
- 19. Standing Order 272 (Impartiality and conflicts of interest)—**
Standing Order 272(4), 'Leader of Opposition'—
Omit, Insert—
'Leader of the Opposition'.
- 20. Standing Order 283 (Recommendation and report by the ethics committee)—**
Standing Order 283(b)—
Omit, Insert—
'(b) that a response by the person who made the submission, in terms specified in the report and agreed to by the person or corporation and the ethics committee, be incorporated in the Record of Proceedings or published in some other manner.'
- 21. Standing Order 287 (Arrest of strangers)—**
Standing Order 287(2) and 287(3)—
Omit, Insert—
'(2) The Speaker shall report to the House when any person has been taken into custody pursuant to (1).
(3) A person taken into custody pursuant to (1) can only be discharged from custody by direction of the Speaker or order of the House.'
- 22. Schedule 5 (Guidelines for the Protection of Whistleblowers)—**
Schedule 5(5), '(d)', '(e)' and '(f)'—
Omit, Insert—
'(a)', '(b)' and '(c)'.
- 23. New Schedule 6 (Instructions to Particular Committees)—**
After Schedule 5—
Insert—
'SCHEDULE 6—INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTICULAR COMMITTEES
(1) The Scrutiny of Legislation Committee, pursuant to its area of responsibility detailed in s.103(2)(a) of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*, is to include in its Alert Digests compliance with Part 4 of the *Legislative Standards Act 1992* (Explanatory Notes).'
- 24. Standing Order 13 (Appointment of Acting Speaker)—**
Standing Order 13(2), 'a Minister'—
Omit, Insert—
'a Minister or Leader of the House'.
- 25. Standing Order 81 (Order discharged)—**
Standing Order 81(3), 'A Minister'—
Omit, Insert—
'A Minister or Leader of the House'.
- 26. Standing Order 159 (Urgent Bills)—**
Standing Order 159(1), 'A Minister'—
Omit, Insert—
'A Minister or Leader of the House'.
- 27. Standing Order 159 (Urgent Bills)—**

Standing Order 159(3), 'a Minister'—

Omit, Insert—

'a Minister or Leader of the House'.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.