

41ST PARLIAMENT



Report 72

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROCEDURE AND PRIVILEGES

Consideration of Committee Reports - Proposed Temporary Order

Presented by
Hon Alanna Clohesy MLC (Chair)
May 2024

Standing Committee on Procedure and Privileges

Members as at the time of this inquiry:

Hon Alanna Clohesy MLC (Chair)

Hon Martin Aldridge MLC (Deputy Chair)

Hon Tjorn Sibma MLC

Hon Kyle McGinn MLC

Hon Dan Caddy MLC

Staff as at the time of this inquiry:

Mr Sam Hastings, B.Econ; LLB (Hons) (Clerk of the Legislative Council)

Mr Paul Grant, BA (Hons), LLB (Deputy Clerk)

Mr Grant Hitchcock, BA (Clerk Assistant (House))

Ms Renae Jewell (Advisory Officer (Procedure))

Address:

Parliament House

4 Harvest Terrace, West Perth WA 6005

Telephone: 08 9222 7300

Email: lcco@parliament.wa.gov.au

Website: www.parliament.wa.gov.au

ISBN 978-1-921634-73-4



1 Consideration of Committee Reports – Proposed Temporary Order

- 1.1 It is the role of the Procedure and Privileges Committee (**PPC**) to:
- ... keep under review the law and custom of Parliament, the rules of procedure of the Council and its Committees, and recommend to the Council such alterations in that law, custom, or rules that, in its opinion, will assist or improve the proper and orderly transaction of the business of the Council or its Committees.¹
- 1.2 In this final year of the 41st Parliament the PPC observes that a significant number of committee reports remain on the Notice Paper awaiting consideration by the Council.
- 1.3 The PPC notes that, pursuant to Standing Order 110(3), a number of these reports may be removed from the Notice Paper having spent 12 months without a motion moved that the report be noted.
- 1.4 Including these reports, a further 15 reports are yet to receive any consideration by the Council. In contrast, a committee report presented in March 2022 is currently still under consideration by the Council.
- 1.5 The PPC has examined the above matter and considered whether the introduction of a temporary order for the remainder of 2024 will assist with the Council's timely consideration of committee reports.
- 1.6 The purpose of a temporary order would, in summary, be to:
- 1.6.1 limit the further consideration of committee reports to a maximum time limit of two hours;
 - 1.6.2 limit speaking opportunities to a total maximum of 30 minutes per Member comprising three periods of up to 10 minutes each; and
 - 1.6.3 suspend the automatic rotation and postponement of the consideration of a committee report after each hour of debate.
- 1.7 The Temporary Order is to apply prospectively. This means that all reports will have a maximum of two hours of debate, even if they have already undergone considerable debate.
- 1.8 The PPC is of the view that a temporary order will encourage more focussed debates on committee reports and the timely progression of the Council's consideration of the remaining committee reports currently listed on the Notice Paper.
- 1.9 Accordingly, the PPC recommends the Council adopt the following Temporary Order to apply until (and including) 31 December 2024:

¹ Standing Committee on Procedure and Privileges Term of Reference 1.4.

RECOMMENDATION 1

That the Council adopt the following Temporary Order to apply until (and including) 31 December 2024:

1. Duration of Temporary Orders

These Temporary Orders apply until (and including) 31 December 2024.

2. Time Limits on Speeches

Standing Order 21, debate times for "Consideration of Committee Reports" is suspended and replaced by the following Temporary Order —

Consideration of Committee Reports

All Members three periods of 10 minutes per report

3. Maximum Time Limits for Certain Business Items

Standing Order 23 (1)(b) is suspended and replaced by the following Temporary Order —

(b) consideration of Committee reports (SO 15(3)) 120 minutes

4. Consideration of Committee Reports

Standing Order 110(2A) to (2D) is suspended.



Hon Alanna Clohesy MLC

Chair

Standing Committee on Procedure and Privileges


Date first appointed:

24 May 2001

Terms of Reference:

The following is an extract from Schedule 1 of the Legislative Council Standing Orders:

'1. Procedure and Privileges Committee

- 1.1 *A Procedure and Privileges Committee is established.*
 - 1.2 The Committee consists of 5 Members, including the President and the Chair of Committees, and any Members co-opted by the Committee whether generally or in relation to a particular matter. The President is the Chair, and the Chair of Committees is the Deputy Chair, of the Committee.
 - 1.3 With any necessary modifications, Standing Order 163 applies to a co-opted Member.
 - 1.4 The Committee is to keep under review the law and custom of Parliament, the rules of procedure of the Council and its Committees, and recommend to the Council such alterations in that law, custom, or rules that, in its opinion, will assist or improve the proper and orderly transaction of the business of the Council or its Committees.'
- 



Parliament House,
4 Harvest Terrace, West Perth WA 6005
Telephone: +61 8 9222 7300
Email: lcco@parliament.wa.gov.au
Website: <http://www.parliament.wa.gov.au>