



Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Parliament of Queensland

Media Statement

Tuesday, 21 August 2012

MEDIA ACCESS TO QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT INCREASED

A significant milestone occurs today for the Queensland Parliament with the first live broadcast of Question Time via the Australian Public Affairs Channel, or A-PAC.

A-PAC has been broadcasting Federal Parliament live since 2008. For several years, A-PAC has also been broadcasting Queensland Parliament's Question Time on Sundays using DVD footage provided by Parliament. This fact affirms that the Parliamentary television footage, produced by non-political, independent members of the Parliamentary Services, is of broadcast quality and that there are media outlets who broadcast this footage believing it is in the public interest to do so.

From today, digital technology used by the Parliament allows a more extensive range of media outlets to access the Parliament's broadcast footage, significantly extending the opportunities for reporting on Parliament.

High definition cameras were installed under Speaker Reynolds in 2007 and the live internet broadcast of Parliament also commenced at this time. This television footage has always been available free of charge for media outlets although ease of access has proved challenging, particularly for those outlets not based at parliament house. By adding an external broadcast link, we can now make the feed available to television channels not based at parliament.

This means live, unedited and uncensored footage of parliamentary proceedings is now available to television channels throughout the whole day, and not just during Question Time, and access is extended to non-metropolitan regional news outlets. Broadening the range of media outlets which have access to the parliamentary television footage is good for our democracy.

This access is also available to those networks whose cameras have been removed from the Legislative Assembly Chamber for nine sitting days due to their breach of the 2006 Media Access Rules, which occurred on June 21 and 22.

This greatly expanded broadcast opportunity will benefit all Queenslanders who are interested in seeing their Parliament at work.

To watch a video replay of this Speaker's Statement ► [click here](#)

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