

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE — MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Standing Orders Suspension — Motion

HON SUE ELLERY (South Metropolitan — Leader of the House) [4.20 pm] — without notice: I move —

That so much of standing orders be suspended to enable the house to sit this week beyond 6.20 pm on Wednesday and 5.20 pm on Thursday, so that members' statements on both of those days are taken at a time to be determined by order of the house.

By way of explanation, members would be aware that a number of members are making their inaugural speeches this week. This will enable us to give them the time that is most convenient to them and for their families and friends to come and listen and not put constraints on them having to wrap up before we begin the scheduled time for members' statements. It is anticipated that we might sit a little later on Wednesday and Thursday before we start members' statements to accommodate three inaugural speeches in the timeslot immediately before members' statements. I hasten to add that this is not an invitation to speak forever, but it does recognise that members will have made arrangements to bring in family members, and we do not want to constrain their ability to make their first contribution to the house.

HON PETER COLLIER (North Metropolitan — Leader of the Opposition) [4.21 pm]: I will just clarify that that is for Wednesday and Thursday. We will support this motion. It reflects a conversation we had behind the Chair. As the Leader of the House said, ideally it is not to incite elongated inaugural speeches but to ensure that if a speech does go over time, we have appropriate time. We will support the motion.

Question put and passed with an absolute majority.