



QUEENSLAND

Legislative Assembly

SESSIONAL ORDERS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
53rd PARLIAMENT (FIRST SESSION)

BRISBANE

By Authority: N J Laurie, The Clerk of the Parliament

Adopted 16 June 2011
Effective 1 August 2011
Amended 2 August 2011

SESSIONAL ORDERS – 53RD PARLIAMENT (FIRST SESSION)

Days and Hours of Sitting and Order of Business

1. (a) The House shall sit on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- (b) The House shall sit on Tuesday and Thursday from 9.30am until by its own resolution the House adjourns.
- (c) The House shall sit on Wednesday from 2.00pm until by its own resolution the House adjourns.
- (d) The Order of Business for each Sitting Day shall be as follows—

Tuesday

9.30am – 10.00am—

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning privilege

Speaker's Statements

Appointments

Petitions

Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk

Ministerial Papers

Ministerial Notices of Motion

Ministerial Statements

Any other Government Business

Personal Explanations

Tabling of Reports

Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument

Notice of motion for debate during Private Members' Motion (5.30pm – 6.30pm each Tuesday)

(Notice may be stated in the House and delivered to the Clerk)

10.00am – 11.00am—

Question Time

11.00am – 12.00pm—

Matters of Public Interest

12.00pm – 1.00pm—

Government Business

1.00pm – 2.30pm—

Lunch break

2.30pm – 5.30pm—

Government Business

5.30pm – 6.30pm—

Private Members' Motion (motion for which notice was given immediately prior to 10.00am to take precedence)

6.30pm – 7.30pm—

Dinner break

7.30pm until adjournment moved—

Government Business

Wednesday

2.00pm – 2.30pm—

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning privilege

Speaker's Statements

Appointments

Petitions

Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk

Ministerial Papers

Ministerial Notices of Motion

Ministerial Statements

Any other Government Business

Personal Explanations

Tabling of Reports

Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument

2.30pm – 3.30pm—

Question Time

3.30pm – 6.30pm—

Government Business

6.30pm – 7.30pm—

Dinner break

7.30pm – 10.00pm—

Disallowance Motions, Private Members' Bills or Government Business (in accordance with Sessional Order 1(e))

Thursday

9.30am – 10.00am—

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning privilege

Speaker's Statements

Appointments

Petitions

Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk

Ministerial Papers

Ministerial Notices of Motion

Ministerial Statements

Any other Government Business

Personal Explanations

Tabling of Reports

Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument

10.00am – 11.00am—

Question Time

11.00am – 12.00pm—

Debate of Committee Reports (in accordance with Sessional Order 2) or if no reports to debate, Government Business

12.00pm – 1.00pm—

Government Business

1.00pm – 2.30pm—

Lunch break

2.30pm – 4.00pm—
Private Members' Statements (Leader of the Opposition or nominee having first call)

4.00pm – 6.30pm—
Government Business

6.30pm – 7.30pm—
Dinner break

7.30pm until adjournment moved—
Government Business

- (e) On a Wednesday evening—
- (i) if there are no Disallowance Motions or Private Members Bills to debate (in accordance with the requirements of Standing Order 59 or Sessional Order 3), the adjournment may be either moved immediately or otherwise the House will break for dinner between 6.30pm and 7.30pm and then commence with Government Business until 10.00pm when the adjournment will be moved;
 - (ii) if there are Disallowance Motions or Private Members Bills to debate (in accordance with the requirements of Standing Order 59 or Sessional Order 3), the House will break for dinner between 6.30pm and 7.30pm and then commence with Disallowance Motions, Private Members' Bills or Government Business until 10.00pm when the adjournment will be moved.
- (f) The motion "That the House do now adjourn" may only be moved by the Member occupying the position of Leader or Acting Leader of the House in the House.
- (g) As soon as the motion in (f) is moved, there will be an Adjournment Debate for 30 minutes and then the question shall be put.
- (h) The motion "That the House do now adjourn" may be moved by the Leader or Acting Leader of the House at any time despite the order of business.
- (i) If the House sits on any day other than a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, then unless otherwise ordered, the order of business shall be as follows:

