

Procedural Digest

No. 6

47th Parliament

21 November – 15 December 2022

Nov – Dec 2022				
M	T	W	T	F
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16

Motions

6.01 Censure of Member for Cook

Just prior to the adjournment of the House on Tuesday, 29 November, in accordance with standing order 106(c), the Clerk announced that a notice of motion had been received expressing censure of the Member for Cook.

The following morning, the Leader of the House moved the motion of censure. The motion noted that, in the previous parliament, while Prime Minister, the Member for Cook had himself appointed to a number of ministerial portfolios without informing the cabinet, relevant departments, the House of Representatives or the public. The motion censured the Member for Cook for failing to disclose these appointments. Prior to moving the motion, the Leader of the House advised that the House would not expect the normal time limits to apply to the Member for Cook's speech.

A number of members spoke in the debate, including the Member for Cook. The censure motion was carried on division.

Hansard: 29 November 2022, 3816; 3817
30 November 2022, 3852-78
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/396-7

SOs 1, 106

6.02 Condolence motion for the Honourable Peter Reith AM

On 21 November, the Prime Minister moved a condolence motion in relation to the death of the Honourable Peter Reith, a former minister and Member for Flinders from 1982 to 1983 and from 1984 to 2001. The Prime Minister reflected on Mr Reith's parliamentary career and offered sympathy to his family in their bereavement.

The Leader of the Opposition seconded the motion and all members present rose in silence as a mark of respect. The condolence motion was then referred to the Federation Chamber. The motion was debated in the Federation Chamber, returned to the House and carried on 1 December.

Hansard: 21 November 2022, 2981-3
30 November 2022, 3997-4004
1 December 2022, 4064
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/329-30, 405, 411

SOs 49, 183

6.03 Prime Minister's motion congratulating Socceroos

On Thursday, 1 December, the Prime Minister, by leave, moved that the House congratulate the Socceroos on their performance so far at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The Leader of the Opposition spoke in support and the motion was carried on the voices.

Hansard: 1 December 2022, 4080-2

Votes and Proceedings: 2022/413

SO 63

Privilege

6.04 Privilege matter raised regarding Member for Cook

On 1 December, the Leader of the Australian Greens (Mr Adam Bandt) raised a matter of privilege regarding whether the Member for Cook had misled the House when, as Prime Minister, he had failed to disclose his appointment to multiple ministries. Mr Bandt had raised the matter earlier in the parliament but no further action had been taken (see 2.03). Mr Bandt asked the Speaker to reconsider the matter in light of the report on the independent inquiry undertaken by Justice Virginia Bell AC and the statement made in the House the previous day by the Member for Cook. The Speaker advised that he would consider the matter and report back to the House.

Hansard: 1 December 2022, 4019

Votes and Proceedings: 2022/329-30

SOs 49, 183

Parliamentary standards

6.05 Statement by Speaker on anniversary of Set the Standard report

The Speaker made a statement on the first anniversary of the Sex Discrimination Commissioner's *Set the Standard: Report on the Independent Review into Commonwealth Parliamentary Workplaces*, on 30 November. He acknowledged the history of unacceptable behaviour in Parliament House and affirmed the parliament's commitment to positive change. He also updated the House on actions taken so far to implement the report's recommendations.

Hansard: 30 November 2022, 3851

Votes and Proceedings: 2022/395

6.06 Parliamentary Standards Committee report

The previous day, the Chair of the Joint Select Committee on Parliamentary Standards presented the committee's final report. The committee had been established to develop codes of conduct in response to a recommendation of the *Set the Standard* report. In its report, the Parliamentary Standards Committee proposes behaviour codes for parliamentarians, parliamentarians' staff and Commonwealth parliamentary workplaces, and recommends that the House and the Senate formally adopt the code for parliamentarians and the standards for parliamentary workplaces.

Hansard: 29 November 2022, 3740-2
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/387

SOs 39, 223, 224, 226

Sittings

6.07 Extended sitting

On Thursday, 1 December, the last scheduled sitting of the year, the Leader of the House moved to suspend standing orders 31 (automatic adjournment of the House) and 33 (limit on new business after normal time of adjournment) to allow for an extended sitting. He explained that the House was expected to sit longer than usual while it waited to receive Senate amendments to the Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Bill 2022. He noted the possibility that, depending on the Senate's deliberations, the House could continue to sit until Saturday. The suspension motion was carried on the voices.

Following the matter of public importance discussion, debate resumed on the address in reply and continued until past 6 pm. The Leader of the House then advised that the House would suspend and would resume at 8 am on Friday morning to consider the Senate amendments. The sitting was suspended at 6.22 pm.

