

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Standing Orders Suspension — Motion

HON SUE ELLERY (South Metropolitan — Leader of the House) [2.10 pm] — without notice: I move —

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as to enable the following variations to the order of business and sitting times for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this sitting week —

- (a) that the dinner adjournments on Tuesday and Wednesday be taken for a period of one hour between 6.00 and 7.00 pm;
- (b) no consideration of committee reports on Wednesday;
- (c) that the house may sit beyond 6.20 pm on Wednesday if further ordered;
- (d) that the house commence sitting at 9.00 am on Thursday;
- (e) that the house may sit beyond 5.20 pm on Thursday if further ordered; and
- (f) that members' statements on both Wednesday and Thursday are taken at a time to be determined by order of the house.

By way of explanation, this agreement has been reached behind the Chair in an effort to deal with the government's legislative agenda this week.

HON PETER COLLIER (North Metropolitan — Leader of the Opposition) [2.11 pm]: On behalf of the Liberal Party, we support these proposed changes to the sitting hours, but I seek clarification on one point. It was pointed out in correspondence to the Leader of the House and leaders of the other parties that the intention was that members' statements would be taken at 9.45 pm on Wednesday. Could the Leader of the House, through interjection, clarify whether that is what was decided, because I thought that I had clarified that.

Hon Sue Ellery: Yes. There is no disagreement. I understood that that could be accommodated and that we would be sitting late on Wednesday, as I discussed with the respective people, only if we were close to finishing and just needed a bit more time.

Hon PETER COLLIER: I wanted to clarify that because I thought that we were all in furious agreement that if we did not need to sit beyond 6.20 pm tomorrow, we would not; and, if we do sit beyond 6.20 pm, members' statements would be taken at 9.45 pm.

Hon Sue Ellery: Yes.

Hon PETER COLLIER: Does everyone agree?

Hon Sue Ellery: Or earlier if it is possible.

Hon PETER COLLIER: It could be earlier; that is correct. Sorry, Madam President, we just wanted some clarification. That is probably the tidiest way.

The PRESIDENT: That is fine. If things finish up earlier and you want to stay around, that is up to you!

Question put and passed with an absolute majority.