From 9.30am – 10.30 am—
Prayers
Messages from the Governor
Matters concerning privilege
Speaker's Statements
Petitions
Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk
Ministerial Papers
Ministerial Notices of Motion
Ministerial Statements
Any other Government Business
Personal Explanations
Tabling of Reports
Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument
Question Time (for remaining time until 10.30 am)

10.30am – 1.00pm—
Government Business

1.00pm – 2.30pm —
Lunch break

2.30pm – until adjournment moved—
Government Business

Debate of Parliamentary committee reports

2. (1) If a committee report is tabled that is not:
 - (a) a report on a bill pursuant to Part 5 of the Standing Orders;
 - (b) an annual report of a Committee;
 - (c) a report on travel undertaken by a Committee;
 - (d) a report of the Ethics Committee; or
 - (e) a report by a Committee on subordinate legislation

then a motion shall be set down on the notice paper by the Clerk that the House is to take note of the committee report.

- (2) Motions that the House take note of committee reports will be brought on for debate in the time set aside each Thursday in the order in which they are placed on the notice paper.
- (3) A debate of a motion in (2) not completed may be adjourned to the following Thursday.
- (4) A motion in (2) cannot be amended.
- (5) A motion in accordance with (1) is set down on the notice paper regardless of whether the report is tabled whilst the House is sitting or not sitting.

Private Members' Bills

3. (1) A member who is not a Minister may introduce a Bill during time set aside in the Order of Business for Private Members' Statements. In such a case the Member introducing the Bill may either:
 - (a) speak on the Bill for the time allotted each member (two minutes) and then incorporate the remainder of their second reading speech, so long as the speech has been shown to the Speaker in accordance with Standing Orders; or
 - (b) speak for a maximum of 15 minutes, in which case any time spoken in excess of the time normally allotted (two minutes) shall:
 - in the case of a non-Government Member, be deducted from the time normally allocated to non-Government Members in the total time allocated for Private Members' Statements; or
 - in the case of a Government Member, be deducted from the time normally allocated to Government Members in the total time allocated for Private Members' Statements;
 - (c) speak for any time remaining for:
 - in the case of a non-Government Member, the time normally allocated to non-Government Members in the total time allocated for Private Members' Statements; or
 - in the case of a Government Member, the time normally allocated to Government Members in the total time allocated for Private Members' Statements.
- (2) A Private Members' Bill which has been reported on by a portfolio or other committee, will be brought on for debate on the sitting Wednesday evening next following the passage of three calendar months after the tabling of the committee's report on the Bill.
- (3) The House will continue to debate the Bill on each following sitting Wednesday evening until consideration of that Bill has been finalised.

Condolence Motions

4. (1) A motion of condolence may be moved as the first item of business after Speaker's Statements in the Order of Business.

(2) If a motion of condolence is moved in accordance with (1), the debate on such motion will last no more than one hour, after which time the question shall be put.

(3) After a motion of condolence is moved, debated and resolved in accordance with (1) and (2), the Order of Business for the day shall then resume, with Question Time commencing half an hour after the motion of condolence was resolved and with starting times for all other items, except lunch and dinner breaks, in the Order of Business adjusting accordingly.