The next morning the House agreed to Senate amendments to the Financial Sector Reform Bill 2022 and to the Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Bill 2022 before the sitting was adjourned at 8.41 am.

Hansard: 1 December 2022, 4019-20; 4093; 4116; 4137
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/407, 414-6

SOs 31, 33

6.08 Program of sittings for 2023

On 29 November, the Leader of the House presented a proposed program of parliamentary sittings for 2023 and moved that it be agreed to. The question was carried on the voices. Later in the week, the Leader of the House presented a revised program of sittings, noting that the Senate had made some amendments. The revised program was agreed to on the voices.

Hansard: 29 November 2022, 3773
1 December 2022, 4093-4
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/388, 413

SO 29

6.09 Special sitting for passage of energy price relief bill

After the last scheduled sitting of the year, the Prime Minister announced, on 9 December, that the parliament would return to consider legislation to ease pressure on household energy bills. In accordance with standing order 30 the Speaker set Thursday, 15 December, as the date for the next meeting of the House.

The House met at 9 am on 15 December. At the beginning of proceedings, the Speaker made a statement in relation to the deaths of Queensland Police Constables Rachel McCrow and Matthew Arnold, and Mr Alan Dare. All members present rose in silence as a mark of respect.

After some administrative business, the House agreed to suspend standing orders to set the order of business for the day. The resolution provided for the introduction and passage through all stages of the Treasury Laws Amendment (Energy Price Relief Plan) Bill 2022 that day. The resolution also provided for a condolence motion and then for the suspension of the sitting while the House waited for any messages from the Senate in relation to the energy price relief bill.

In accordance with the suspension of standing orders, the bill was introduced and passed all stages. The Prime Minister then moved a condolence motion in relation to the deaths of Constable Rachel McCrow, Constable Matthew Arnold and Mr Alan Dare. The motion acknowledged the bravery of the deceased and offered sympathy to the families in their bereavement. The Leader of the Opposition seconded the motion and 19 members spoke in support. The motion was referred to the Federation Chamber for further debate.

The sitting was then suspended at 2.25 pm. At 5.05 pm, the energy price relief bill having passed the Senate without amendment, the sitting was resumed and immediately adjourned.

*Hansard: 15 December 2022, 4167-75; 4198-216
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/421-430*

SOs 30, 47, 49

Statements

6.10 Ministerial statements

The following ministerial statements were made over the sitting fortnight:

- Developing northern Australia, Minister for Northern Australia (22 November)
- Government response to the Joint Committee on Northern Australia's reports on the destruction of cultural heritage at Juukan Gorge, Minister for the Environment and Water (24 November)
- Closing the Gap, Prime Minister (30 November)
- Annual climate change statement 2022, Minister for Climate Change and Energy (1 December)

*Hansard: 22 November 2022, 3106-11
24 November 2022, 3445-7
30 November 2022, 3878-84
1 December 2022, 4044-53*

Votes and Proceedings: 2022/342, 357, 397, 410

SO 63A

6.11 Statements on significant matters

During the period for statements on significant matters on Wednesday, 23 November, the Minister for Social Services made a statement to acknowledge the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The Shadow Minister for Child Protection and the Prevention of Family Violence spoke in reply and the House agreed to allow further statements on the matter in the Federation Chamber.

*Hansard: 23 November 2022, 3243-5
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/349*

SO 50A

Committees

6.12 Status of government responses to committee reports

On 1 December, the Speaker presented the *Speaker's schedule of the status of government responses to committee reports*. The report was incorporated into Hansard.

The government is expected to present a response to a House or joint committee report within six months of its presentation in the House, in accordance with a resolution of the House adopted on 29 September 2010.

*Hansard: 1 December 2022, 4082-92
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/P413*

SO 199

Speaker

6.13 Member appointed to Speaker's panel

On 1 December the Speaker presented a warrant nominating government member Ms Alicia Payne to be a member of the Speaker's panel.

*Hansard: 1 December 2022, 4031
Votes and Proceedings: 2022/407*

SO 63A

Offensive words[#]

	Hansard	
	<i>Date</i>	<i>Page</i>
'He's a grub.'	28 November 2022	3694
'The fools on that side of the House...'	29 November 2022	3767-8
'You ****ing ugly big nosed slut. And you're a fat ****. Climate change is bullshit.'	29 November 2022	3835
'When they get the Liberals or the LNP—the 'lying narcissist party'—they get nothing, and this has been a real problem.'	1 December 2022	4057
'In the six months since he took charge of the ministry, the Member for Whitlam has chewed up the furniture, rubbed his bum on the carpet and cocked his leg over his parliamentary colleagues, the financial sector and the voters of Australia.'	1 December 2022	4095

[#] List of unparliamentary expressions recorded in *Hansard*.