Maximum time limits for debates, speeches and statements

5. The maximum time limits that apply to debates, speeches and statements are contained in the schedule below.

Subject	Relevant Standing or Sessional Orders	Time
Address in Reply Debate – Total time – Mover – Other members – Mover in reply	SO 47	28 hours 20 minutes 20 minutes 30 minutes
Adjournment debate – Total time – Each member	SO 56 & Sessional Order 1	30 minutes 3 minutes
Bills - Government Bills Introduction of Bills (Explanatory Speech) First reading Government Bills reported on by a committee Second reading debate – Minister – Leader of the Opposition (or nominee) – Members of the relevant committee – All other Members – Minister in reply Consideration in detail – Mover (Minister) – Other Members (on each question) Government Bills declared urgent and not referred or not reported on by a committee Second reading debate – Minister – Leader of the Opposition (or nominee) – Other Members – Mover in reply Consideration in detail – Mover (Minister) – Leader of the Opposition (or nominee) (on each question) – Other Members (on each question)	SO 129 SO 130 SO 138 SO 146 & SO 147 SO 129, SO 37 & SO 138 SO 146, SO 147 & SO 156	1 hour No debate 1 hour 1 hour 20 minutes 10 minutes 30 minutes No limit 3 minutes To speak once only as per SO129 for 1 hour 1 hour 20 minutes 30 minutes No limit 1 x 20 minutes; or 2 x 10 minutes; or 1 x 10 minutes & 2 x 5 minutes 1 x 10 minutes or 2 x 5 minutes

Subject	Relevant Standing or Sessional Orders	Time
<p>Bills - Private Members' Bills</p> <p>Introduction of Bills (Explanatory Speech)</p> <p>First reading</p> <p>Second reading debate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All members - Mover in reply <p>Consideration in detail</p> <p>Where Bill has been considered by portfolio committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mover - Other Members (on each question) <p>Where Bill has not been considered by portfolio committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mover - Other Members (on each question) - Minister responsible for policy area (on each question) 	<p>SO 129</p> <p>SO 130</p> <p>SO 138</p> <p>SO 146, SO 147, SO 156</p>	<p>1 hour</p> <p>No debate</p> <p>10 minutes 30 minutes</p> <p>No limit 3 minutes</p> <p>No limit 3 minutes 1 x 20 minutes; or 2 x 10 minutes; or 1 x 10 minutes and 2 x 5 minutes</p>
<p>Debate of Committee Reports – each member</p>	<p>Sessional Order 1</p>	<p>5 minutes</p>
<p>Disallowance of statutory instruments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total time - Mover - Other member - Minister in reply 	<p>SO 59</p>	<p>2 hours 15 minutes 10 minutes 20 minutes</p>
<p>Dissent to ruling of Speaker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total time - Each member 	<p>SO 250</p>	<p>1 hour 10 minutes</p>
<p>Election of Speaker – each member</p>	<p>SO 39</p>	<p>5 minutes</p>
<p>Extension of Time, by consent of a majority of the House, without debate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motions and Second Reading Debates - Question Time 		<p>10 minutes 2 minutes</p>
<p>Matters concerning privilege</p>	<p>Sessional Order 1, & SO 248 & 267</p>	<p>At discretion of Speaker</p>
<p>Matters of Public Interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total time - Leader of Opposition or nominee - Other members 	<p>Sessional Order 1</p>	<p>1 hour 10 minutes 5 minutes</p>
<p>Motions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mover - Other members - Mover in reply 	<p>Chapter 15</p>	<p>20 minutes 20 minutes 30 minutes</p>
<p>Personal Explanations – each member</p>	<p>Sessional Order 1</p>	<p>At discretion of Speaker</p>

Subject	Relevant Standing or Sessional Orders	Time
Private Members' Motions (Tuesday 5.30pm – 6.30pm) – Total time – Mover – Other member	Sessional Order 1	1 hour 10 minutes 5 minutes
Private Members' Statements (Thursday 2.30pm – 4.00pm) – each member	Sessional Order 1	2 minutes
Tabling of Reports – Chairperson of Committee on presentation of committee report – Member tabling report	Sessional Order 1 & 2	5 minutes 2 minutes
Questions Without Notice – Question time (total time) – Member asking question – Minister answering question	Sessional Order 1 & SO 113	1 hour, Tues, Wed, Thurs. Time remaining until 10.30am on Friday At discretion of Speaker 3 minutes

Dress standards

6. Dress standards in the parliamentary chamber should be appropriate to the Queensland climate and reflect general community standards. All members and staff are expected to dress in business attire. Male members and staff may wear a long-sleeve business shirt and tie or coat and long-sleeve business shirt without tie.